



Ohio Association of Health Plans

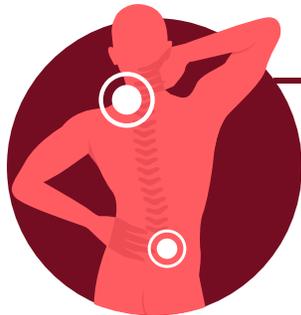
ADDRESSING THE OPIATE CRISIS

Ohio remains at the center of the public health crisis stemming from opioid abuse and addiction, and Ohio's health plans are leading a wide range of efforts to address it.



Prescription Limitation

- Working with providers to limit overall dosages
- Mitigating drug overuse through patient outreach
- Providing step therapy, prior authorization and other protocols to prevent over-prescription



Pain Management

- Working with providers on the safest approaches to pain management
- Encouraging physicians and patients to consider alternative evidence-based treatment options
- Providing access to drug-free pain control methods and pain experts



Education and Coordination

- Leveraging resources to prevent addiction through education and prevention
- Directing patients who receive prescriptions from multiple sources to a single prescriber and pharmacy
- Flagging overuse of pharmaceuticals by prescribers, pharmacies and patients



ADDRESSING THE **OPIATE CRISIS**



Our Opiate Policy Agenda



Adopt the CDC's Prescription Guideline

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) has issued guidelines¹ which recommend prescribing the lowest dose and fewest pills that would be effective for each patient. OAHP recommends immediate support of the CDC's recommended approach to preventing opioid addiction before it begins.



Expand OARRS access to Ohio's commercial health plans

The Ohio Automated Rx Reporting System (OARRS) is one of the state's most valuable tools in curbing the misuse of prescription drugs. OAHP supports providing Ohio's commercial health plans with access to OARRS in order to enhance the insurance industry's ability to deter and fight abuse.



Support Broad Stakeholder Collaboration

OAHP and many OAHP members participated in the Attorney General's Insurer Task Force on Opioid Reduction. Many of the final recommendations from that process were modeled programs and best practices Ohio's health plans use to address the opioid crisis. To effectively address the opioid crisis, it must be addressed comprehensively by all parties. OAHP supports broad collaboration and cooperation to further improve efforts for prevention, education, intervention and treatment.



¹ <https://www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/prescribing/guideline.html>