

WASHINGTON FATAL DRUG OVERDOSE SURVEILLANCE NETWORK Planning and Training Conference



Date: March 21, 2019

Place: Town Center 1, Room 163, 101 Israel Road SE, Tumwater, WA 98501

Time: 8:00 am – 12:00 pm

Hosts: Thurston County Coroner, Washington State Department of Health

Invitees: Coroners and medical examiners, medicolegal death investigators, law enforcement investigators, public health officials

Purpose:

This conference has been designed to create a statewide network of partner agencies for collecting and sharing information from deaths due to suspected drug overdose. The specific goals of this conference are as follows:

- Provide guidance in identifying and reporting drug evidence collected at scenes of suspected drug overdose deaths.
- Help agencies obtain Raman devices and urine dipsticks to facilitate rapid identification of drug evidence.
- Encourage partner agencies to contribute to a central data repository of fatal drug overdose information.
- Distribute a simple form with procedures to report deaths due to suspected drug overdose.
- Provide access to weekly bulletins describing drug overdose deaths from around Washington.
- Show how to assist the Washington State Patrol Toxicology Laboratory in expediting reports of deaths due to suspected drug overdose

Learning objectives:

Following this conference, attendees will be able to:

- Explain why Washington needs a statewide fatal drug overdose surveillance network.
- Describe how funding opportunities provided by Washington Department of Health can facilitate a statewide fatal drug overdose surveillance network.
- Develop procedures in their respective counties for contributing information to the statewide surveillance network and receiving information collected by other counties throughout Washington.
- Obtain technical assistance in rapidly identifying drug evidence in suspected overdose deaths.
- Assist the Washington State Patrol Toxicology Laboratory in expediting reports of suspected drug overdose deaths.

Agenda:

Time	Item	Owner
8:00 – 8:15	Registration	
8:15 – 8:30	Welcome, introductions	Thurston County
8:30 – 9:00	Overview of drug distribution in the Pacific Northwest	HIDTA/DEA
9:00 – 9:30	Review of drug overdose data in Washington; funding opportunities for drug overdose surveillance	WA DOH
9:30 – 9:45	Break	
9:45 – 10:15	Procedures for testing drug evidence and rapid toxicology screening; fatal drug overdose surveillance database; procedure for contributing information for drug overdose surveillance; joining the drug overdose surveillance network	KCMEO
10:15 – 10:45	General testing methods, submitting drug evidence for chemical analysis	WSP Crime Lab
10:30 – 11:15	General drug testing procedures; advances in technology and personnel; expediting reports of suspected drug overdose deaths	WSP Tox Lab
11:15 – 12:00	Questions and answers; discussion of drug overdose surveillance plan	All