Removing the Opioid Epidemic In Our Communities: How evidence-based approaches could save lives!

The opioid epidemic continues to be a national emergency. Michigan set a new record for overdose deaths in 2018—a disturbing trend that is predicted to continue for several years to come. Opioids are commonly prescribed after both minor and major surgical procedures for pain management. Overprescribing is a widespread problem and contributes to the opioid crisis currently claiming 134 American lives every day. With up to 92% of patients having leftover opioids after common operations, millions of pills are left vulnerable to diversion into our communities. Understanding the many complex issues related to opioid overuse and overdose is extremely important in developing effective policy. Please join us for an informative panel of experts from the University of Michigan who will discuss their research and recommendations for policy changes that could help Michigan stem the tide in this growing opioid crisis.

Tuesday, February 26, 2019
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM
RSVP to Angela J. McCullum amccullu@umich.edu, or call 517-372-7801
Location: MI Senate Binsfeld Office Building 5th Floor, Room 5550 201 Townsend St., Lansing, MI 48933

Dr. Romesh Nalliah is the Director for Clinical Education at the U-M School of Dentistry and Clinical Associate Professor of Dentistry. He will discuss trends in opioid prescribing and overuse in dentistry and state and national level research related to prescribing and treatment. He will also discuss how opioid prescribing during the acute care period among those patients not using opioids has the greatest potential to reduce the number of new chronic opioid users and minimize unintended distribution of prescription opioids into communities.

Dr. Michael Englesbe co-directs the Michigan Opioid Prescribing Engagement Network, Michigan OPEN. He will discuss the unique opportunities provided by collaborative quality initiatives (CQIs) in Michigan. CQIs are statewide, physician-led networks that are devoted to improving the care of patients in Michigan’s major hospitals and surgical specialties. Michigan OPEN partners with them to gather data and implement change to transform surgical pain management and curb opioid misuse.

Dr. Rebecca Haffajee is the Policy Analysis Activities Lead, Policy Workgroup, Outreach and Translation Core, at the U-M Injury Prevention Center. She will discuss trends in state and national-level policies related to opioid prescribing and treatment, and the evidence base for several prominent state policies that target opioid misuse and overdose, prescription drug monitoring programs, pain clinic regulation and naloxone access laws.

Panel Moderator: Dr. Chad Brummett is Associate professor of Anesthesiology and co-director of the Michigan Opioid Prescribing Engagement Network, Michigan OPEN

More About the Caucus

University of Michigan Alumni and friends who work in and around the State Capitol are welcome to participate in the Wolverine Caucus. Our mission is to provide diverse forums at which University of Michigan friends can meet one another, enjoy fellowship, exchange views, and learn from the world-class talents of the University of Michigan.

To receive announcements of upcoming programs, call the UM Lansing Service Center at (517) 372-7801 or email veronicj@umich.edu
Please join us for the following 2019 University of Michigan Wolverine Caucus Forums. Forums will be held at a location in downtown Lansing, MI.

**Taking the Pulse of Older Adults: Policy Insights from the University of Michigan National Poll on Healthy Aging**
Featured speakers: Erica Solway and Dr. Jeff Kullgren, UM Institute for Healthcare Policy and Innovation

**How Soon will Autonomous Vehicles and artificial intelligence (AI) be the norm?**
Featured speaker: Professor Jason Mars, UM College of Engineering

**New Pathways to Healing: Reversing Diabetes**
Featured speaker: Dr. Caroline Richardson, UM Medical School

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