

**C. Spike Response
Planning/Community
Overdose Updates**

<https://covid19.ongov.net/medical-volunteers/>

Q: Do we have any Astra Zeneca Vaccine Updates? This has lower efficacy but is easier to distribute.

There are no updates at this time. We will take any vaccine that comes our way, we would prefer to have the same kind, but will take anything so when this is available we will be ready.

Q: If you have already registered for the appointment is there somewhere we should check to make sure that there is available vaccine?

If you have an appointment you should keep it, we only register for the amount of vaccine we have.

Q: How do we connect with you with outreach ideas for vaccine priority populations:
Have community champions, educate ahead of time, use your community connections to encourage
Convince others to get the vaccine. You can look on our FAQ website:

Dr. Gupta, OCHD: Risk Factors for overdoses have increased due to pandemic, including despair and depression. This has caused a surge in overdoses. We will likely surpass our previous peak of 2016. <https://healthystories.ongov.net/onondaga-county-opioid-epidemic-data-report/>

Please remind people and bring awareness to the following:
Narcan training and discussion with family, friends about treatment resources that we have available within our community.
Dialogues around this need to be refreshed as every voice has been engulfed by COVID.
Raising awareness is important, we have not forgotten that the opioid epidemic is ongoing

There has been an increase in suicidality as well, we have available mobile crisis resources available in our county that can be utilized. In substance use programs the use patterns they are seeing are hard to tell if are related to suicidality or not.

Please review page our treatment page on our website and send Mariah any updates of services.
Resources have no value if people don't know they are there.

Mariah Senecal-Reilly stated that we are working on an overdose response plan for when there are spikes in community overdoses. A group has been meeting monthly in regard to this. While this is in development we have been sending out updates to community providers around increases in overdoses. There have been many community overdoses over the course of the pandemic, particularly over the last month.

The OCHD had an outreach worker start 2 weeks ago who has been going to areas where overdoses have occurred and distributing naloxone. If any organizations are interested in partnering with her to do outreach please reach out to Mariah.

3. Efforts for the spring and summer- Post Vaccine Opioid-Related Activities

Barry Weiss, DA's Office: Hopefully we will begin to open up July/August- what are organizations planning for that time?

Sunny Aslam- The requirement to have a waiver to prescribe Buprenorphine is gone, he has seen interest from primary care physicians

County Medical Society will be doing a training on this, organizations should, plan on how they will use buprenorphine. Providers can carry a caseload of 30 without the waiver. The waiver training is typically 8 hours, medical society would be an hour.

Will these be open to community providers- ? Yes. We will distribute the information when it is available to providers.

Here is the HHS announcement about this. <https://www.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/mat-physician-practice-guidelines.pdf>

Michelle Caliva- Upstate started a new hotline on vaccine information and they are continuing the COVID info line, they are inundated, both lines are extremely busy.

Typical questions include: COVID- testing, I'm having symptoms is this covid, how long do I quarantine- 180 a day
Vaccine- am I eligible, reaction to vaccine, appointments

The Poison center is also seeing more of intentional overdose calls.

Alex Punch, The Lerner Center is doing a study on the Impact of COVID-19 on drug use behavior- They are having a hard time recruiting people to participate, please send people their way. #1 Criteria- Drug Use within last 30 days, from upstate NY.

Open Forum