

(a) shall address circumstances under which disclosure of substance use disorder patient records is needed to—

“(1) facilitate communication between substance use disorder treatment providers and other health care providers to promote and provide the best possible integrated care;

“(2) avoid inappropriate prescribing that can lead to dangerous drug interactions, overdose, or relapse; and

“(3) notify and involve families and caregivers when individuals experience an overdose.

“(c) PERIODIC UPDATES.—The Secretary shall—

“(1) periodically review and update the model program and materials identified or developed under subsection (a); and

“(2) disseminate such updated programs and materials to the individuals described in subsection (a)(1).

“(d) INPUT OF CERTAIN ENTITIES.—In identifying, reviewing, or updating the model programs and materials under this section, the Secretary shall solicit the input of relevant stakeholders.

“(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section—

“(1) \$4,000,000 for fiscal year 2019;

“(2) \$2,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2020 and 2021; and

“(3) \$1,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2022 and 2023.”

REPORT OF ADMINISTRATOR OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS TO CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES; PUBLICATION IN FEDERAL REGISTER

Pub. L. 93-282, title I, §121(b), May 14, 1974, 88 Stat. 131, which directed Administrator of Veterans' Affairs to submit to appropriate committees of House of Representatives and Senate a full report (1) on regulations (including guidelines, policies, and procedures thereunder) he had prescribed pursuant to section 321(b)(2) of Comprehensive Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Prevention, Treatment, and Rehabilitation Act of 1970 [former 42 U.S.C. 290dd-2(b)(2)], (2) explaining bases for any inconsistency between such regulations and regulations of Secretary under section 321(b)(1) of such Act [42 U.S.C. 290dd-2(b)(1)], (3) on extent, substance, and results of his consultations with Secretary respecting prescribing and implementation of Administrator's regulations, and (4) containing such recommendations for legislation and administrative actions as he determined were necessary and desirable, with Administrator to submit report not later than sixty days after effective date of regulations prescribed by Secretary under such section 321(b)(1) [42 U.S.C. 290dd-2(b)(1)], and to publish such report in Federal Register, was characterized by section 111(c)(5) of Pub. L. 94-581 as having been superseded by section 4134 [now 7334] of Title 38, Veterans' Benefits.

§ 290dd-2a. Promoting access to information on evidence-based programs and practices

(a) In general

The Assistant Secretary shall, as appropriate, improve access to reliable and valid information on evidence-based programs and practices, including information on the strength of evidence associated with such programs and practices, related to mental and substance use disorders for States, local communities, nonprofit entities, and other stakeholders, by posting on the Internet website of the Administration information on evidence-based programs and practices that have been reviewed by the Assistant Secretary in accordance with the requirements of this section.

(b) Applications

(1) Application period

In carrying out subsection (a), the Assistant Secretary may establish a period for the sub-

mission of applications for evidence-based programs and practices to be posted publicly in accordance with subsection (a).

(2) Notice

In establishing the application period under paragraph (1), the Assistant Secretary shall provide for the public notice of such application period in the Federal Register. Such notice may solicit applications for evidence-based programs and practices to address gaps in information identified by the Assistant Secretary, the National Mental Health and Substance Use Policy Laboratory established under section 290aa-0 of this title, or the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, including pursuant to the evaluation and recommendations under section 6021 of the Helping Families in Mental Health Crisis Reform Act of 2016 or priorities identified in the strategic plan under section 290aa(l) of this title.

(c) Requirements

The Assistant Secretary may establish minimum requirements for the applications submitted under subsection (b), including applications related to the submission of research and evaluation.

(d) Review and rating

(1) In general

The Assistant Secretary shall review applications prior to public posting in accordance with subsection (a), and may prioritize the review of applications for evidence-based programs and practices that are related to topics included in the notice provided under subsection (b)(2).

(2) System

In carrying out paragraph (1), the Assistant Secretary may utilize a rating and review system, which may include information on the strength of evidence associated with the evidence-based programs and practices and a rating of the methodological rigor of the research supporting the applications.

(3) Public access to metrics and rating

The Assistant Secretary shall make the metrics used to evaluate applications under this section, and any resulting ratings of such applications, publicly available.

(July 1, 1944, ch. 373, title V, §543A, as added Pub. L. 114-255, div. B, title VII, §7002, Dec. 13, 2016, 130 Stat. 1222.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 6021 of the Helping Families in Mental Health Crisis Reform Act of 2016, referred to in subsec. (b)(2), is section 6021 of Pub. L. 114-255, which is set out as a note under section 290aa of this title.

