

The OSAC Research/Data Subcommittee
Wednesday, April 19, 2023
Microsoft Teams
Virtual meeting
1:00pm

ATTENDANCE

Members present: Dr.Srinivas Muvvala, Pareesa Charmchi-Goodwin, Paul Januszewski, Lisa Deane, Susan Campion, Ebony Jackson-Shaeed

Members absent: Kennard Ray

Visitors/Presenters: Luiza Barnat, Katie Ramos, Susan Logan, Miriam Miller, Colleen Violette

Recorder: Katie Ramos

Topic	Discussion	Action
Welcome & Introduction	Katie Ramos welcomed all in attendance	Noted
Purpose	Katie Ramos reviewed purpose of subcommittee, determining if recommendation is an evidence based (EBP)/promising practice	Noted
Reviewed volunteer list	Katie Ramos reviewed volunteer list; members had no objections to Dr. Muvvala chairing	Approved
Committee Discussion	Katie reviewed the proposed process flow chart, explained it is a working draft and revisions are being made. Luiza Barnat provided information on the ADPC and explained their roles, explained the idea is to not duplicate roles. Committee requested information on how the flowchart ties into the research and data work. Reviewed the expectations of group, needing to evaluate recommendations and make determination if the recommendation is an EBP or promising practice. Group discussed program evaluation and utilizing subcommittee experts for this process. Group discussed inviting guest speakers as needed to review data and research to determine whether idea/recommendation was viable. DPH will provide data reports for group to review	Informational
Other business	Next meeting May 19 th , 2023, 10-11am DPH to provide data to review, establish goals and objectives	

NEXT MEETING – Friday, May 19, 2023, 10-11:00 via Teams

ADJOURNMENT – April 19, 2023, meeting of the OSAC research/data subcommittee adjourned at 2:00pm.

Revised 4/26/23

The OSAC Research/Data Subcommittee
Wednesday, May 19, 2023
Microsoft Teams
Virtual meeting
10:00am

ATTENDANCE

Members present: Dr.Srinivas Muvvala, Pareesa Charmchi-Goodwin, Lisa Deane, Ebony Jackson-Shaheed

Members absent: Kennard Ray, Paul Januszewski, Susan Campion,

Visitors/Presenters: Luiza Barnat, Katie Ramos, Susan Logan, Jody Terranova

Recorder: Katie Ramos

Topic	Discussion	Action
Welcome & Introduction	Katie Ramos welcomed all in attendance	Noted
Review and approval of minutes	Minutes approved	Approved
Data Review	Susan Logan reviewed DPH data, reviewed monthly report based on confirmed fatal drug overdose cases from 2019- 1 st week of March 2023. Committee had inquired about the number of overdoses changing and Susan indicated that data is still being gathered at this time there are no pending cases but sometimes data takes a while to code for cause of death, anticipated that by the end of June DPH should have more recent full year for 2022 data. Susan explained that current data being reviewed is the first six months of data and uncertain on how much it will change, Susan also reviewed data regarding ED visits and suspected opioid overdoses, and explained it is looking at non-fatal data, provided detail to the committee on algorithms built in to the system to look at suspected opiate overdoses, suspected heroin overdoses, suspected stimulant overdoses which would include cocaine and methamphetamines. Susan also provided brief overview of the work DPH has done with local health districts and reviewed maps and compared data for 2021 and 2022 regarding ED visits for suspected opioid overdoses by resident local health department/district. Lisa Deane inquired about the initial report capturing black and brown populations affected by poisoning and overdoses. Susan provided clarification that the report was by year and that DPH has seen that population grow over time and the rates have increased. Susan indicated that a few years ago it was mainly White, not Hispanic individuals, now seeing Black and Hispanic individuals increasing. Lisa inquired about doing monthly reporting of those numbers especially those individuals in the Black and Brown community. Susan was able to confirm this is done with the monthly report Susan also provided information to committee on CT DPH and informed of additional information that could be found on the website. Susan also shared the interactive dashboard where information can be viewed regarding the highest rates by month, race, ethnicity, and what types of drugs used.	Informational

	Dr. Muvvala made comment regarding the data and heroin use, noted it seemed much lower and shows how other drugs causing overdoses like cocaine use and stimulants and polydrug use. Made note that we are seeing fentanyl mixed with everything- it would be good to look at this data and compare it with what kind of overdoses are happening with specific populations. Susan informed the committee that if there was specific information that this group needed DPH could try and provide data. Luiza provided some information to the group regarding DCP and link to review prescription data, pharmacy scripts for naloxone have gone up and provided data that the state has regarding the number of naloxone being distributed in 2022, DMHAS distributed 30,000 kits, in 2021 that number was about 14,000. Committee in agreement useful data to review and will assist committee with decisions moving forward.	
Other Business	Next meeting June 23rd, 2023, 10-11am	

Revised 4/26/23

NEXT MEETING – Friday, June 23rd, 2023, 10-11:00 via Teams

ADJOURNMENT – May19, 2023, meeting of the OSAC research/data subcommittee adjourned at 10:58am.

