

# Kentucky Statewide Opioid Stewardship (KY SOS)

## February Newsletter

### KY SOS January Webinar – This is Your Brain on Recovery, Dr. Alex Elswick

On January 18, KY SOS Advisory Committee member, **Dr. Alex Elswick**, presented *This is Your Brain on Recovery*. This fascinating webinar educated attendees on how the brain is affected during recovery for someone with a substance use disorder. Recovery is a delayed reward that which the body has to re-regulate its dopamine activity. Attendees were educated on evidence-based ways to increase dopamine for those in early recovery. The webinar's recording and research references can be found on the KY SOS website or [click here](#).

### American Hospital Association Webinar – You Can Do This! Address and Treat OUD as Part of Usual Hospital Care

American Hospital Association posted an education webinar on YouTube for hospitals. Description for the webinar, "The opioid crisis continues to be a public health emergency. Patients with untreated Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) have high rates of acute health care utilization, and hospitals take on a significant amount of the financial burden. Hospitals are critical access points and hospitalization is an ideal opportunity to offer patients with OUD access to humanistic and evidence-based treatment. Patients receiving buprenorphine therapy are over 50% less likely to be readmitted within 30 days, and over 40% less likely to be readmitted within 90 days compared to those not receiving buprenorphine therapy. Our panel of national experts will explore avenues hospital institutions can travel to implement programs and processes to address OUD. You can do this!"

A link to the webinar can be found [here](#).

### Join Kentucky's Anti-Stigma Project

#### *KORE Teams with National Experts to Launch Statewide Campaign*

In partnership with [Shatterproof](#), the Kentucky Opioid Response Effort (KORE) is launching a statewide initiative aimed at reducing stigmas associated with opioid use disorder. Community-based organizations (CBOs), including health care providers and hospitals, are central to the success of this project and will play a key role in forming an information campaign designed to educate the public and shine a light on Kentuckians impacted by addiction. If **you or your organization** is interested in being a part of this effort, or you would like to recommend a potential CBO partner, please [fill out an assessment form](#).

Addressing stigma associated with opioid use disorders is a key goal of Kentucky's opioid response strategy. Sources of stigma can be the public, the health care community, as well as individuals themselves and all affect one's ability to overcome feelings of shame or hopelessness and seek care. Shatterproof has demonstrated success in administering state-

level campaigns proven to change public perceptions and beliefs associated with substance use disorder, including Pennsylvania's highly successful [Life Unites Us campaign](#).

Kentucky's campaign will mirror that of Pennsylvania's effort, which harnesses the power of digital storytelling to reframe public perceptions and ideas. In addition to stories and educational information, participating organizations also will have the opportunity to be part of regular webinars and workshops focusing on various stigma-related topics.

[Learn more about the anti-stigma initiative](#)

## **STIGMA RESOURCE**

KORE strongly encourages everyone to examine the language they use when talking about addiction and/or individuals who have been impacted by substance use disorder. For more information, please check out the program's [Words Matter Resource](#).

*The Kentucky Opioid Response Effort (KORE) implements evidence-based prevention, treatment, and recovery support services to address opioid use disorder in communities across Kentucky. KORE is funded by grant #TI-83-283, an award from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.*

## **Did You Know...?**

KY SOS Advisory Committee members will come to your facility or schedule a zoom meeting for technical assistance. This opportunity allows your staff to get specific education on opioid best practices. If you have specific questions, reach out to KHA SOS staff and you'll be connected with the appropriate KY SOS Advisory Committee member.

## **KY SOS Measure 2b – Concurrent e-Prescribing, is a part of the Hospital Rate Improvement Program (HRIP) Quality Outcomes Measure**

HRIP makes it possible for hospitals to draw down more federal funds so that Medicaid reimbursements will be closer to the average commercial rate rather than the Medicare care of reimbursement. The funds are tied to quality metrics hospitals must meet, one being KY SOS Metric 2b, Concurrent e-Prescribing. This data is reported by the facility and below you will be able to see where KY stands today with the metric. If you have questions about your individual facility's data on this measure, please reach out to **Melanie Moch**, [mmoch@kyha.com](mailto:mmoch@kyha.com).

