

### **"SLOW THE FLOW"**

A COMMUNITY PROGRAM AIMED AT ADDRESSING  
PRESCRIPTION DRUG ABUSE AND OVERUTILIZATION OF THE  
EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT



Alliance Consistent Care Program  
of South Eastern Washington

Becky Grohs, RN, BSN, CCM Program  
Coordinator [rgrohs@wsu.edu](mailto:rgrohs@wsu.edu)

Dr. Darin Neven, MD, MS Medical  
Director [darin@darinneven.com](mailto:darin@darinneven.com)

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### OBJECTIVES

- ▶ Understand the need for Emergency Department care coordination in order to address ED over utilization and prescription drug misuse
- ▶ Learn about a CDC sponsored clinical trial and program for over-utilizers of the ED in Washington State
- ▶ Identify ways to implement an ED care coordination project in your area
- ▶ Understand how the implementation of an Emergency Department care coordination project can reduce the incidence of prescription drug and emergency department misuse while improving access to coordinated health care
- ▶ Learn the role Medicaid policy has in driving better coordinated emergency department care in Washington State.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### WHAT IS THE CONSISTENT CARE PROGRAM?

- ▶ A community program to reduce
  - ▶ Inappropriate ED visits
  - ▶ Prescription drug abuse and overdose deaths
- ▶ Identifies and coordinates care for patients that over utilize the ED at four hospitals-KRMC, KGH, LMC and PMH
  - ▶ One coordinated and shared system
- ▶ Methods:
  - ▶ Coordinate care with primary care physician
  - ▶ Develop ED Care Guidelines for each patient that is accessible by emergency physicians
  - ▶ Provide individualized patient-centered case management

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### WHAT WE KNOW...

- ▶ Patients frequent multiple EDs for many reasons, including: pain, multiple chronic diseases, mental illness, chemical dependency issues
- ▶ Many patients have multiple providers
- ▶ Most have concurrent mental health diagnoses
- ▶ Many report chronic pain
- ▶ Some have a primary care physician
- ▶ Most have one hospital they prefer to frequent, many visit several
- ▶ Most are not forthcoming with information
- ▶ Most commonly have Medicaid, Medicare, or no insurance
- ▶ There is a lack of systems in place to coordinate care between ED's and multiple providers
- ▶ Lack of education exists regarding alternatives to the ED
- ▶ There is a high incidence of prescription drug abuse and deaths

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### CHALLENGES TO ADDRESSING EMERGENCY ROOM USE

- ▶ Prescription Drug Abuse
- ▶ Access to Coordinated Care
- ▶ Mental Illness and Substance Abuse
- ▶ Vulnerable populations




---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### PRESCRIPTION DRUG ABUSE

- ▶ Amount of opioid medications sold in the US has quadrupled since 1999.
- ▶ In 2007, Washington state opioid overdose rate exceeded the nation's rate at 8.2 per 100,000 to 4.6 per 100,000
- ▶ Cost of prescription opioid abuse reached \$55.7 billion in 2007
- ▶ In 2009, 500,000 emergency room visits were attributed to pain and prescription related complaints
- ▶ Now America's fastest growing drug problem!

CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL. (2011). CDC GRAND ROUNDS: PRESCRIPTION DRUG OVERDOSES-A U.S. EPIDEMIC. (2011)

CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL. (2009). OVERDOSE DEATHS INVOLVING PRESCRIPTION OPIOIDS AMONG MEDICAID ENROLLEES: WASHINGTON 2009. MORBIDITY AND MORTALITY WEEKLY REPORT, 58(42), 929-932.

BIRNBAUM, H. G., WHITE, A. G., SCHILLER, M., WALDMAN, T., CRYERHAND, J. W., & ROSSAND, G. (2009). PRESCRIPTION OPIOID ABUSE, DEPENDENCE, AND MISUSE IN THE UNITED STATES. PAIN MEDICINE, 10(10), 1027-1037.

CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL. (2009). OVERDOSE DEATHS INVOLVING PRESCRIPTION OPIOIDS AMONG MEDICAID ENROLLEES: WASHINGTON 2009. MORBIDITY AND MORTALITY WEEKLY REPORT, 58(42), 929-932.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

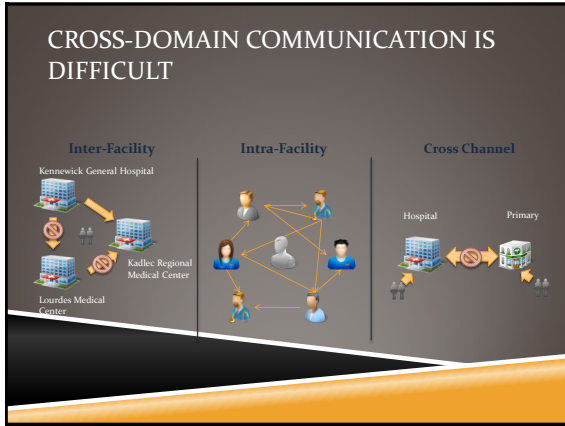
---

---

---

---

---




---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### LACK OF COORDINATED CARE

- ▶ Many patients frequent numerous hospital ED's
  - ▶ Lack of communication between ED's
- ▶ Lack of consistent communication between hospital ED's and assigned Primary Care Providers (PCPs).
- ▶ Patients are not forthcoming with medical information
  - ▶ Leading to duplication in diagnostic studies- Radiation overexposure
  - ▶ Medication overprescribing
  - ▶ Barrier to communication with care providers

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### MENTAL ILLNESS AND EMERGENCY ROOM USE

- ▶ Majority (estimated at around 90%) of our clients have underlying MH needs
- ▶ Estimated that 53% of patients with drug use disorders have co-occurring mental illness
- ▶ Complicates the treatment of pain
  - ▶ opioid abuse is as high as 32% in patients being treated for pain
  - ▶ Pain potentiates depression, anxiety and other symptoms of mental illness
- ▶ Presence of mental illness compromises patient's ability to engage in coordinated care
- ▶ Lack of communication between behavioral health providers and medical providers

HORNALL, L., CLEARY, M., HUNT, C. E., & WALKER, C. (2009). PHARMACOLOGICAL TREATMENTS FOR PEOPLE WITH CO-OCCURRING MENTAL ILLNESS AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS: QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE EMPIRICAL EVIDENCE. HARVARD REVIEW OF PSYCHIATRY, 17, 141-148.

SCHINDLER, A., THOMASUS, R., & PETERSEN, K. (2009). HEROIN AS AN ATTACHMENT SUBSTITUTE: DIFFERENCES IN ATTACHMENT REPRESENTATIONS BETWEEN OPIOID, ECSTASY, AND CANNABIS USERS. ATTACHMENT AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT, 10, 307-330.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND EMERGENCY ROOM USE

- ▶ Many patients have poly-substance abuse
- ▶ High number of ER visits related to medical clearance visits
- ▶ Need for standardization of protocols
- ▶ Access to timely CD services



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

- ▶ Dual Diagnosis Clients
  - ▶ Co-occurring disorders in many of the clients in the program
  - ▶ Require high levels of care coordination
- ▶ Medicaid
  - ▶ More overdose deaths in the Washington state among Medicaid clients 30.8 (per 100,000) Medicaid vs. 4.0 (per 100,000) non-Medicaid—More than 7 times the rate
- ▶ Children
  - ▶ In 2008, 13.8 million people aged 12 and over used opioid medication in a non-medical way—kids are getting a hold of opioids out of our medicine cabinets!
  - ▶ Far too many drug-exposed babies born annually
  - ▶ Pregnant women-opioid dependency

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## CORE PRINCIPLES OF CONSISTENT CARE

- ▶ Do what is best for the patient- not punitive
- ▶ Identify the driving force behind ED use
- ▶ Coordinate care among providers and hospitals
- ▶ Keep the primary care provider in control
- ▶ Assist in resource identification and application
- ▶ Provide skills and tools for patients to treat themselves
- ▶ Prevent prescription overmedication, abuse and death
- ▶ Address community gaps leading to higher ED utilization

