



NASEMSO Opioid & SUD Ad Hoc Committee

MEETING RECORD

September 7, 2023

Attending – Tim Seplaki (NJ), Stephanie Busch (VT), Paul Westlake (DE), Megan Umbriano (RI), Rita Masiello (NJ), Duane Spencer (PA), Peter Geissert (OR), Vicki Blanchard (NH)
Guest Speakers: Dr. Kimberly Baldino, Kevin Webb
NASEMSO Staff: Mary Hedges, Alex Tyeryar

Call to Order & Welcome – Stephanie Busch, Vice Chair, called the meeting to order at 2:08, while Chair Tim Seplaki was having technical difficulties.

Self - Introductions – Members and guests introduced themselves.

Review and Approve June 14th Meeting Record – The meeting minutes were approved as submitted.

Presentation: St. Joseph Health Mobile ICU MAT Program (Paterson, NJ) - Dr. Kimberly Baldino, EMS Medical Director, and Kevin Webb, RN, NRP Clinical Coordinator, presented their recently implemented medication assisted therapy (MAT) program. They thanked Dr. Gerry Carroll from Cooper Hospital EMS for assisting them in getting started. In New Jersey, all ALS systems are hospital-based. Their first step was to obtain approval from the New Jersey Office of EMS. After approval from their hospital, they conducted training for ED physicians, residents and the paramedics. Their program relies heavily on services at the emergency department and most of their overdose patients (80%) get transported. Leave-behind kits are now standard practice in New Jersey for overdose patients who refuse transport. They use a Clinical Opiate Withdrawal Scale (COWS) score of 5 or higher as one of the criteria for offering participation in the MAT program. They also offer Zofran in addition to the Suboxone.

They went live July 1. They had 45 OUD patients in the first two months. Of those, 40 were excluded and five met the criteria for MAT. The greatest number (12) of those ineligible were uncooperative or unable to consent and 10 others had a COWS score less than 5. Of the seven OUD patients in the first week of September, three have enrolled in the MAT program. They are tracking hospital records to see if patients return with an overdose. The patients are admitted to a variety of detox and treatment programs so it will be more challenging to see long term results of those who enter treatment as a result of their MAT program, but they are considering making follow up calls.

Tim thanked Dr. Baldino and Mr. Webb for their presentation and invited them to join our meetings in the future.

Co-Responder Consortium Update – Dia Gainor was not available to report on the [National Co-Responder Consortium](#)

Member Comments (for those with information to share)

Stephanie asked if anyone has a consent form or policy that allows sharing of information with recovery centers. Tim said that New Jersey has a couple of programs where law enforcement/prosecutor's office follows up with patients to determine if they have entered into recovery. Tim shared a resource from SAMSHA intended for first responders to connect people to substance use services.

<https://www.samhsa.gov/resource/ebp/connecting-communities-substance-use-services-practical-tools-for-first-responders#>

Adjourn – The meeting adjourned at 3:00 PM ET.

Next Meeting – Nov 2, 2023

The meeting record was respectfully prepared by NASEMSO Program Manager Mary Hedges.