

Colorado Consortium for Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention

Prescriber & Provider Work Group Meeting Minutes

July 21, 2022 via Zoom

Present:

Kaylin Klie, MD, Co-chair

Aminta Bhutani, DEA

Liz Grace, MD, CPEP

Andrea LaRew, Colorado Chiropractic Association

Sharon Langendoerfer, MD, Retired Pediatrician

Brooke Thomas, Grand Junction Community Hospital

Consortium: Jose Esquibel, Gina Olberding, Susanna Cooper, Shayna Micucci, Hilary Bryant,

Kristin Carpenter, Rosemarie MacDowell

Absent: See attached list.

Co-chair, Kaylin Klie, called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made to approve the May 2022 work group meeting minutes. Motion approved.

Consortium Staff Updates:

Susanna Cooper, work group program manager, announced that she will be leaving the Consortium on July 28th. Consortium staff member Shayna Micucci will become the work group program manager.

Data Collection Update:

A survey is being developed to send to providers who have participated in Consortium training. The data will be used to evaluate Consortium training programs and determine if there have been any changes to prescribing patterns or clinical practice as a result. Additional information will be presented during the September work group meeting. As funding from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) has supported some of the provider education efforts, the evaluation results will also be used to justify funding expenditures.

Marketing and Communications Update:

Jet Marketing has created digital and print material for providers in rural communities to increase awareness of Consortium online training. This has resulted in an increase in website traffic. As a result of this marketing effort, approximately 300 people completed online courses in May and June. Many of the participants were from El Paso County and the State of Kansas, including the eastern part of the state. Future marketing efforts will specifically target Colorado providers. An email newsletter was also sent to providers.

Andrea LaRew said their education committee is now requiring opioid training for all their medical providers. One eastern Colorado provider also practices in Kansas.

The newest education modules focus on the farming and ranching population (chronic pain, mental health issues), although there hasn't been a response to these modules. Gina suggested that external relations staff might help promote the modules in rural areas. She will

follow up with Kristin Carpenter, ER staff member who oversees the rural southeast part of the state.

Consortium website link to new modules: <https://corxconsortium.org/campaigns/cme/>

This page will continue to be updated as new modules are produced.

Safe prescribing of benzodiazepines has been popular. There is a legislative mandate related to benzodiazepine education. New modules will be developed in August.

October Symposium – Friday, October 29th:

Maia Szalavitz, author of “The Unbroken Brain” <https://maiasz.com/> has agreed to speak at the October symposium.

Her most recent book “Undoing Drugs” <https://maiasz.com/books/undoing-drugs/> includes the history of harm reduction and the harm reduction movement in the US and internationally. Her presentation will be adapted to fit Colorado’s landscape. The presentation will begin around 7 or 8 p.m., followed by a Q&A and book signing. The symposium will be held on campus and by Zoom webinar. Information regarding registration will be disseminated within the next month. Harm reduction may be the theme for this year’s symposium.

Topics of Szalavitz’s books were discussed, including “Unbroken Brain,” which describes addiction as a learning disorder. Kaylin mentioned that the Provider Education modules and learning materials also address substance use disorder as a brain disease and the chronic disease model of substance use as an opioid use disorder.

Gina Olberding asked if the book signing would include several of Szalavitz’s books. Kaylin suggested that it might be Szalavitz’s most recent book on harm reduction.

Susanna will ask the author’s agent if she will be bringing a variety of books.

Member Updates:

Aminta Bhutani, DEA: The October take-back event will be held on October 29th.

Elizabeth Grace, MD: CPEP plans to expand the number of courses related to prescribing controlled substances.

Adjournment and Next Meeting:

The meeting adjourned at 12:42 p.m. The next work group meeting will be held on Thursday, September 15, 2022 from noon to 1 p.m. via Zoom.

Attachments: Work group roster