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## COMPONENTS OF CONSISTENT CARE

- ▶ Community Collaboration
  - ▶ Hospitals working together
  - ▶ Care Guidelines Committee
  - ▶ Organizational points of contact, "go to people"
- ▶ Prescription Monitoring Program
  - ▶ Patient specific controlled-substance tracking
  - ▶ Habitual access and use by ED providers and CM staff
- ▶ Emergency Department Information Exchange (EDIE)
  - ▶ Communication among treating hospital ED's and PCPs
  - ▶ Database for Case Management tracking
  - ▶ Patient Centered Care Plan development
- ▶ Case Management
  - ▶ Proactive and available outside the emergency department
  - ▶ Skilled in addressing BH/CD issues
  - ▶ Patient-Centered
  - ▶ One Team across all hospitals

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## COMMUNITY COLLABORATION

- ▶ Hospitals working together
  - ▶ Held meetings with key leadership in Case Management, Health Information Technology, Compliance/Privacy and Emergency Department
  - ▶ Community effort
- ▶ Care Guidelines Committee
  - ▶ Identified experts and organizations in the community vested in decreasing inappropriate ED use
  - ▶ Create an opportunity to collaborate
- ▶ Target and communicate with key "go to" people in clinics, hospitals, urgent cares, and community organizations

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## CARE GUIDELINES COMMITTEE

- ▶ Mental Health & Chemical Dependency
  - ▶ Crisis Response, Detox, Lourdes Counseling Center, community providers
- ▶ Hospital Case Management & Emergency Physicians
  - ▶ KRMC, KGH, LMC, PMH
- ▶ Public Health
  - ▶ "Safe Moms Safe Babies" (BFHD)
- ▶ Community Resources
  - ▶ Aging and Long Term Care (ALTC)
  - ▶ Child Protective Services (CPS)
- ▶ Pastoral Care
- ▶ Pharmacist
- ▶ Consistent Care Program Staff
  - ▶ Medical Director- Dr. Darin Neven
- ▶ Primary Care




---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### PRESCRIPTION MONITORING PROGRAM (PMP)

- ▶ Controls prescription misuse by providing practitioners prescription histories
  - ▶ Changes the clinical management in 41% of the cases
- ▶ Access to PMP for ED providers and ED Case Management staff
- ▶ Promote the use of PMP for other providers; dental, pain management specialists, PCP
- ▶ Ability to use PMP to assess provider prescribing behavior and identify areas of improvement/education

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (EOPUS) - EPIDEMIC RESPONDING TO AMERICA'S PRESCRIPTION DRUG ABUSE CRISIS | POLARIS REPORT

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT INFORMATION EXCHANGE (EDIE)



- ▶ Internet delivered tool that facilitates communication across hospitals and care providers
  - ▶ 2.5M ED visits going through EDIE (98%)
- ▶ Ability to identify high users across all service areas
- ▶ Creates a mechanism to "re-insert" the PCP as the center of care through automated notifications
- ▶ Allows the automated delivery of individualized care guidelines to the treating ED 24/7
- ▶ Notifications automatically trigger the delivery of Case Management services at the time of the ED visit
- ▶ HIPAA Compliant

---

---

---

---

---

---

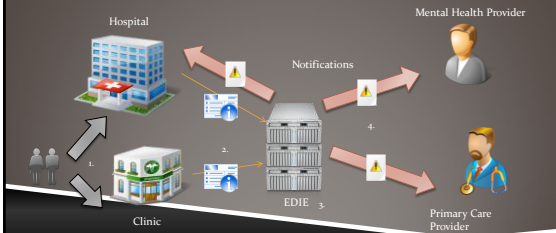
---

---

---

---

### HOW EDIE NOTIFICATIONS WORK




---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## CASE MANAGEMENT

- ▶ Patient-Centered
  - ▶ Establish PCM for every client
- ▶ Face to Face
- ▶ Care Guideline development
- ▶ Promote clinical coordination
- ▶ Proactive Case Management
  - ▶ Chemical Dependency
  - ▶ Behavioral Health
  - ▶ Community resource needs
  - ▶ Alternative plans and education to the use of the ED

