

Colorado Consortium for Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention

Prescriber & Provider Work Group Meeting Minutes

September 21, 2023 via Zoom

Present:

Josh Blum, MD, Kaylie Klie, MD, Co-chairs
Lis Collins, Mountain Psychiatry
Christine Neeb, MD
Jackie O'Hara, Jet Marketing
Peter Rumbach, CU Evaluation Center
Rachel Linger, Rocky Vista University
Ryan Morgan, Recovery Objects
Shad Sutton, Sutton Healing Arts Center
Susan Somerset, DMD, CU School of Dental Medicine
Consortium: Jose Esquibel, Gina Olberding, Jessica Eaddy, Jen Place, Shayna Micucci,
Lindsey Simbeye, Kristin Carpenter, Rosemarie MacDowell

Absent: See attached list.

Co-chair, Josh Blum, called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m. and provided a review of the last work group meeting held in July.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made to approve the July 2023 work group meeting minutes. Motion approved.

CU Evaluation Center Review - Draft of Final Report and Dashboard (Peter Rumbach):

The Evaluation Center conducted an evaluation of the Consortium provider education modules, focusing on modules that contribute to a better understanding of changes in opioid prescribing practices and alternative pain management. Presentation highlights:

- The final report will be completed the week of September 24th (*attached to minutes*).
- The evaluation reviewed changes in opioid prescribing practices, including benzodiazepine prescribing and alternative pain management strategies.
- Education session participants reported satisfaction with the module content.
- Participants reported that they gained knowledge by taking the courses, that the subject matter is relevant to their work, and that they can apply the information learned.
- Many providers were already implementing some of the best practices.
- The analysis included a PDMP data request to obtain information about providers who have prescribed an opioid or benzodiazepine.
- The number of providers writing an opioid or benzodiazepine prescription has increased three percent over the last three years; however, the number of overall prescriptions has dropped ten percent over the same period.
- In addition to provider surveys, interviews were conducted.
- Post-course confidence levels were very high.
- The lowest implementation strategies were related to alternative pain management.
- Physical therapy is often recommended.

- Massage and chiropractic were frequently mentioned, as were acupuncture and surgical interventions.

Comments/questions:

Rachel Linger asked if it might be possible in the future to provide feedback about the survey to survey participants.

Meeting participants discussed provider/patient communication challenges associated with pain management best practices and the need for additional training.

Jose Esquibel mentioned the value associated with the evaluation in determining future educational offerings as well as demonstrating the effectiveness of provider training, particularly training supported by CoBank funding. He also suggested the possibility of additional education for dentists.

Jessica said that Dr. Susan Somerset, with the School of Dentistry, will be conducting a training session for pediatric dentists on pain management in October. Dr. Don Teeter will be presenting at an annual dental conference in January 2024.

Other future educational sessions might include new drug trends, provider/peer working relationships, and acupuncture.

Jen Place mentioned Dr. Steve Young and medication assisted treatment as a potential future education topic.

Shayna Micucci suggested medication assisted treatment within jails could be another potential education training topic.

Peter noted that one of the interviews conducted was with a provider who works within the prison system, and there are a number of bureaucratic barriers that exist within that system.

José Esquibel suggested a small ad hoc group could be formed to discuss potential educational offerings that would be helpful for providers working within the jail system. He acknowledged that there is inconsistency among services being provided.

Member Updates:

Shad Sutton: The Colorado Chiropractic Association is currently developing education modules focused on addiction and chiropractic modalities and is seeking co-sponsors for their program. He said the chiropractic profession is often erroneously grouped with massage therapy and a better job needs to be done to educate others about the profession.

Shayna Micucci: Peer specialist training will be held via Zoom on November 7th and 14th from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For more information: www.benzopeertraining.org
Registration: <https://choicesrecoverytrainings.com/product/recovering-from-benzodiazepine-use-for-peers/>

The Colorado Pain Society Annual Conference will be held October 13th–15th in Vail, Colorado (in person and virtually). The Consortium Provider Education Work Group will be holding a

seminar for non-pain providers on Saturday, October 14th.
<https://coloradopainsociety.org/annual-meeting-2023/>

The Consortium annual meeting will be held on October 26th both in person and via Zoom. The plenary session will include a short presentation by Rep. DeGruy Kennedy regarding the work of the Interim Study Committee. There will also be a poster session. A copy of the draft agenda is attached to the minutes. Link to additional information and registration:
<https://corxconsortium.org/2023-annual-meeting/>

Adjournment and Next Meeting:

The meeting was adjourned at 1:01 p.m. The next work group meeting will be held on Thursday, November 16, 2023 from noon to 1 p.m. via Zoom.

Attachment: Work group roster, Evaluation Center presentation, annual meeting draft agenda