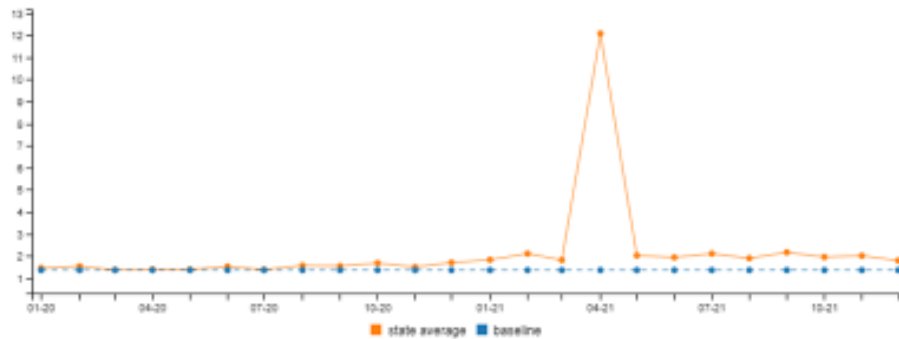


## KY SOS – 2b

State Aggregate Data Chart

Lower is Better

Statewide Opioid Stewardship Program  
KY SOS-2b Concurrent e-Prescribing



### Data Update

KY SOS continues to encourage all facilities to submit their monthly data into KY Quality Counts (KQC). Please continue to report **monthly** data on both the process and outcomes measures. Education and the future of the program are based in part on the data reported. Areas of improvement and areas of success will be highlighted and emphasized as KY SOS continues. If you need assistance with data input or navigation of the KQC data collection system, please contact **Emily Henderson** ([ehenderson@kyha.com](mailto:ehenderson@kyha.com)) or **Melanie Moch** ([mmoch@kyha.com](mailto:mmoch@kyha.com)).

### The Happenings

#### Upcoming Events/Webinars

- **KY SOS February Webinar** – Van Ingram, Executive Director of the KY Office of Drug Control Policy (ODCP), will be a guest speaker for the February KY SOS webinar. Please join KY SOS on Tuesday, February 15 from 11:00 – 12:00 PM EST, to learn about programs and resources available to our patients from state partners, like ODCP. KY SOS works in collaboration with other KORE funded entities and state partners to broaden resources and information for providers, clinicians, and staff in the participating hospitals across the state. Calendar invites have been sent out.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84844698498?pwd=Y1d2VWpTakVVWTBDN0p0QUVidC9tUT09>

Meeting ID: 848 4469 8498

**Passcode:** 974521

## **Additional Resources on KY SOS Website**

- Find Help Now KY is a website used to assist individuals in the community find an addiction treatment facility. For more information, visit the website at [www.findhelpnowky.org](http://www.findhelpnowky.org)
- Kentucky Opioid Response Effort (KORE) has funded access to treatment and recovery for individuals who have a functional hearing loss and need effective communication. The guidelines can be found on the KY SOS website or click the link to be directed: <http://www.kentuckysos.com/Portals/2/Documents/KOREGuidelinesDeafHardofHearingAccessdoc.pdf>
- All other KY SOS resources can be found at <http://www.kentuckysos.com/Resources>

**For more information, please visit [www.kentuckysos.com](http://www.kentuckysos.com) or contact a KHA staff member to assist.**

Emily Henderson for program and pharmacy-related questions– [ehenderson@kyha.com](mailto:ehenderson@kyha.com)

Melanie Moch for data-related questions – [mmoch@kyha.com](mailto:mmoch@kyha.com)

Claire Arant for administrative assistance – [carant@kyha.com](mailto:carant@kyha.com)

*Missed a webinar? All presentations are recorded and can be found under the events & education link.*