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Addressing Opioid Use: What's New and Emerging in Wisconsin?

An EBHPP Research Roundtable

March 1st, 2017

Speaker Biographies

Aleksandra Zgierska, MD, PhD

Assistant Professor, UW School of Medicine and Public Health, Department of Family Medicine and Community Health

Initiatives to Reduce Opioid-related Harms and Improve Outcomes in Addiction and Chronic Pain

Aleksandra Zgierska is an Assistant Professor at the UW School of Medicine and Public Health, Department of Family Medicine and Community Health. She earned MD and PhD degrees in Warsaw, Poland before moving to Madison, where she completed a family medicine residency and National Institutes of Health (NIH)-funded research fellowship at the UW. She provides primary and addiction medicine care at the UW Health Yahara Clinic; in 2016, she was voted by her peers one of Madison Magazine's "Top Doctors" in Dane County in addiction medicine. Dr. Zgierska's research, funded by the NIH, the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) and other agencies, focuses on improving outcomes in patients with alcohol/drug use disorders and opioid-treated chronic pain. She presents lectures related to opioid therapy and addiction locally, nationally and internationally, and is the President of the Wisconsin Chapter of the American Society of Addiction Medicine.

Cory Nelson

Captain of the West District, Madison Police Department

Initiatives to Reduce Opioid-related Harms and Improve Outcomes in Addiction and Chronic Pain – Madison Addiction Recovery Initiative

Captain Nelson is in his 28th year with the Madison Police Department, and is current assigned as the Commander of the West District. He was the primary push behind applying for a federal grant to divert low level property crime offenders away from the criminal justice system and to offer treatment instead of arrest, which has resulted in the Madison Addiction Recovery Initiative (MARI). He sees that law enforcement needs to begin looking at addiction as a disease and not a crime, and believes that what law enforcement is currently doing is not working, and that it is time to try a new approach.

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Sara Lindberg, PhD, MS

Director of Evaluation Research, UW School of Medicine and Public Health, Population Health Institute

Evaluation of Wisconsin-based Opioid Prevention and Treatment Efforts

Sara Lindberg directs the Evaluation Research Group at the UW Population Health Institute. She is a psychologist and epidemiologist by training, who specializes in evaluating interventions to improve community health and promote health equity. In her role as Program Director for Evaluation Research, Dr. Lindberg leads a team of over 40 professional evaluators. Those evaluators use a broad range of methods - from qualitative and descriptive techniques to complex experimental and quasi-experimental trials - to evaluate programs and interventions designed to improve the health of individuals and communities. The Population Health Institute's evaluation team is currently evaluating well over a dozen efforts to prevent and mitigate the harm caused by opioid addiction in Wisconsin.

Bri Deyo, MPH, CCRC

Research Coordinator, UW School of Medicine and Public Health, Department of Family Medicine and Community Health

Screening in Trauma for Opioid Misuse Prevention (STOMP)

Bri Deyo has been collecting data for various research projects within the School of Medicine and Public Health since 2011; from driving to all corners of the state in a mobile health clinic truck to administer surveys for the Survey of the Health of Wisconsin, to industry-sponsored clinical trials in the Department of Medicine. She is a Certified Clinical Research Coordinator, and member of the Academy of Clinical Research Professionals. Her current work with Dr. Randall Brown in the Department of Family Medicine and Community Health focuses on various aspects of opioid use and misuse, including opioid prescribing, opioid overdose prevention, opioid use disorder recovery, opioid misuse prevention, and drug court programs.