**COE Learning Network:** Harm Reduction and COE Quality Improvement

**Presenters:** Dr. Raagini Jawa, Dr. Margaret Shang

**Date and Time:** 11/29/23- 12 pm to 1:15 pm

**Location:** Virtual Training (on Zoom)

**Host:** University of Pittsburgh, School of Pharmacy, Program and Evaluation Unit (PERU)

**Target Audience:** Centers of Excellence Leadership and Staff

**Training Objectives:**

1. Define harm reduction and describe its importance to the COE.
2. Identify approaches to integrate a harm reduction philosophy into clinical care.
3. Explain the role of preventative healthcare to support the well-being of people who use drugs and their community members.
4. Explain how harm reduction kits can support COE quality improvement.

**Agenda:**

1. Introduction
2. Overview of Harm Reduction
   1. Definition
   2. History of the harm reduction philosophy in substance use treatment
   3. Ways to offer harm reduction
3. Harm Reduction at the COE
   1. Overview of the IMREP COE program
      1. Background
      2. Client population
      3. Most common client needs
   2. Reasons for choosing a harm reduction approach at the COE
      1. Interest in being responsive to patient needs
      2. Aim to meet clients where they are
      3. Offer an evidence-based alternative to abstinence only programs
   3. Background evidence of harm reduction kits in clinical care
      1. Evidence for providing harm reduction supplies in clinical settings
      2. Background of the need for kits at IMREP
      3. Previous success with harm reduction focus
   4. Provision of harm reduction kits and supplies at the COE
      1. Process for kit distribution
      2. Client follow up
      3. Other supports offered after kit distribution
   5. Client selection for harm reduction needs
4. Evaluation of Harm Reduction Kit Pilot Project at IMREP
   1. Evaluation methods
   2. Results of harm reduction implementation
   3. Client feedback about harm reduction kits
   4. Provider feedback about harm reduction kits
5. Next steps
   1. Plans for continuing harm reduction at the COE
   2. Future harm reduction needs to be addressed
   3. Plans for expansion of harm reduction efforts

**References**

1. Jawa, R., Tin, Y., Nall, S., Calcaterra, S. L., Savinkina, A., Marks, L. R., Kimmel, S. D., Linas, B. P., & Barocas, J. A. (2023). Estimated Clinical Outcomes and Cost-effectiveness Associated With Provision of Addiction Treatment in US Primary Care Clinics. JAMA network open, 6(4), e237888. <https://doi.org/10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2023.7888>
2. Nolan, N. S., Fracasso Francis, S. M., Marks, L. R., Beekmann, S. E., Polgreen, P. M., Liang, S. Y., & Durkin, M. J. (2023). Harm Reduction: A Missing Piece to the Holistic Care of Patients Who Inject Drugs. Open forum infectious diseases, 10(8), ofad402. <https://doi.org/10.1093/ofid/ofad402>
3. Gugala, E., Briggs, O., Moczygemba, L. R., Brown, C. M., & Hill, L. G. (2022). Opioid harm reduction: A scoping review of physician and system-level gaps in knowledge, education, and practice. *Substance abuse*, *43*(1), 972–987. <https://doi.org/10.1080/08897077.2022.2060423>
4. Miskovic, M., Chan Carusone, S., Guta, A., O'Leary, B., dePrinse, K., & Strike, C. (2018). Distribution of Harm Reduction Kits in a Specialty HIV Hospital. *American journal of public health*, *108*(10), 1363–1365. <https://doi.org/10.2105/AJPH.2018.304600>