The OSAC Research/Data Subcommittee

Friday, June 23rd, 2023

Microsoft Teams

Virtual meeting

10:00am

ATTENDANCE

Members present: Dr.Srinivas Muvvala, Pareesa Charmchi-Goodwin, Ebony Jackson-Shaheed, Kennard Ray, Paul Januszewski,

Members absent: Susan Campion, Lisa Deane

Visitors/Presenters: Luiza Barnat, Katie Ramos, Susan Logan, Jody Terranova

Recorder: Katie Ramos

Topic	Discussion	Action
Welcome & Introduction	Katie Ramos welcomed all in attendance	Noted
Review and approval of minutes	Minutes approved by all	Approved
Data Review	<p>Susan Logan gave overview of fatal and non-fatal opioid- and stimulant-involved drug overdoses, Connecticut, 2019-2022 data, discussed series of graphs broken out by year, demographic information such as race, ethnicity, age group, pertaining to fatal cocaine plus other substance overdoses. Also reviewed data related to overdoses in major cities, which identified New London having a higher number of fentanyl related overdoses in 2021.</p> <p>Dr. Muvvala, spoke to committee regarding focusing on treatment of opioid use disorders, increasing naloxone supplies, and pointed out that the data was showing overdose death rates in the African American population with cocaine use and cocaine mixed with fentanyl was high and these numbers might be suggesting this population might not be the population normally given methadone and buprenorphine. Suggesting that the committee look into recommendations or strategies to reduce cocaine use in these populations. Suggested recommendations focused on education, uncertain how much awareness there is for those using cocaine mixed with fentanyl, emphasized a focus on contingency management, and harm reduction strategies.</p>	Informational

Topic	Discussion	Action
	<p>Ebony sought clarification with the data and what type of cocaine was being referred to, and Susan responded that all cocaine substances are included in the data reviewed and mentioned that much of the cocaine is mixed with fentanyl.</p> <p>Katie- reviewed update on other subcommittees, discussed and reviewed the process and referral recommendation form.</p> <p>Luiza questioned group regarding how much time they thought it would take to review a recommendation. Discussed moving the recommendation along and having the committee identify immediate need recommendations, i.e., harm reduction supplies, naloxone, contingency management as we know these are helpful and an EBP.</p> <p>Ebony agreed to have efficient process and possibly adopt something where a discussion can be made and not have to meet, using different methods to communicate will help be efficient and move things along and not wait 30 days for a meeting.</p> <p>Kennard: Suggested putting together a goal list, starting with naloxone we know this is an immediate need- suggested maybe ten (10) things that are priorities, and the group could work on at next meeting. Committee agreed.</p> <p>Dr. Muvvala- asked if the committee expects to receive recommendations before the next OSAC meeting, Katie discussed the process needs approval and will be presented for a vote at the July 11th meeting, along with the public participation guidelines. Also informed group the portal is not open yet and will be advertised once that opens so public input can be received.</p> <p>Next meeting committee agreed to start developing goal list with priorities.</p>	
Other business	Next meeting July 28th, 2023, 10-11am	

NEXT MEETING – Friday, July 28th, 2023, 10-11:00 via Teams

ADJOURNMENT – June 23, 2023, meeting of the OSAC research/data subcommittee adjourned at 10:58am.

The OSAC Research/Data Subcommittee

Friday, July 28th, 2023

Microsoft Teams

Virtual meeting

10:00am

ATTENDANCE

Members present: Dr.Srinivas Muvvala,,Pareesa Charmchi-Goodwin designee, Ebony Jackson-Shaheed

