Overview of the Opioid Epidemic: Taking Action on Arizona’s Opioid Crisis

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Starting in June, 2017, ADHS and partners worked tirelessly to answer Governor Ducey’s call to address the continuing increase in opioid-related deaths across Arizona.

**June 2017**
- 2016 Arizona Opioid Report released
- Opioid Emergency declared
- Enhanced Surveillance Reporting implemented
- Implementation of Emergency Opioid Prescribing and Treatment Rules for Healthcare Institutions

**October 2017**
- PDMP Mandate in effect

**December 2017**
- Launch of 2018 Opioid Prescribing Guidelines

**January 2018**
- Arizona Opioid Epidemic Act is passed

**April 2018**
- Arizona Opioid Epidemic Act takes effect

**May 2018**
- Governor Ducey declares Declaration of Opioid Emergency

**October 2018**
- QAR Line launches

**March 2018**
- AZ receives additional federal funding to address opioid crisis

**December 2018**
- Youth opioid prevention campaign launches

**November 2018**
- Summit to train educators on new pain and addiction curriculum for health professional schools

**January 2019**
- E-prescribing requirements for controlled substances takes effect in the six most populated AZ counties
- Pain management clinic rules take effect

**April 2017**
- Executive Order for 7 day fill limit

**September 2017**
- Opioid Action Plan issued

**2017**
- Opioid overdose cases
- Opioid deaths

**2018**
- Opioid overdose cases
- Opioid deaths

**2019**
- Opioid overdose cases
- Opioid deaths
E-PRESCRIBING

- E-prescribing allows clinicians to write and transmit prescriptions to a pharmacy electronically.
- Require e-prescribing for Schedule II opioids
  - On Jan. 1, 2019 went into effect for the following counties:
    - Maricopa, Pima, Pinal, Yavapai, Mohave, and Yuma counties
  - By July 1, 2019 for remaining counties (less than 150,000 people)
- Does not include Medication-Assisted Treatment
- The Board of Pharmacy may provide a waiver for doctors that face hardships that prevent implementing e-prescribing.
E-PRESCRIBING

• Waiver application can be found on the Board of Pharmacy website
• Waiver tracking sheet can be found on Board of Pharmacy website
  – To date, thousands of prescribers have applied for the waiver
  – A pharmacist is not responsible for verifying if a prescriber has obtained a waiver
  – At this time, pharmacists may fill an opioid prescription if submitted on paper
E-PRESCRIBING

• **Pending legislation**: HB2075
  – Removes the waivers
  – Extends the deadline to January 2020 for mandatory EPCS
  – Provides additional circumstances for pharmacists to dispense an opioid with a paper prescription
    • System outages
    • Discharges from hospitals to another healthcare facility
    • Prescriptions from a federally operated facility
    • Emergency situations

• **Status:**
  – House first read: January 15\textsuperscript{th}
  – House second read: January 16\textsuperscript{th}

*The Department cannot comment or speculate on pending legislation.*
For more information

azhealth.gov/opioid

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