---

---

---

---

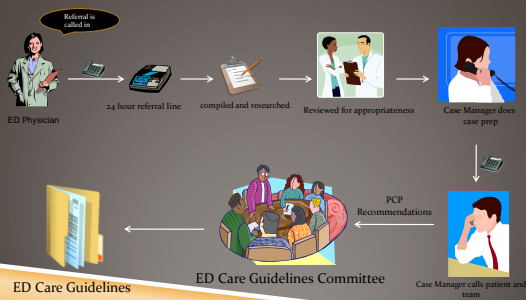
---

---

---

---

## DEVELOPMENT OF THE CARE GUIDELINES



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## CARE GUIDELINES

- ▶ **ED Visit Summary:** A table of all ED visits made by the patient in the metropolitan area for the past two years.
- ▶ **Primary Care Provider:** A statement identifying the patient's primary care provider/clinic name including the phone number.
- ▶ **Opioid Recommendation:** A recommendation from the Care Guidelines Committee regarding administering or prescribing opioids in the ED when objective findings to substantiate complaints of pain are absent
- ▶ **Chronic Pain Medication:** A statement identifying if the patient has entered into an opioid agreement with their provider or is receiving a scheduled supply of controlled substances

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

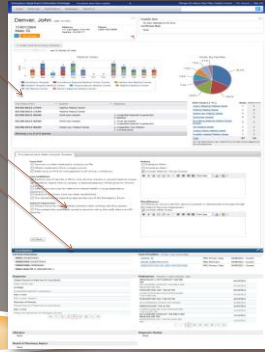
---





### WHAT DOES EDIE LOOK LIKE?

- ▶ Patient / Visit Summary Section
- ▶ Care Guideline Section
- ▶ Investigation Section



---

---

---

---

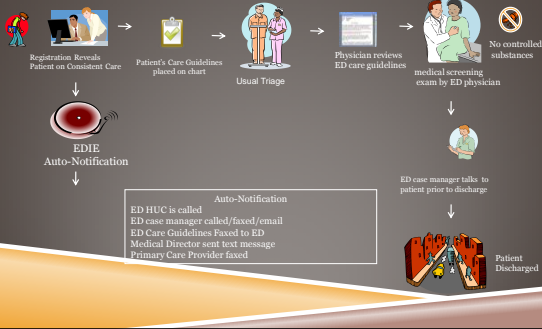
---

---

---

---

### ED VISIT PROCESS



---

---

---

---

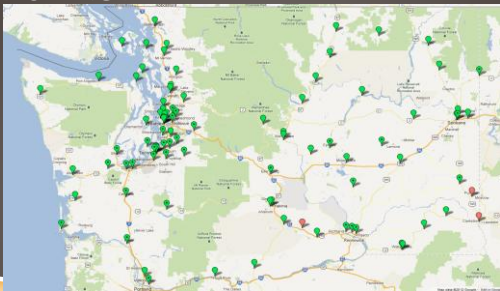
---

---

---

---

### EDIE IMPLEMENTATION- STATEWIDE EXCHANGE



---

---

---

---

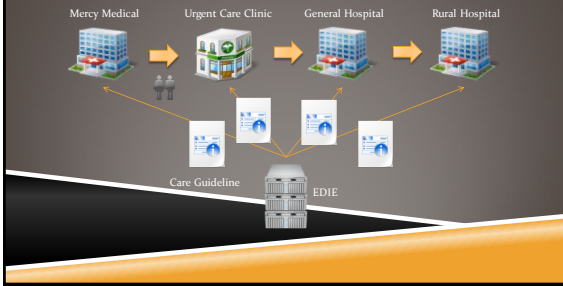
---

---

---

---

## CONSISTENT & COORDINATED CARE




---

---

---

---

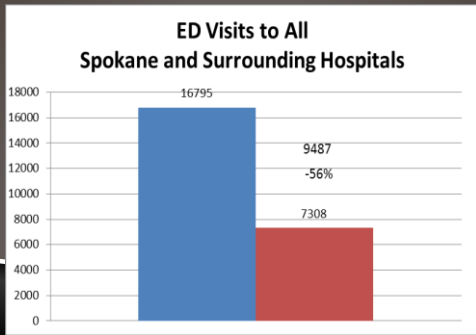
---

---

---

---

## RESULTS



n=540 patients (enrolled from 2006-2011)