Members absent: Susan Campion, Paul Januszewski, Kennard Ray

Visitors/Presenters: Luiza Barnat, Katie Ramos, Susan Logan

Recorder: Katie Ramos

Topic	Discussion	Action
Welcome & Introduction	Katie Ramos welcomed all in attendance	Noted
Review and approval of minutes	Minutes not approved- need for quorum	Noted
Data Review	<p>Susan Logan reviewed unintentional overdose data 2019-2022 which included sex, race, ethnicity, age group and locality, Residence/County, Residence/Local Health District, and Residence/Town.</p> <p>Susan also reviewed webpage for opioid drug statistics where committee can find fact sheets and reviewed the interactive dashboard which gives indication of substances changing overtime and is updated every month. Briefly discussed age groups and mentioned younger age groups drug overdoses are trending down over time, older age groups drug overdoses are increasing and trending up.</p> <p>Ebony- shared about a study out of Baltimore which focused on polysubstance use and included data pertaining to individuals' level of education and living situation in addition to demographic information. Ebony mentioned that this analysis helped them figure out how to provide education and programming to focus on prevention efforts. Ebony mentioned to group that since things are changing with polysubstance use the need to think outside the box in terms of prevention efforts will be necessary.</p>	Informational

Topic	Discussion	Action
	<p>Lisa Inquired about the older population trending up and the relation to suicide rates, Susan informed separate data is kept for suicide death/overdoses and discussed keeping an eye on the 65+ population for suicide especially following the impact of COVID.</p> <p>Dr. Muvvala, shared goal list- committee worked on identifying committee goals – will discuss with entire subcommittee at next meeting, as well as identifying priorities.</p> <p>Katie provided an update on other subcommittees, recommendation form, municipal reporting requirements and public portal framework.</p> <p>Next meeting committee agreed to discuss goals and priorities.</p> <p>Suggested looking at data pertaining to polysubstance use, education and living situation.</p>	
Other business	<p>Next meeting August 25th, 2023, 10-11am</p> <p>Review goal/priority list</p> <p>Review data</p>	

NEXT MEETING – Friday, August 25th, 2023, 10-11:00 via Teams

ADJOURNMENT – July 28, 2023, meeting of the OSAC research/data subcommittee adjourned at 11:01am.

The OSAC Research/Data Subcommittee

Friday, August 25, 2023

Microsoft Teams

Virtual meeting

10:00am

ATTENDANCE

Members present: Dr.Srinivas Muvvala,,Pareesa Charmchi-Goodwin designee, Ebony Jackson-Shaheed, Susan Campion

Members absent: Paul Januszewski, Kennard Ray, Lisa Deane

Visitors/Presenters: Luiza Barnat, Katie Ramos

Recorder: Katie Ramos

Topic	Discussion	Action
Welcome & Introduction	Katie Ramos welcomed all in attendance	Noted
Review and approval of minutes	Minutes approved for 6/25 and 7/28, Dr. Muvvala made motion to approve June minutes, Susan seconded. Ebony made motion to approve July minutes and Pareesa seconded	Noted
Discussion	No data reviewed. Committee reviewed goals from last meeting. Susan: suggested including differences from rural settings versus city settings, and how that interacts with evidence-based treatments and outcomes. Dr. Muvvala: suggested incorporating review of types of substances and drug use overdose and treatment, geographic trends. Susan: also wanted committee to keep in mind the challenges with day-to-day access to care, she questioned if it is something for finance and compliance to be aware of or this group as they work on goals and objectives. Pareesa: I like that idea of geographic breakdown, whenever Susan has done the data presentations, she has included some racial ethnic data, this committee should continue to be consistent and continue to include that	Informational

Topic	Discussion	Action
	<p>data in our review to highlight any disproportionality or anything that's of note when it comes to race, ethnicity in the state, not only when it comes to the substances that are being used, but even who is in treatment programs by race, ethnicity, if we know that data it would be really helpful.</p> <p>Ebony: I'm hoping that organizations also discuss as part of the treatment. some sort of post treatment, because I think that's where we're seeing, especially in urban settings, the recidivism and people are not discussing this or prioritizing and starting to realize it's a problem.</p> <p>Susan I really hope that we can think about having a continuous seamless continuum of care, whatever that would look like, prevention, intervention, treatment, and sustainability of recovery.</p> <p>Dr. Muvvala: For example, strengthening rural areas for prescribers, primary care physicians and APRN's who are practicing in rural areas to be able to provide treatment for alcohol or opioids is very important. The reason it's important is because individuals from the rural areas, are relocating to big cities to get methadone and this is increasing the populations in these areas, it would be beneficial to treat the individuals where they are at.</p> <p>Data suggested from last meeting: data pertaining to polysubstance use, education and living situation.</p>	
Other business	<p>Next meeting September 28th, 2023, 10-11am</p> <p>Revise goal list to incorporate recommendation from discussion.</p>	

