

All Products

Discharge Planning

As you have been hearing, hospital capacity is at a critical level throughout Minnesota, impacting all hospital systems with some of the smaller rural health systems reporting no open beds to treat patients, to include those without COVID. As you work with members who have been hospitalized, please continue to place great emphasis on prioritizing work with the hospitals discharge team and the member/their family on a safe discharge plan.

Shelley Lano, Medica Clinical Liaison is available for case consultation if you are experiencing any challenges related to a discharge to the member's previous living setting, and Medica Behavioral Health is also available if the member's needs are related to behavioral health.

Housing Stabilization Service Review

We wanted to bring this benefit guideline to your attention again. There has been an increase in inquiries related to HSS and wanted to remind folk of the benefit guideline on the CC website for your review.

Housing Stabilization is a Home and Community Based Service (HCBS), and providers of Housing Stabilization services must abide by the HCBS requirements. The goals (outlined by DHS) of Housing Stabilization Services are to: support an individual's transition to housing, increase long-term stability in housing and avoid future periods of homelessness or institutionalization. Members do not need to be on a waiver program in order to access HSS. The worker considered to be the one acting as the "lead agency" is responsible for completing an assessment and person centered care plan needed to determine eligibility for the HSS process.

There are 3 services included within HSS: Consultation, Transition and Sustaining services which have coverage limits defined by DHS. See [Housing Stabilization Services \(PDF\)](#) for further information.

Update to MnCHOICES launch schedule

The MnCHOICES revision will not launch in 2021. DHS will provide an update on rollout efforts by Dec. 6, 2021. The delay will not affect lead agencies' ability to complete assessments and create support plans in the current MnCHOICES system.

For more information, visit the full announcement: [Update to MnCHOICES launch schedule](#).

Upcoming Meetings

Care Coordinator Quarterly Meeting via WebEx Events for ALL products, Tuesday, December 7, 2021 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Qryde

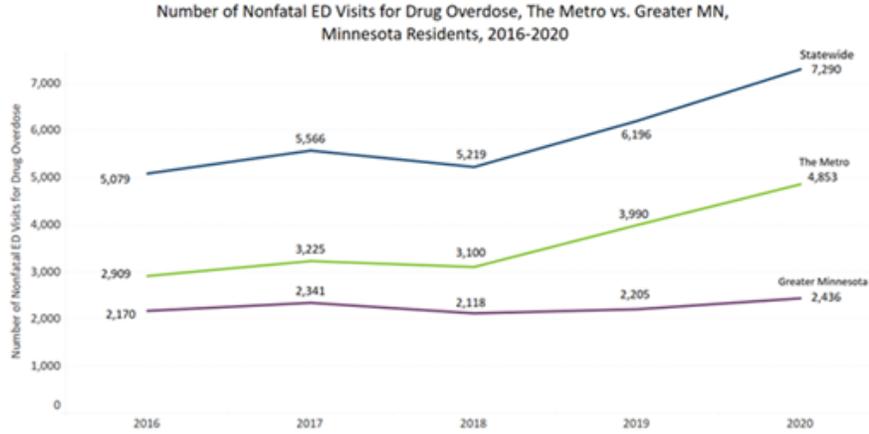
Just a reminder to CC's who are setting up in rides in the Qryde system. If you schedule a ride in the regional area (outside of the metro) you should be contacting the vendor to confirm driver availability so rides are not cancelled or missed. This is for rides being scheduled in 3 business days or less. Also keep in mind you still have the option to set-up rides directly through the call center and Provide-A-Ride representatives by calling 888-347-3630. If you have questions please reach out to ProviderOversight@medica.com.

Nonfatal drug overdoses increased during COVID-19 pandemic

Minnesota hospitals report upward trend in nonfatal overdoses, mirroring fatal overdose data

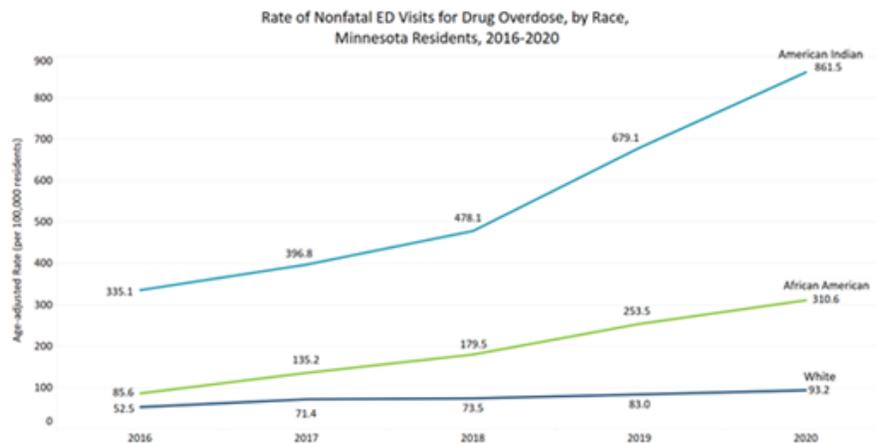
Improving health and wellness is possible for anyone who uses drugs, including the more than 14,000 Minnesotans who had an overdose treated at a hospital in 2020. In fact, in 2020, for every overdose death of a Minnesota resident, there were 14 nonfatal overdoses reported.

The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) reported an 18% increase in nonfatal, emergency department-treated drug overdoses in 2020 compared to 2019. Nonfatal overdoses rose from 6,196 in 2019 to 7,290 in 2020. Opioids and stimulants drove much of the increase, as they were involved in 57% of emergency department visits for nonfatal overdoses.



“The report on nonfatal overdoses in Minnesota is a reminder that so many lives are tragically impacted by substance use,” said Minnesota Commissioner of Health Jan Malcolm. “The COVID-19 pandemic has been the biggest public health issue in the world for almost two years now, but the other pressing public health issues have not gone away. The opioid epidemic continues to be pervasive and requires continuing, comprehensive drug overdose prevention and response efforts.”

The harms of drug overdoses are another area of wellness, where the inequities experienced by communities of color, as a result of systemic racism and its influence on health, contribute to the greater burden among Minnesota’s communities of color. The data shows American Indians were nine times more likely to experience a nonfatal overdose than white Minnesotans. Black Minnesotans were three times as likely as white Minnesotans to experience a nonfatal overdose.



“As with fatal overdose data, we see populations most impacted by systemic racism are more often affected by substance use,” said MDH Overdose Prevention Supervisor Dana Farley. “Recovery has a greater chance of success when communities are involved. Systemic racism and lack of access to recovery resources hinders recovery efforts for many Minnesotans. The Minnesota Department of Health is working to amplify the work of our community partners who provide needed support for people in their recovery journey.”

Naloxone, also known as Narcan®, is a life-saving medication that can be used to reverse the effects of opioids during an overdose. Anyone can carry naloxone, and it is available through a number of sources in Minnesota.

"As long as someone is alive, they can access treatment resources, making recovery possible," said MDH epidemiologist Shelbi Giesel. "Prevention efforts like naloxone distribution and linkages to care are promising practices that have the potential to save many lives."

More information on and where to find **naloxone** can be found on the MDH website. Read more about nonfatal overdoses in **Minnesota in the Nonfatal Emergency Department Visits for Drug Overdose Among Minnesota Residents 2016-2020 (PDF)** report. Visit the **MDH Drug Overdose Dashboard** to learn more about overdose data, opioid emergency response, lifesaving naloxone, and preventing the demand for drugs.

We're here to help.

Call or email, whichever works best for you.



Call us at 1-888-906-0971 (TTY:711)



Email us at MedicaCCSupport@medica.com.

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