

Peer-to-Peer Call Presentation & Discussion
Maryland Department of Health Opioid-related Informatics Team
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Feb. 20, 2019 (2:20-2:40pm)

Technical Challenge: Development of a centralized data sharing mechanism among state partners

Case Presentation

Background:

- We are all aware of the opioid epidemic that has been afflicting our cities/states/country for the past number of years.
- The Department of Health and Human Services has recently put forth a 5-point plan to combat the opioid crisis across the country. (<https://www.hhs.gov/opioids/>)
- Maryland is among a handful of Eastern states with the highest number of opioid overdose fatalities in the nation. (https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/pressroom/sosmap/drug_poisoning_mortality/drug_poisoning.htm)
- As part of the state's opioid response, the Maryland Legislature passed Chapter 211 (April 2018) which directs the linkage/analysis of datasets from across state government.
- Using these consolidated data results, we will be able to assess the effectiveness of current response efforts and guide future policy and programs.

Current Challenge:

- To support this mandate the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) is tasked with developing an efficient and sustainable data sharing mechanism so that data sources are in a centralized warehouse.
- The challenge lies in determining what the data warehouse looks like and the flow of data in/out of this warehouse.

Questions to consider with this challenge:

- What data do we need? (*opioid overdose-specific data*)
- Who is in charge of the data we need? (*multiple state depts. and external stakeholders*)
- How do we get the data we need? (*DUA/MOA with stakeholders and any other specific processes for data sharing*)
- What format is the data in? (*multiple formats*)
- How long will it take to get the data, make it compatible with a centralized warehouse system, and analyze it for results? (*timeline depends on numerous factors*)
- How do we build the centralized warehouse so that it is efficient and sustainable?

Other important information to consider:

- The finalized warehouse structure is required by mid April and data analysis to start mid-summer.