



NEW YORK STATE ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY HEALTH OFFICIALS

Leading the Way to Healthier Communities

JULY 2026

Harm Reduction Newsletter

Featured Resources

Updated Overdose Prevention and Response Toolkit | SAMHSA

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) released an update to its Overdose Prevention and Response Toolkit, with refreshed guidance on opioid and stimulant overdose. This resource touches on overdose reversal medications such as naloxone, risk factors and step-by-step response guidance for clinicians, communities and local governments. [Click here to view the updated toolkit!](#)

Medications for Opioid Use Disorder Access Legal Map | ASTHO

ASTHO mapped jurisdictional legislation related to medications for opioid use disorder (MOUD) access without prior authorization from January 1, 2025, to March 31, 2025. The map follows each bill across its lifespan, providing public health leaders with the specific bill text at a given point in time. Policymakers, public health leaders, and advocates can use this map to identify legislative solutions that aim to reduce burdens related to accessing medications for opioid use disorder, specifically prior authorization requirements by insurance coverage. [Click here to view the map!](#)

Alerts and Advisories

NYSDOH Issues Public Health Alert for N-propionitrile bromphine

(7/1/26) The New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) through its NYSDOH Drug Checking Program, has identified N-propionitrile bromphine in Upstate New York. N-propionitrile bromphine is a synthetic opioid. While the potency of N-propionitrile bromphine is not known, it is structurally similar to N-propionitrile chlorphine (also known as cyclorphine), which is estimated to be more potent than fentanyl. N-propionitrile bromphine was generally found in combination with fentanyl and medetomidine. [Click here to view the full alert.](#)

Upcoming Webinars

NIDA Summer Seminar Series | Wednesdays in July at 1:00 PM | [Join here!](#)*

The National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) will host a virtual Summer Seminar Series each week throughout July. Presented by NIDA's Research Training and Career Development team, this five-part webinar series will highlight emerging research and career pathways in addiction science. All are welcome to attend. The full seminar series will take place each Wednesday from 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. ET and will feature the following sessions:

- **July 8 – Improving Treatment and Recovery Services for Adolescents & Young Adults** | Presenter: Tisha Wiley, Ph.D., Division of Epidemiology, Services and Prevention Research
- **July 15 – Unlocking New Treatments for Addiction: A Scientific Journey Through the Gut-Brain Axis** | Presenter: Lorenzo Leggio, Ph.D., Intramural Research Program
- **July 22 – Clinical Neuroscience Research at NIDA** | Presenter: John Fedota, Ph.D., Division of Neuroscience and Behavior
- **July 29 – Your Phone Knows More Than You Think: Using Digital Data to Understand Substance Use Disorder Behavior** | Presenter: Brenna Curtis, Ph.D., M.S.P.H., Intramural Research Program

*The same webinar link will be used for all five sessions.

Kratom, 7-OH, and Beyond: Finding a Path Forward through Responsible Regulation, Health-Centered Policies, and Public Education | July 9 at 2:00 PM | [Register here!](#)

In this webinar, the Drug Policy Alliance will convene leading experts to discuss the current status and the future of kratom and 7-OH: What are kratom and 7-OH? Who uses these substances and what health benefits and risks do people experience? What is the legal status of kratom products and what can we expect moving forward? For kratom and 7-OH — as well as for other “gas station,” drugs, emerging drugs, and substances of uncertain legal status — what policies do we need to keep people safe? What are the impacts of regulating, scheduling, or banning kratom, 7-OH, and other emerging drugs? How might prioritizing regulation over criminalization lead to greater oversight of manufacturing and sales, more consumer safety and education, and reduced health risks?

Shared Strategies that Promote Well-Being and Resilience | July 9 at 2:00 PM | [Register here!](#)

Join ASTHO for a webinar launching a new suite of resources designed to help state, territorial, and freely associated state health agencies advance shared strategies for addressing the intersection of adverse childhood experiences (ACEs), suicide, overdose, and mental health concerns.

This session will introduce a roadmap for this work and highlight practical tools to support the implementation of strategies related to economic and foundational supports, the built environment, and trauma response efforts. This virtual opportunity will offer actionable insights for agencies working to build and enhance coordinated approaches that break down silos, reduce risk, and improve outcomes across the life course.

Moving Through the Moment: Building Policy that Saves Lives | June 17 at 1:00 PM | [Register here!](#)

Advancing health is not achieved with a one size fits all approach. Join this conversation to consider how we can leverage multiple perspective to ensure that people who use drugs are not only supported to survive, but also to thrive. Bring your lunch and join these amazing leaders:

- **Kristine Torres-Lockhart, MD** is Chief Medical Officer at Phoenix House New York and an addiction medicine physician at Montefiore Medical Center. She has spent her career

building systems that actually work for people with substance use disorders — across treatment settings, across transitions of care, and in the communities where people live.

- **Kristin Goodwin, MSW** is the Associate Vice President of Integrated Harm Reduction at Harlem United. She has spent two decades building pathways to care for people who have been left out of traditional health systems — and she does not shy away from hard questions.
- **Judith Cole, MSN, APRN, AGPCNP-BC, WHNP-BC, CARN-AP** will be moderating our conversation. She is a nurse practitioner on the Harlem United team who launched our street-based medicine program, bringing harm reduction services directly to some of New York City's most vulnerable people.

Articles and Reports

****Specific to NY**

(6/20) [Albany hospital places expert peers in ER to fight addiction](#)

(6/16) [FDA Broadens Access to Over-the-Counter Naloxone Nasal Spray for Opioid Overdose](#)

(6/12) [Summary of FY27 House Labor/HHS Appropriations Bill](#)

(6/12) [Tracking Key Mental Health and Substance Use Policy Actions Under the Trump Administration](#)

(6/12) [The association between naloxone distribution, buprenorphine treatment and retention and incident high-risk opioid prescribing with opioid overdose death in Kentucky, Massachusetts, New York and Ohio, United States: An exploratory community-level cohort study of data from the HEALing Communities Study](#)

(6/11) [SAMHSA Announces \\$40 Million in Funding Opportunities to Prevent Addiction, and Address Child Trauma, Suicide, Mental Illness](#)

(6/10) [Why New Yorkers Are Waiting Months for Mental Health and Substance Use Care](#)

(6/4) [“Chill packs” self-administered olanzapine as psychiatric harm reduction for methamphetamine-induced psychosis: a narrative review of the existing evidence base](#)

(6/2) [1 in 4 U.S. Adults Don't Recognize Addiction as a Health Condition](#)

(6/1) [Associations Between Maternal Opioid Use Disorder Treatment and Pregnancy Outcomes](#)

(5/19) [Addiction Care in Primary Care Residency Clinic May Boost SUD Training Confidence](#)

(5/1) [Research Brief: Differences in take-home methadone receipt by state policy and individual social factors in a survey of people who use drugs](#)

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