§ 290dd-3. Grants for reducing overdose deaths

(a) Establishment

(1) In general

The Secretary shall award grants to eligible entities to expand access to drugs or devices approved or cleared under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act [21 U.S.C. 301 et seq.]

for emergency treatment of known or suspected opioid overdose.

(2) Maximum grant amount

A grant awarded under this section may not be for more than \$200,000 per grant year.

(3) Eligible entity

For purposes of this section, the term “eligible entity” means a Federally qualified health center (as defined in section 1395x(aa) of this title), an opioid treatment program under part 8 of title 42, Code of Federal Regulations, any practitioner dispensing narcotic drugs pursuant to section 823(g) of title 21, or any other entity that the Secretary deems appropriate.

(4) Prescribing

For purposes of this section, the term “prescribing” means, with respect to a drug or device approved or cleared under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act for emergency treatment of known or suspected opioid overdose, the practice of prescribing such drug or device—

(A) in conjunction with an opioid prescription for patients at an elevated risk of overdose;

(B) in conjunction with an opioid agonist approved under section 505 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act [21 U.S.C. 355] for the treatment of opioid use disorder;

(C) to the caregiver or a close relative of patients at an elevated risk of overdose from opioids; or

(D) in other circumstances in which a provider identifies a patient is at an elevated risk for an intentional or unintentional drug overdose from heroin or prescription opioid therapies.

(b) Application

To be eligible to receive a grant under this section, an eligible entity shall submit to the Secretary, in such form and manner as specified by the Secretary, an application that describes—

(1) the extent to which the area to which the entity will furnish services through use of the grant is experiencing significant morbidity and mortality caused by opioid abuse;

(2) the criteria that will be used to identify eligible patients to participate in such program; and

(3) a plan for sustaining the program after Federal support for the program has ended.

(c) Use of funds

An eligible entity receiving a grant under this section may use amounts under the grant for any of the following activities, but may use not more than 20 percent of the grant funds for activities described in paragraphs (3) and (4):

(1) To establish a program for prescribing a drug or device approved or cleared under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act [21 U.S.C. 301 et seq.] for emergency treatment of known or suspected opioid overdose.

(2) To train and provide resources for health care providers and pharmacists on the prescribing of drugs or devices approved or cleared under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act for emergency treatment of known or suspected opioid overdose.

(3) To purchase drugs or devices approved or cleared under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act for emergency treatment of known or suspected opioid overdose, for distribution under the program described in paragraph (1).

(4) To offset the co-payments and other cost sharing associated with drugs or devices approved or cleared under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act for emergency treatment of known or suspected opioid overdose.

(5) To establish protocols to connect patients who have experienced a drug overdose with appropriate treatment, including medication-assisted treatment and appropriate counseling and behavioral therapies.

(d) Evaluations by recipients

As a condition of receipt of a grant under this section, an eligible entity shall, for each year for which the grant is received, submit to the Secretary an evaluation of activities funded by the grant which contains such information as the Secretary may reasonably require.

(e) Reports by the Secretary

Not later than 5 years after the date on which the first grant under this section is awarded, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate committees of the House of Representatives and of the Senate a report aggregating the information received from the grant recipients for such year under subsection (d) and evaluating the outcomes achieved by the programs funded by grants awarded under this section.

(f) Authorization of appropriations

There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section, \$5,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2017 through 2021.

(July 1, 1944, ch. 373, title V, §544, as added Pub. L. 114–198, title I, §107(a), July 22, 2016, 130 Stat. 703.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, referred to in subsecs. (a)(1) and (c)(1) to (4), is act June 25, 1938, ch. 675, 52 Stat. 1040, which is classified generally to chapter 9 (§301 et seq.) of Title 21, Food and Drugs. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see section 301 of Title 21 and Tables.

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 290dd-3, act July 1, 1944, ch. 373, title V, §544, formerly Pub. L. 91-616, title III, §333, Dec. 31, 1970, 84 Stat. 1853, as amended Pub. L. 93-282, title I, §122(a), May 14, 1974, 88 Stat. 131; Pub. L. 94-581, title I, §111(c)(4), Oct. 21, 1976, 90 Stat. 2852; renumbered §523 of act July 1, 1944, Apr. 26, 1983, Pub. L. 98-24, §2(b)(13), 97 Stat. 181; Aug. 27, 1986, Pub. L. 99-401, title I, §106(a), 100 Stat. 907; renumbered §544, July 22, 1987, Pub. L. 100-77, title VI, §611(2), 101 Stat. 516; June 13, 1991, Pub. L. 102-54, §13(q)(1)(A)(ii), 105 Stat. 278, which related to confidentiality of patient records for alcohol abuse and alcoholism programs, was omitted in the general revision of this part by Pub. L. 102-321. See section 290dd-2 of this title.

