



# Collaborating to Combat the Opioid Crisis



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## PREVENTION

### Generation Rx

Utilizing the APhA-ASP collaboration with Cardinal Health and Ohio State University, MUSOP's ASP Chapter is thankful to provide Generation Rx.

Pharmacy students cooperate with local schools to provide age appropriate material that addresses the effects of drugs on the body as well as their impact on society.

- National programs have been adapted for WV schools
- Provided in grade, middle, and high school settings as well as college orientation at Marshall University and at a local trade school

This education is on-going with a goal to provide information to every grade, middle, and high school in Cabell County, WV as well as to begin work in surrounding counties in West Virginia, Ohio, and Kentucky.



### Drug Take Back Days

MUSOP has joined forces with the Cabell County Substance Abuse Prevention Partnership (CSAPP) and local WV police departments to continually help facilitate drug take back days.

This program provides an opportunity for the communication between groups who are serving the same community in vastly different ways:

- Partners substance abuse prevention with those directly responsible for disciplining or finding aid for those who display the signs of substance use disorder (formerly known as addiction)
- Allows each group to see the value of the work others are doing with these patients

### Screening, Brief Intervention & Referral to Treatment

SBIRT is an evidence-based method that incorporates the principles of motivational interviewing to identify and provide appropriate treatment to those with potential or actual substance use disorders.

MUSBIRT is a Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) funded project aimed at expanding education on the SBIRT process.

- Multidisciplinary with representatives from Student Health, medicine, pharmacy, nursing, pre-health professions, counseling, psychology, physical therapy, and social work
- Over the past three years, students from all of these disciplines have received training on SBIRT
- Free SBIRT training has been offered to many different groups in the community

## HARM REDUCTION

### Naloxone Dispensing

In conjunction with the Cabell-Huntington Health Department (CHHD), over 10,000 units of Naloxone have been dispensed to the Huntington, WV community providing opportunities for recovery. Naloxone training began in November of 2015. Dispensing began in February of 2016.

- The Harm Reduction Program offers training in congruence with syringe exchange, counseling, social work, and recovery services
- Training is also offered as outreach programs for health care facilities, churches, recovery homes, schools, families, and others
- Training is available to anyone interested

As of May 2018, there are over 1,630 documented overdose reversals by participants trained by this program (and several hundred undocumented).



### Syringe Exchange

Syringe exchange is the gold star of harm reduction (HR) with the goal of disease prevention.

- Decreases hepatitis B & C and HIV in the community

MUSOP has supported HR and syringe exchange since it began in West Virginia (our clinic was the first in the state). Initially, our syringe exchange was exclusively provided by nurses. Today, MUSOP students are fully integrated in syringe exchange and participate in observing, conducting syringe exchanges, providing education and support to patients by working with counseling and social work masters level students, training and providing naloxone, aiding in recovery efforts by working with recovery coaches, and training other providers and students about HR clinics.

### Voluntary Long Acting Reversible Contraception

- In collaboration with Family Drug Court, MUSOP delivers presentations about Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome and VLARC
  - Ladies assigned to Family Drug Court are required to attend these presentations
- The West Virginia prison system asked MUSOP to provide train the trainer sessions on the VLARC program so that other professionals may deliver the opportunity of VLARC to female prisoners in distant facilities all around the state
- MUSOP works in collaboration with Marshall Health Obstetrics, to provide education and immediate care regarding long acting reversible contraception

## TREATMENT & RESEARCH

### Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) & Recovery

MAT combines behavioral therapy and medications to treat opioid abuse disorders. At Pretera Center, a behavioral health services provider, a faculty member assists with the MAT program.

- Responsibilities include drug education, controlled substance monitoring, and reviewing pertinent laboratory data and urine drug screens

MUSOP students also actively participate by collecting vital signs and reviewing urine drug screens.

### Community On Research in Education (CORE)

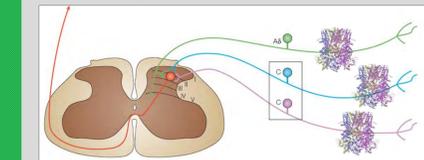
This CORE group is responsible for merging the work of the basic sciences with the work of the clinical faculty at MUSOP.

MUSOP's CORE group actively participates in research to aid in the opioid crisis. Currently, MUSOP faculty are engaged in the "Harm Reduction Project" which assesses the knowledge and attitudes of our pharmacy students over time in regards to substance use disorders.

### Menthol Receptor Ligands Research

- Primary afferent nociceptors are activated by noxious thermal, mechanical, or chemical stimuli that give rise to pain sensations.
- TRPM8, the transient receptor potential melastatin 8 ion channel, better known as the 'cold receptor', is expressed in the dorsal root ganglia (DRG) and trigeminal ganglia (TG), in Aδ and C-fibers (primary sensory neurons).
- *Focus of the Journigan Lab:* Discovery of small molecule chemical probes to delineate TRPM8-mediated pain responses, using a combined computational and synthetic medicinal chemistry approach. Such probes could potentially afford novel non-narcotic analgesics for various pain states.

#### Ascending spinothalamic tract (STT)



Aδ and C-fiber subclasses of dorsal root ganglia neurons and sensory input to the spinal cord, leading to the brain.

Adapted from Sah et al, Nat Rev Drug Discov. 2003, 2: 460-72.



### DISCLOSURES & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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