

Iowa Hospital Association

WEBINAR



Iowa Overdose Data to Action in States (OD2A) Biosurveillance Program

Sarah Vannice, MSc Epidemiology, Senior Epidemiologist, Iowa Health and Human Services; Michele A. Yacopucci, PhD, Environmental Scientist; and Kelsey Wieland, M.S.F.S., Chemical Threat Coordinator, State Hygienic Laboratory

2-3 p.m.; Sept. 23

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

In 2023, Iowa received competitive funding through the CDC's Overdose Data to Action in States (OD2A-S) grant to launch a statewide biosurveillance program aimed at strengthening overdose response and public health monitoring. This webinar will introduce the program's goals and public health impact, highlighting how timely toxicology data can enhance understanding of emerging drug trends and support more informed decision-making.

Participants will gain insight into the collaborative roles of hospitals, Iowa Health and Human Services (HHS), and the State Hygienic Laboratory (SHL) in sample collection, testing and reporting. The session will also explore how enhanced toxicology testing can improve clinical awareness, support patient care, and provide valuable information to help communities respond to evolving substance use challenges across Iowa.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Describe the program and its public health purpose.
- Identify the role of hospitals, Iowa HHS and the SHL in sample collection, testing and reporting.
- Determine how enhanced toxicology can support patient care and clinical awareness.

INTENDED AUDIENCE

- CEOs
- Chief medical officers
- Chief nursing officers
- Compliance officers and legal counsel
- Department directors
- Quality improvement staff
- Regulatory readiness liaisons

SPEAKER

Sarah Vannice obtained her MSc in epidemiology from the University of Ottawa, Canada. During her time

within the Canadian Centre on Substance Use and Addiction (CCSA) and the Canadian Public Health Association (CPHA), Vannice worked within teams of national experts on alcohol, cannabis and overdose to inform public health policies and programs. She joined Iowa Health and Human Services in 2019 and is now the senior epidemiologist for the Division of Behavioral Health. She currently serves as the surveillance principal Investigator for the Iowa Overdose Data to Action in States grant.

Kelsey Wieland received her master's degree in forensic science from Cedar Crest College (PA) in 2019. She joined the University of Iowa State Hygienic Laboratory as a chemical threat specialist in 2023 and has since moved into the role of chemical threat coordinator and PI of the OD2A biosurveillance project. In her roles, she works closely with the scientific laboratory staff to maintain CDC methods for chemical threat testing, provides training to first responders on threats in Iowa, maintains and prepares for emergency response capabilities, and is responsible for project management and data analysis for OD2A.

Dr. Michele Yacopucci received her degree in environmental toxicology from the School of Public Health at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and then worked her way up from environmental laboratory scientist to supervisor of the Organic Chemistry Section of the New Hampshire Public Health Laboratory. In her current role at the State Hygienic Lab, she has performed chemical analysis of cannabis extracts and food for pesticide residues, chemical analysis of clinical samples for neonicotinoid pesticides and endocrine disruptors, and chemical analysis of clinical samples for metabolites of chemical warfare agents. She is currently the environmental laboratory scientist performing chemical analysis of leftover urine samples to detect and identify drugs of abuse from non-lethal overdose patients.

REGISTRATION AND FEES

- IHA member organization rate – \$0
- IHA nonmember organization rate – \$300

RECORDINGS POLICY

IHA will provide recordings only to those who have registered for the program.

CONTINUING EDUCATION POLICY

Nursing: IHA will provide a certificate of attendance upon completion of the program evaluation and strongly encourages nurses to retain a program brochure as documentation of their participation. Nurses determine whether course content meets the Iowa Board of Nursing's criteria for appropriate continuing education.

REGISTRATION POLICY

- Each organization that registers must provide an email address.
- IHA will send login information and handouts to the provided email address at least 24 hours before the webinar.

ADA POLICY

IHA does not discriminate in its educational programs based on race, religion, color, sex or disability. IHA wishes to ensure that no one with a disability is excluded, denied services, segregated or otherwise treated differently than others because of the absence of auxiliary aids and services. If you need auxiliary aids or services identified in the Americans With Disabilities Act to attend this program, call 515-282-3965, fax 515-283-9366 or write to IHA's Education Department.

Program Number: 401726