



PCMH User Group Highlights 9/26/19

Slides from presentations are attached to email and on website (slides and highlights under PCMH User Group)

Introductions: Marie Hooper, NPO Executive Director, welcomed guest speaker Dr. David McGreaham, former Chief Medical Officer for Munson Medical Center. While with Munson, Dr. McGreaham started a group who worked on chronic pain, and then post-retirement he has become involved in multi-county opioid taskforces, including Up North Prevention.

A previous grant allowed Dr. McGreaham to visit one-on-one with providers from Michigan's rural county practices to offer opioid education support. A current grant extending to September 2020 continues this work for Leelanau, Kalkaska and GT Counties.

Dr. McGreaham began his presentation with an overview of the opioid epidemic at the national, state and rural county-levels.

- **Good news:** CDC shows overall number of opioid prescriptions/100 people decreased significantly from 2012 to 2017. Likely concurrent with CDC prescription guidelines out in 2016, Dr. McGreaham notes.
- **Why a concern?** At about five opioid overdose deaths/day in Michigan, state ranks higher than the national average. GT among counties clustered in upper, mid-Mich. with higher than state and national average morphine milligram equivalents (MME) prescribing rates. CDC data is based on location of patient's residence, and shows Roscommon one of highest opioid prescribing counties, with average of about two prescriptions/person in 2012-2014. Data includes adolescents and children. To review if prescription originates outside of county, would need to consult Michigan Automated Prescription data (MAPS).
- **Good with the bad:** Opioids prescribing down but Hepatitis C cases up, linked to needle use associated with a switch to heroin, which has become consistently cheaper than opioids.
- **Misconception? Aged population may be linked to higher prescribing rates in Michigan's rural counties.** Looking at national map showing Medicare claims percentages for opioids/state, northern Michigan "lights up" amongst "peer" Midwest states at about a 6.5% opioid prescribing rate. Other states are worse, but Mich. represents "the best of worst," he said. Slide 10 lists additional possible factors rural area to have higher opioid rates than urban areas.

Available to providers

- 30 to 45-minute small-group opioid and chronic pain education session to foster open discussion and questioning.
- "Drug Industry" style presentation to deliver a targeted message over a lunch hour
- Advantage of receiving tools in-hand verses sending practices the info to later generate their own.

Please refer to slide 17 and the Form for Academic Detailing (attached to email) to see a list of covered topics to consider for your practice. If your practice and/or providers would like Dr. McGreaham to visit the practice, please contact Dr. McGreaham at dsmcgreaham@gmail.com or 231-342-1070.

2019 meeting dates:

- Tues, 10/22/19 – Dr. Gerstle and Eva Voisin from Traverse Health Clinic will be presenting on work the clinic has done to improve waiting times and processing times
- Wed, 11/20/19 - TBD