

Iowa Department of Public Health  
Division of Behavioral Health  
Opioid Update for Wednesday, November 15, 2017

The Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) offers the Opioid Update to share information about opioid use and Iowa's efforts to address the national opioid epidemic. Please feel free to submit topics to Julie Jones at [julie.jones@idph.iowa.gov](mailto:julie.jones@idph.iowa.gov).

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**Department Efforts**

**AmeriCorps Program: Update**

Due to the availability of half-time member positions, another AmeriCorps funding opportunity has been posted on [IowaGrants](#). Intended for mentoring and substance abuse prevention programs throughout the state of Iowa, applicants can request up to two half-time members to provide capacity-building service to improve your agency's ability to address the Opioid Epidemic in the state and to accomplish your mission. Capacity Building can include many service activities including but not limited to: assisting with sustainability planning, recruiting mentors and volunteers, or developing and presenting new outreach materials or curricula.

For more information on the AmeriCorps program, contact Amanda McCurley at [amanda.mccurley@idph.iowa.gov](mailto:amanda.mccurley@idph.iowa.gov).

**New Opioid Overdose Prevention Materials Available**

As part of the Iowa Opioid State Targeted Response (STR) grant, IDPH is making several new posters available that address opioid misuse and overdose. The 11x17 inch posters are available in three designs, with each also available in Spanish. To view the posters, click on the following link: [Posters](#).

To order posters, please contact Julie Jones at [julie.jones@idph.iowa.gov](mailto:julie.jones@idph.iowa.gov).

**Opioid News**

**Fentanyl Safety Recommendations for First Responders**

As part of the President's Commission on Combating Drug Addiction and the Opioid Crisis, the White House released [Fentanyl Safety Recommendations for First Responders](#). These recommendations are the result of a Federal Interagency Working Group coordinated by the White House National Security Council. Stakeholder associations/organizations representing the medical, public health, law enforcement, Fire/EMS, and occupational safety and health disciplines provided invaluable input to inform the Interagency Working Group's efforts, and their feedback helped ensure the *Recommendations* are operationally relevant, appropriately tailored to first responders, and conveyed in a user-friendly one-page format.

## **Study Examines Pain Reduction Differences between Opioid and Non-Opioid Analgesics**

A recent study in the Journal of American Medical Association (JAMA) evaluated the effects of a single dose of oral opioid and non-opioid analgesics on acute extremity pain in the emergency department. In a randomized clinical trial, the study of 411 ED patients compared the following four combination analgesics:

- Ibuprofen and Acetaminophen
- Oxycodone and Acetaminophen
- Hydrocodone and Acetaminophen
- Codeine and Acetaminophen

For patients presenting to the ED with acute extremity pain, there were no statistically significant or clinically important differences in pain reduction at 2 hours among single-dose treatment with ibuprofen and acetaminophen or with 3 different opioid and acetaminophen combination analgesics. Further research to assess adverse events and other dosing may be warranted.

To read more about the study, please click on the following link: [JAMA](#)