The VPMS Quarterly Report 2022 Q1 is available.

The Strategic Prevention Framework for Prescription Drugs (SPF-Rx) Evaluation Summary found that Vermont successfully used the SPF-Rx funds to raise awareness of and address prescription opioid misuse among youth and young adults. The award-winning “Over the Dose” campaign had high recognition among the target group and resulted in behavior change. Healthcare workers increased their knowledge of prescription opioid misuse and translated materials made the information more accessible to people. Vermont’s multi-faceted approach to addressing substance use disorder involves coordination between multiple state agencies and community partners in the areas of prevention, treatment, recovery and law enforcement.

**Access to Treatment**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>9,363</th>
<th>Estimated Vermonters age 18+ receiving MOUD in hubs and spokes Q1 2022*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>People waiting for hub services**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-20k</td>
<td>Estimated people with OUD in need of treatment (includes people in treatment)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Research shows that MOUD is the most effective treatment for OUD.

**Drug Disposal**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>79</th>
<th>Drug disposal locations available statewide*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>23,431</td>
<td>Pounds of drugs collected in state-funded programs between May 2021 and April 2022 **</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Most people who misuse prescription opioids get them from friends or family. Convenient disposal options may decrease misuse of unused prescriptions.

**Overdoses (Accidental)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>February</th>
<th>Current and Previous Year Comparison</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opioid related fatalities</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of fatalities involving fentanyl</td>
<td>87%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonfatal rate per 10,000 ED Visits</td>
<td>24.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All data are preliminary and subject to change. People who die from accidental overdoses may have more than one substance in their system. For more information: Monthly Vermont Opioid-Related Fatalities.

**Messaging**

A new VT Helplink campaign launched in May, featuring local harm reduction service providers with a focus on compassion and supporting others. Messaging directs to VT Helplink as a way to connect to support, services and other resources.

**Recent Highlights**

- The VPMS Quarterly Report 2022 Q1 is available.
- The Strategic Prevention Framework for Prescription Drugs (SPF-Rx) Evaluation Summary found that Vermont successfully used the SPF-Rx funds to raise awareness of and address prescription opioid misuse among youth and young adults. The award-winning “Over the Dose” campaign had high recognition among the target group and resulted in behavior change. Healthcare workers increased their knowledge of prescription opioid misuse and translated materials made the information more accessible to people.

**Prescription Monitoring**

- Reduction in opioid analgesics dispensed between Q1 2016 and Q1 2022* 54%
- Of Vermont population received opioid analgesics in Q1 2022. 3.7%

Nearly 80% of people who use heroin had previously misused prescription opioids. Limiting use to the minimum medically necessary amount is best practice.

**Drug Disposal**

Data are preliminary and subject to change.

Sources: Vital Statistics; ESSENCE; VPMS; SATIS; program reporting.

* Data updated quarterly
** Data updated monthly

5/27/2022
Acronyms

ADAP – Alcohol & Drug Abuse Programs
BRFSS – Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System
CDC – Centers for Disease Control & Prevention
ED – Emergency Department
MOUD – Medication for Opioid Use Disorder
MME – Morphine Milligram Equivalent
OUD – Opioid Use Disorder
OD – Overdose
SAMHSA – Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration
SUDORS – State Unintentional Drug Overdose Reporting System
VPMS – Vermont Prescription Monitoring System
YRBS – Youth Risk Behavior Survey

Definitions

Hub – Regional programs that provide intensive opioid use disorder treatment options, including high intensity Medication Assisted Treatment, and maintain strong connections to area Spokes. There are nine Hubs in Vermont.

Medication for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD) – The use of methadone, buprenorphine, or naltrexone, in combination with counseling and behavioral therapies, to treat opioid use disorder.

Morphine Milligram Equivalent (MME) – The amount of morphine equivalent to the strength of the opioid dispensed. Using MME allows comparison between types and strengths of opioids.

Opioid Analgesic – Narcotic pain medication

Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) – Recurrent use of opioids causes clinically and functionally significant impairment, such as health problems, disability, and failure to meet major responsibilities at work, school, or home.

Spoke – Office-based opioid treatment settings located in communities across Vermont. At many Spokes, opioid use disorder treatment is fully integrated into general healthcare and wellness services.

More Information

healthvermont.gov/scorecard-opioids
healthvermont.gov/RxAware
healthvermont.gov/opioids
healthvermont.gov/ADAPReports
healthvermont.gov/YRBS
KnowODVT.com
EndAddictionStigmaVT.com

References

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www.cdc.gov/nchs/nyss/vsrr/drug-overdose-data.htm