Partnering with pharmacists to reduce opiate addiction

Ernest Boyd, R.Ph., MBA
Executive Director, Ohio Pharmacists Association

Jessica Geiger-Hayes, Pharm.D., BCPS
Palliative Care Pharmacist

Ohio’s 2017 Opiate Conference: Bridges to Recovery
Pharmacists: a great partner in your community efforts

Education: Graduate with 6 year Pharm.D.

• More pharmacology than any other
• Some have additional pain specific training
• Can interact with patient and physician regarding medications
• Recent study shows teens listen to them
What are pharmacists doing to help?

- **Point of dispensing**
  - Working to assure smallest amount of pain medication prescribed
  - Suggesting alternative medications
    - Public has perception that nonprescription drugs not as effective
    - Acetaminophen, ibuprofen, often better than narcotic
    - Patient asks for what insurance covers – often opioid
What are pharmacists doing to help?

• Inpatient
  • Give dosing recommendations
  • Plan opioid tapers for when the patient returns home
  • Assist with pain management in the setting of MAT
  • Collaborate with outpatient pharmacists and prescribers
  • Collaborate with MAT clinics if needed
Checking online patient controlled drug list (OARRS)

• First, do general dose, interaction check
• Second, check the OARRS (Ohio Automated Rx Reporting System)
  • Look for high doses, other rxs, multiple prescribers
• With new law, be sure prescription is in parameters
Opioid RXs now expire in 14 days

• Cannot fill after 14 days from rx date
• No more than 90 day supply, although we strongly recommend against large amount
• Then a new law is coming into effect after various boards pass rules:
New acute pain prescribing limits coming

- No more than 7 day supply adults
- No more than 5 day supply minors
- Total morphine equivalent dose no more than 30 mg equivalents
- They can prescribe more with reason; Exception: MAT, hospice, cancer
Drug take back efforts

• Some pharmacies have receptacles
• Last drug takeback day in Ohio – gathered 13 TONS of drugs
• Encouraging patients to do yearly “brown bag”, where we encourage disposal
• We must educate public in these areas:
Public MUST know this about opiates

• ASK for smallest amount
• ASK if nonnarcotic would work
• IF there is leftover opiate, DESTROY IT
  • Drug take backs
  • Ways to dispose, such as Deterra, to neutralize drug, and dispose
Consumer education

Start Talking!
Building a Drug-Free Future

GenerationRx
Safe medication practices for life.
Pharmacists can speak in schools or other public events

- Materials are available for them to utilize
- New legislation suggests curriculum for education
- Pharmacists are located in every county, just need to be asked
Serve as members of local coalitions

• Most pharmacists would be pleased to be asked
• Sources: Independents, Chains, hospital pharmacies
• Bring experience and knowledge of the drug effects to the discussion
New Roles For Pharmacists

• Increase availability of Naloxone
• Can now dispense without prescription in Ohio
• Still need insurers to cover this dispensing
Naloxone without prescription under agreement with physician

Must give instructions and warnings when dispensing
• Risk factors of opioid overdose;
• Strategies to prevent opioid overdose;
• Signs of opioid overdose;
• Steps in responding to an overdose;

Information on naloxone;
• Procedures for administering naloxone;
• Proper storage and expiration of naloxone product dispensed; and

Information on where to obtain a referral for substance abuse treatment.
New clinical partnerships with pharmacists: Consult agreements

• HB 188 allows pharmacists to manage, modify, prescribe, and order lab tests for patients of a physician or practice
  • Includes controlled substances

• Some pharmacists could provide MAT, in cooperation with a physician under an agreement
Consult agreements, cont.

• Some local hospitals are working to privilege pharmacists to manage pain as well as other disease states
New: Pharmacists can administer certain long acting medications

- Opioid antagonists
- Antipsychotic medications
- Hydroxyprogesterone caproate (reduce risk of preterm birth)
- Medroxyprogesterone (birth control)
- Cobalamin (vitamin B12)
Prevention efforts

• Have information and knowledge
• Many have expressed interest in helping
• Just need to be asked
Questions?

• Ernest Boyd
• eboyd@ohiopharmacists.org