NEXT MEETING – Thursday, September 28th, 2023, 10-11:00 via Teams

ADJOURNMENT – August 25th, 2023, 11:00am

The OSAC Research/Data Subcommittee

Thursday, September 28, 2023

Microsoft Teams

Virtual meeting

10:00am

ATTENDANCE

Members present: Dr.Srinivas Muvvala, Pareesa Charmchi-Goodwin designee, Ebony Jackson-Shaheed, Lisa Deane

Members absent: Paul Januszewski, Kennard Ray, Susan Campion

Visitors/Presenters: Luiza Barnat, Katie Ramos Susan Logan, Jody Terranova

Recorder: Katie Ramos

Topic	Discussion	Action
Welcome & Introduction	Katie Ramos welcomed all in attendance	Noted
Review and approval of minutes	Minutes not approved for 8/25, will review at next meeting	Noted
Discussion	<p>Lisa shared about an upcoming Live Virtual Assembly for Connecticut Middle and High School Students on the dangers of Fentanyl and Opioid Awareness presented by The Governor's Prevention Partnership and DemandZERO.</p> <p>Susan Logan reviewed data; drug overdose deaths pertaining to-education and demographics 2019-2022 and data regarding occupation 2019-2022 reported on the death certificate. Susan reviewed data pertaining to overdose decedent data and homelessness, reviewed data by grade level and other social determinants of health.</p> <p>Dr. Muvvala: Commented that this is important data for the committee to review, as we look at proposals, it will be important to see that there is focus on education status and if we see that folks without a college degree or have dropped out of school earlier, there is a higher risk of overdose compared to others.</p> <p>Susan reported that 3 to 4% of people who died by an overdose are homeless, and suggested looking at the comparison to overall homelessness for all people who die, then break that down further by race and ethnicity</p>	Informational

Topic	Discussion	Action
	<p>and gender. Susan then reviewed educational level by gender, race and ethnicity and compared to the total number of people that die over the last four years broken out by gender, race, ethnicity, and reminded the committee this is collected by death certificate information.</p> <p>Pareesa: if you were to calculate percentages or rates, it'd be difficult to tell if there's any disparities by using just the total number, because obviously there's a lot more white people than black people.</p> <p>Pareesa: commented that looking at every race/ ethnicity would be helpful. For example, in CT, would you recommend population at large, or would there be another denominator that would be better, a subcategory that could get better data so that we could have a comparability analysis.</p> <p>Susan commented that it could be done by population at large, or by all decedents, or population rate, probably best to use death certificate data to get those rates as a denominator.</p> <p>Committee suggested looking at all decedents and black males who had died by overdose over the population of males, looking at all races/ethnicities who died by overdose compared to the overall population of males.</p> <p>Lisa commented that the committee will see overdoses are affecting our black and brown communities disproportionately.</p> <p>Susan: When I look at the educational level among all, I looked at all decedents versus overdose decedents and then compare the two. I did not do that for males and females and other demographics, I'd like to go back and create that.</p> <p>Susan reviewed data on occupation discussed reviewing more data at next meeting regarding % of male and female by race either by overall decedents or by occupations.</p> <p>Ebony: I'd like to review data around different zip codes that have the harm reduction programs, and learn more about it, but I wanted to know if we had any numbers about how effective it is, in certain communities because , if we have high rates of overdose in a community but we have harm reduction, Is there any association between harm reduction, and less harm? can we see some sort of numbers behind that?</p> <p>Luiza: there are a lot of harm reduction, treatment, prevention recovery supports programs that have been initiated since 2016 or so, and as the crisis continued to worsen services amped up. Its hard to say what it would look like without these services. Some centers have markers for actual data.</p>	

Topic	Discussion	Action
	<p>Dr. Muvvala: it's difficult to compare, for example, if there were no harm reduction initiatives happening in a particular area 10 years ago versus now, because 10 years ago there was no fentanyl at that time, and there was no xylazine.</p> <p>Luiza: data that is captured in other countries, indicates less infections, more public health in general in the area, a cleaner environment, they're typically good neighbors etc.</p> <p>Lisa: discussed safe injection sites and concerns related to individuals served at those sites and verbalized not seeing the benefit. Discussed getting more clean needles and Narcan out on the streets.</p> <p>Luiza: clarified that this committee is not talking about safe injections sites because those are not legal, and talking about harm reduction, contracting and the state will not contract for things that are not federally qualified.</p> <p>Dr. Muvvala: when we talk about harm reduction, we are talking about risk mitigation, needle exchange, syringe, exchange, education, Narcan, fentanyl test strips, xylazine test strips, giving supplies to keep folks safe.</p> <p>Dr. Muvvala reviewed the CORE report and recommended strategies. Encouraged the committee to review the draft report and reminded about the public comment link, and the opportunity to discuss next meeting.</p> <p>Katie: discussed increasing the time for the meeting since the public input link to receive recommendations will be opening in October. Committee in agreement, next meeting to be scheduled Nov 3rd 10-11:30.</p>	
Other business	Next meeting November 3 rd , 2023, 10-11:30am	