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## ED CARE COORDINATION STUDY (CDC)

- ▶ Began in September, 2011- two year study
  - ▶ No informed consent required
  - ▶ Focus on prescription drug abuse and preventing overdose deaths
- ▶ 165 Participants randomized into the TAU (control) and CCare (treatment) groups
  - ▶ Screened for those patients with > 50% visits related to pain complaints
- ▶ All payer sources- Medicaid, Medicare, Commercial and uninsured
- ▶ Collecting data
  - ▶ Prescribing behavior- PMP and hospital data
  - ▶ ED visit utilization- EDIE
  - ▶ Financial indicators- hospital data




---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## ALTERNATIVE TO A NO-PAYMENT POLICY

- ▶ History of no-payment policy
- ▶ Adopted in April 11, 2012
  - ▶ WSMA, WSHA and WA-ACEP
- ▶ Attestation by June 15, 2012
- ▶ Adoption of practices by October 1, 2012
- ▶ Reporting by January 15, 2013



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## “SEVEN BEST PRACTICES”

- ▶ Adoption of an Electronic Health Information system
- ▶ Patient Education
- ▶ Narcotic Guidelines
- ▶ Prescription Monitoring
- ▶ Feedback Reporting
- ▶ Patient Review and Coordination (PRC) Client Lists and Notifications
- ▶ PRC Care Plans and PCP Access



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## PROGRAM FUNDING

- ▶ Health Plans
  - ▶ Financial savings
  - ▶ Contractual arrangement for enrollment based on acuity
- ▶ Hospitals
  - ▶ Coordinated Effort
  - ▶ Financial
    - ▶ Reduction of uninsured visits
    - ▶ Manage state spending/Medicaid legislation
    - ▶ Commercial Insurance- Manage ED costs
- ▶ Not for Profit Organization- Benefits community
  - ▶ Health Access Fund



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## WHAT WE'VE LEARNED

- ▶ Just communicating with each other and having access to EDIE information has made huge impact
- ▶ Mental health care is key-improving patient access and adherence
- ▶ We need to learn how better to communicate with the vulnerable- better skills in the ED around patient engagement and motivation for change
  - ▶ Beginning to access training for staff
- ▶ We need around the clock or late hours access to Urgent Care
  - ▶ Community health access team is working to address this
- ▶ We need timely access to primary care appointments- Patients have PCP's, they just can't get into them
  - ▶ Establish relationships to open up slots for patients within our program
  - ▶ Identify complex patients that need regularly scheduled appointments

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## WHAT'S NEXT..

- ▶ Reductions in the use of the ED for medical clearance visits
- ▶ Streamlining the care of patients with dental issues
- ▶ Closer working relationships with EMS and local dispatch centers
- ▶ Collaboration on a statewide basis
  - ▶ Standard care planning
  - ▶ Transparent outcomes for identification of best-practices

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## FINAL THOUGHTS

- ▶ It's important to "slow the flow" of controlled substances – people are dying!
- ▶ Communication and collaboration with community stakeholders is critical- get to know your neighbors!
- ▶ Over-utilization of the emergency room is a symptom of underlying disease, whether that is poor primary care access or prescription drug abuse, use your assessment skills and create a treatment plan.
- ▶ It can't be fixed overnight ...but you can go a long way in a short amount of time!

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

QUESTIONS?

Becky Grohs, RN, BSN, CCM  
(509) 542-2677  
[rgrohs@wsu.edu](mailto:rgrohs@wsu.edu)



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---