

Implementing an Opioid Overdose Prevention Program within a Community Mental Health Clinic

INTRODUCTION

- Co-occurring mental illness and substance use disorder is highly prevalent and is associated with higher risk of opioid overdose.
- Opioid Overdose Prevention Programs (OOPPs) have been shown to reduce community opioid overdose rates in primary care and hospital settings through distribution of naloxone kits and overdose response training.
- OOPP implementation has not yet been described in mental health clinics, which have their own unique policy challenges to providing low barrier care for people with substance use disorders.
- Montefiore Behavioral Health Clinic (MBHC) is an open-access community mental health clinic located in the Bronx, which has the highest rates of opioid overdose deaths of any burrow in New York City.

OBJECTIVE

- To demonstrate the feasibility and effectiveness of implementing an Opioid Overdose Prevention Program within an outpatient mental health clinic to better address co-occurring substance use and overdose risk among individuals being treated for psychiatric conditions.

METHODS



RESULTS

Naloxone Kits Distributed	Overdose Responders	Clinic Staff Dispensers
2,012 kits	918 trained	33 certified

Timeline: Fall 2019 to Summer 2024

CONCLUSION

- Distribution of over 2,000 naloxone kits at MBHC between 2019-2024 demonstrates both feasibility and effectiveness of implementing an OOPP within a mental health clinic.
- Based on the most recent public listing of OOPPs in NYC, MBHC is the only OOPP operating within a mental health clinic in the Bronx.
- Data collection was limited to monthly inventory of naloxone kits.
- Future workflows will be expanded to include referrals to syringe service programs, mutual aid groups, and substance use treatment programs.

AUTHORS & DISCLOSURES

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