NEXT MEETING – Friday November 3rd, 2023, 10-11:30 via Teams

ADJOURNMENT – Thursday September 28th, 2023, 11:05am

The OSAC Research/Data Subcommittee

Friday November 3, 2023

Microsoft Teams

Virtual meeting

10:00am

ATTENDANCE

Members present: Dr.Srinivas Muvvala, Pareesa Charmchi-Goodwin, Ebony Jackson-Shaheed, Susan Campion

Members absent: Paul Januszewski, Kennard Ray, Lisa Deane

Visitors/Presenters: Luiza Barnat, Katie Ramos Susan Logan

Recorder: Katie Ramos

Topic	Discussion	Action
Welcome & Introduction	Katie Ramos welcomed all in attendance	Noted
Review and approval of minutes	Pareesa made motion to approve, Dr. Muvvala seconded, all in favor	Noted
Discussion	<p>Committee reviewed the recommendations received through public input link. Discussion surrounding developing a checklist with the priorities to assist with reviewing the recommendations.</p> <p>Dr. Muvvala discussed the CORE report and recommendations to not fund certain programs that do not have evidence, in particular was referencing the recommendation pertaining to detox. Committee also discussed possibly reaching back out to individual making the recommendation to provide more information if necessary.</p> <p>Committee had discussion pertaining to the workforce shortages, statewide issue.</p> <p>Susan Campion discussed the concern with New Haven and criminal justice issues, shared that insurance is an issue for individual seeking treatment.</p> <p>Ebony discussed need to include family when planning for aftercare services, in particular was referencing criminal justice programs.</p>	Informational

Topic	Discussion	Action
	<p>Katie provided an update on the referral subcommittee requesting 2 recommendations be made a priority and reviewed by research.</p> <p>Discussed recommendation from prevention, education, school.</p> <p>Dr, Muvvala discussed maybe having these recommendations include information pertaining to language around family involvement and racial inequities.</p> <p>Luiza shared about a program initiative out of NY where there is an embedded social worker with the OCME to assist with follow up after an OD. Susan Logan shared about the program in CT.</p> <p>Susan Logan review Data related to homelessness, education following last meeting.</p> <p>Katie discussed the process subcommittee suggesting that subcommittee meet more frequently to expedite the review process, committee did not make any changes to meeting schedule at this time will evaluate in the future, contingent on referral subcommittee and recommendations received.</p> <p>Committee agreed to meet 12/1.</p>	
Other business	Next meeting December 1st, 2023, 1-2:30pm	

NEXT MEETING – Friday December 1st, 2023, 1-2:30pm via Teams

ADJOURNMENT – Friday November 3rd, 2023, 11:27am

The OSAC Research/Data Subcommittee

Thursday November 9th, 2023

Microsoft Teams

Virtual meeting

2:30pm

ATTENDANCE

Members present: Dr.Srinivas Muvvala, Pareesa Charmchi-Goodwin, Ebony Jackson-Shaheed, Susan Campion

Members absent: Lisa Deane

Visitors/Presenters: Katie Ramos

Recorder: Katie Ramos

Topic	Discussion	Action
Welcome & Introduction	Katie Ramos welcomed all in attendance	Noted
Review Recommendation	Katie reviewed ADPC treatment subcommittee recommendation for: Harm Reduction Supplies: Currently, CT's syringe service programs distribute harm reduction supplies to people who use drugs and have reported a shortage of supplies. This is a request to increase funding to existing programs to expand access to already available harm reduction kits by \$500,000 annually. This initial request is for two fiscal years for a total of \$1,000,000. The following link provides information about syringe exchange programs: CT-Syringe-Services-Program 8232023.pdf	Noted
Discussion	Committee reviewed the recommendation and all in favor of following the approved process and passing along to finance and compliance. Committee agreed to meet 12/1.	Informational

Topic	Discussion	Action
Other business	Next meeting December 1st, 2023, 1-2:30pm	

NEXT MEETING – Friday December 1st, 2023, 1-2:30pm via Teams

ADJOURNMENT – Thursday November 9th, 2023, 2:50pm