Opioid Overdose Education and Naloxone Distribution (OEND)

October 10, 2016

Pharmacists and Providers,

Opioid overdose continues to be a public health concern in Oklahoma. Naloxone is used to reverse the effects of opioid overdose, and is a recommended means to save lives and reduce the overall impact of addiction. The Oklahoma Health Care Authority (OHCA) has partnered with the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (ODMHSAS) to increase access to naloxone. Funds have been received from the Health Services Initiative – Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) to provide this life-saving drug to at-risk youth. This Opioid Overdose and Naloxone Distribution (OEND) Program makes naloxone available, at no charge, to any individual 19 years or younger or to anyone who knows a youth who is at risk of overdose.

ODMHSAS identified 13 high-need counties across the state in which naloxone distribution may be of benefit to the community. Select Opioid Treatment Programs (OTPs) and Comprehensive Community Recovery Centers (CCARCs) will serve as distribution hubs for naloxone. These distribution hubs have pre-established clinical structure to provide naloxone at no charge in these targeted areas.

OEND services are available at no charge to anyone 19 years of age or younger or those who know of youth at risk of overdose. As a pharmacist or health care provider, you play an important role by making this life-saving drug easily available and accessible, as well as communicating the importance of proper administration of this medication. Please direct individuals who need assistance and meet the OEND program criteria to programs listed here. For your convenience, below are selected resources for more information and a map to help locate the CCARC or OTP nearest to you.

Resources with corresponding QR code for quick access

Take As Prescribed opioid and naloxone resources: http://takeasprescribed.org/pharmacy-provider-resources/

Opioid Use Disorders: Interventions for Community Pharmacists: https://cpnp.org/guideline/opioid

Thank you for the services you provide to Oklahomans insured by SoonerCare!