

ADVANCING PREVENTION, TREATMENT AND RECOVERY FOR OPIOID USE AND MISUSE DISORDERS

The Lewin Group provides realistic, innovative, evidence-based research and solutions to the challenges facing providers, stakeholders and government agencies in studying opioid use, preventing opioid misuse and promoting effective treatment and recovery. Selected current and past projects demonstrate how Lewin can provide effective solutions for the prevention and treatment of opioid use and misuse disorders.

DATA VISUALIZATION AND ANALYTICS

Interactive Visualization Tools for Opioid Use Data

For the state of South Dakota, Lewin developed a dynamic data visualization tool that allows the client to examine opioid prescription patterns at any level. Users of the tool can examine, among other things, how many different opioid prescriptions a patient may have, the timing of the prescriptions, how many providers prescribed the prescriptions and the number of pharmacies filling prescriptions. This tool also allows users to examine state-wide patterns in prescription opioid use. Lewin has developed similarly flexible, dynamic and sophisticated data visualization tools for other state agencies, including Montana and Massachusetts. The tools allow clients to have interactive access to behavioral health data to examine utilization patterns, medication use, adherence to quality measures and cost of care.

Analysis of Opioid Use in the United States

For the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), Lewin used a large, longitudinal claims data set with linked medical and pharmacy claims to describe current patterns of opioid use and misuse among adults and determine provider, patient and system risk factors for misuse. This analysis also examined risk factors for patients who experienced episodes of opioid overdose. Additionally, Lewin is conducting a systematic environmental scan to determine best and promising practices for prevention, treatment and recovery support for individuals at risk for, with, or in recovery from an opioid use disorder.

Dynamic Clinical Decision-Support Tools

Lewin helped the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System implement decision-support software that compares claims data, lab results and enrollment data with evidence-based best practices for clinical decisions and preventive measures, including behavioral health measures.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND TRAINING

Performance Improvement for Substance Use and Alcohol Treatment

Lewin provided expert training and technical assistance for the Department of Vermont Health Access, to help them implement and evaluate performance-improvement projects related to alcohol and other substance treatment for Medicaid enrollees. The state now has the skills and expertise to develop and conduct additional performance improvement projects following CMS protocols as part of a quality-focused environment.

Integrated Learning Systems Addressing Opioid-Related Overdoses and Addiction

To promote the sharing and exchange of new information, Lewin coordinates a meta-learning system for the CMS' Center for Medicare & Medicaid Innovation (CMMI). This meta-learning system capitalizes on the extensive innovation approaches being tested and implemented across the country to maximize the adoption of best practices in opioid misuse and overdose prevention.

AREAS OF SERVICE

- Opioid use and misuse
- Economic impact of alcohol and substance use disorders
- Behavioral health care programs, financing, and delivery
- Health care utilization and payment reform
- Policy and program implementation
- Veteran's health

"The main strengths of The Lewin Group are expertise, clear understanding of the contract requirements, flexibility, responsiveness to questions and timely delivery of quality products.

— Department of Defense client

KEY CAPABILITIES

- Data analytics and visualization
- Clinical guideline development, testing, and refinement
- Technical assistance and training
- Program monitoring, implementation, and evaluation
- Qualitative and quantitative data collection
- Performance and quality improvement
- Decision support tools

CLINICAL QUALITY MEASURES AND GUIDELINES

Developing and Maintaining Clinical Quality Measures for Opioid Use

Lewin develops, electronically specifies, and maintains multiple clinical quality measures for CMS. These clinical quality measures have multiple end users, including health information technology vendors/programmers and health care providers. One key clinical quality measure we're testing aims to reduce opioid overuse at the provider level by monitoring long-term, high-dose opioid prescribing.

Evidence-Based Clinical Practice Guidelines for Substance Use Disorders and Depression

Lewin developed and is implementing evidence-based clinical practice guidelines for the Veterans Health Administration and Department of Defense, including guidelines for opioid therapy and the management of substance use disorders, post-traumatic stress disorder and major depressive disorder.

ABOUT US

The Lewin Group is a premier national health care and human services consulting firm with more than 45 years' experience finding answers and solving problems for leading organizations in the public, nonprofit and private sectors. We understand the industry and provide our clients with high-quality products and insightful support to help them maximize the delivery of programs and services that make a difference in the lives of their constituents.

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