IMPROVING ACCESS TO OVERDOSE TREATMENT

Pub. L. 114-198, title I, §107(b), July 22, 2016, 130 Stat. 705, provided that:

“(1) INFORMATION ON BEST PRACTICES.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act [July 22, 2016]:

“(A) The Secretary of Health and Human Services may provide information to prescribers within Federally qualified health centers (as defined in paragraph (4) of section 1861(aa) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395x(aa))), and the health care facilities of the Indian Health Service, on best practices for prescribing or co-prescribing a drug or device approved or cleared under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 301 et seq.) for emergency treatment of known or suspected opioid overdose, including for patients receiving chronic opioid therapy and patients being treated for opioid use disorders.

“(B) The Secretary of Defense may provide information to prescribers within Department of Defense medical facilities on best practices for prescribing or co-prescribing a drug or device approved or cleared under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 301 et seq.) for emergency treatment of known or suspected opioid overdose, including for patients receiving chronic opioid therapy and patients being treated for opioid use disorders.

“(C) The Secretary of Veterans Affairs may provide information to prescribers within Department of Veterans Affairs medical facilities on best practices for prescribing or co-prescribing a drug or device approved or cleared under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 301 et seq.) for emergency treatment of known or suspected opioid overdose, including for patients receiving chronic opioid therapy and patients being treated for opioid use disorders.

“(2) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this subsection should be construed to establish or contribute to a medical standard of care.”

§ 290dd-4. Program to support coordination and continuation of care for drug overdose patients

(a) In general

The Secretary of Health and Human Services (referred to in this section as the “Secretary”) shall identify or facilitate the development of best practices for—

- (1) emergency treatment of known or suspected drug overdose;
- (2) the use of recovery coaches, as appropriate, to encourage individuals who experience a non-fatal overdose to seek treatment for substance use disorder and to support coordination and continuation of care;
- (3) coordination and continuation of care and treatment, including, as appropriate, through referrals, of individuals after a drug overdose; and
- (4) the provision or prescribing of overdose reversal medication, as appropriate.

(b) Grant establishment and participation

(1) In general

The Secretary shall award grants on a competitive basis to eligible entities to support implementation of voluntary programs for care and treatment of individuals after a drug overdose, as appropriate, which may include implementation of the best practices described in subsection (a).

(2) Eligible entity

In this section, the term “eligible entity” means—

- (A) a State substance abuse agency;
- (B) an Indian Tribe or tribal organization;
- or
- (C) an entity that offers treatment or other services for individuals in response to,

or following, drug overdoses or a drug overdose, such as an emergency department, in consultation with a State substance abuse agency.

(3) Application

An eligible entity desiring a grant under this section shall submit an application to the Secretary, at such time and in such manner as the Secretary may require, that includes—

(A) evidence that such eligible entity carries out, or is capable of contracting and coordinating with other community entities to carry out, the activities described in paragraph (4);

(B) evidence that such eligible entity will work with a recovery community organization to recruit, train, hire, mentor, and supervise recovery coaches and fulfill the requirements described in paragraph (4)(A); and

(C) such additional information as the Secretary may require.

(4) Use of grant funds

An eligible entity awarded a grant under this section shall use such grant funds to—

(A) hire or utilize recovery coaches to help support recovery, including by—

(i) connecting patients to a continuum of care services, such as—

(I) treatment and recovery support programs;

(II) programs that provide non-clinical recovery support services;

(III) peer support networks;

(IV) recovery community organizations;

(V) health care providers, including physicians and other providers of behavioral health and primary care;

(VI) education and training providers;

(VII) employers;

(VIII) housing services; and

(IX) child welfare agencies;

(ii) providing education on overdose prevention and overdose reversal to patients and families, as appropriate;

(iii) providing follow-up services for patients after an overdose to ensure continued recovery and connection to support services;

(iv) collecting and evaluating outcome data for patients receiving recovery coaching services; and

(v) providing other services the Secretary determines necessary to help ensure continued connection with recovery support services, including culturally appropriate services, as applicable;

(B) establish policies and procedures, pursuant to Federal and State law, that address the provision of overdose reversal medication, the administration of all drugs or devices approved or cleared under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 301 et seq.) and all biological products licensed under section 262 of this title to treat substance use disorder, and subsequent continuation of, or referral to, evidence-based treatment for patients with a substance use dis-