This APHA resolution offers a brief background on the opioid problem and evidence-based strategies related to prevention and substance abuse services. It provides an extensive list of recommendations on strategies from the World Health Organization, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, among other organizations.

The Association of American Universities has compiled a list of recent studies and articles on opioids for a variety of audiences. The website also offers a search tool to filter the stories based on specialty area or area of interest (e.g., The Crisis, Treatment and Prevention, and Serving Local Communities).

This document offers strategies for local health departments to address the opioid epidemic. Although it is Ohio-specific, ideas can be adapted for other states.

Our nation has been greatly affected by opioid use and misuse, but epidemic has been especially detrimental in Kentucky and West Virginia. This ASTHO report explains the process which the organization worked with both states to find solutions for their opiate crises. Discovered elements to make changes included leadership, data, partnerships with key stakeholders, having fund available and creating effective policy.

This review provides alternative strategies to chronic pain care. The guide reflects on six main diseases or areas of pain, i.e. chronic low back pain, chronic neck pain, Osteoarthritis, Fibromyalgia, chronic tension headache, and differential efficacy. Key studies related to chronic pain treatment are highlighted.

*This authoritative website on opioids provides a glossary, statistics, state data, overdose information, and resources for patients and providers. Included is the CDC Guideline for Prescribing Opioids for Chronic Pain, which provides recommendations for the prescribing of opioid pain medication for patients 18 and older in primary care settings. Recommendations focus on the use of opioids in treating chronic pain outside of active cancer treatment, palliative care, and end-of-life care.*


*This continuously updated website offers infographics, statistics, action steps, podcasts, awareness campaigns, resources, and additional websites about the opioid epidemic. Topics include prescribing practices, overdose and specific opioids of concern and treatment.*


*Prevention First, a nonprofit organization founded in 1980, provides training, technical assistance and resource materials to prevent substance abuse in youth. Its website features opioid resources such as slide presentations; a presentation guide for both middle and high school-aged youth; activities; online learning modules; a parental toolkit; and other helpful links. This website may be beneficial for health educators that are offering opioid prevention programs to students, parents, or teachers.*


*The National Library of Medicine partnered with Healthy Roads Media to produce a collection of 22 easy-to-read handouts, videos, and audio recordings in English and Spanish on opioids and opioids misuse. HealthReach is a national collaborative partnership that maintains a listing of quality multilingual, multicultural public health information for those working with or providing care to individuals with limited English proficiency (LEP). Special collections on substance abuse and mental health are included.*


*The National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) research page on opioids offers a variety of research studies on opioids from 2016 to present. This resource may be useful in providing authoritative background information on opioids and keeping abreast of the latest research on the drug epidemic.*


*This website by the Open Society Foundations includes tools on how to increase the access of naloxone (or Narcan) in your community. It provides the importance of documenting progress made on an advocacy campaign (as well as survey materials), tools to advocate for increased access of naloxone, and ideas about funding, cost effectiveness and harm reduction reasonings for naloxone access.*


*Safe States Alliance, a non-profit organization dedicated to strengthening the practice of injury and violence prevention, provides recommendations for public health agencies (federal, state, tribal, and local) to prevent opioid drug overdose. Recommendations address funding, prevention, policy, surveillance, and treatment. The report also...*
includes a concise overview of the U.S. opioid epidemic, and a look towards a comprehensive public health approach to solving the issue.

This new toolkit (note - see free digital download on the right side of the screen) offers specific steps for first responders, prescribers, patients, families, and those in recovery. Health educators working on opioid prevention may review the community resources, recovering from opioid overdose resources, and the additional resources and references (pages 1-4, 18-19, 20, 21).

This website includes a fact sheet, bibliography and SOPHE resolution on the opioid epidemic and calls for SOPHE, its national and chapter members and all other health education specialists to engage in advocacy, professional and public education, and research for opioid prevention and treatment. Also included is POPPED: Prescription Overdose Prevention through Pre-Professional Education and Discussion, a curriculum for public health students and clinical care professionals provides an overview of the opioid epidemic; how to obtain information on opioid use in their state, city or community, and how to decrease stigma surrounding opioid addiction and the opioid epidemic and collaboration.

This version of the Truth Campaign (i.e., the same non-profit organization that is simultaneously working on a nation-wide tobacco initiative) was launched in June 2018 as part of the White House’s opioid ad campaign. Although in its initial stages, this campaign offers opioid ads, education, a knowledge quiz, current news, statistics, and additional information from government websites.

This website features information on how states are addressing opioid misuse in rural areas as well are articles and links to other resources from other governmental agencies. Settings for the organizations highlighted in this resource include a university, nonprofit, and healthcare system. There is also a list of program partners and state health department resources.

U. S. Surgeon General Jerome Adams provides advice for identifying individuals at high risk for opioid overdose and information for patients, the public and providers on using naloxone to help save lives.

This website addresses the VA/Department of Defense clinical practice guidelines for managing chronic pain, as well as the latest resources for provider education, patients/veteran’s information, and other resources. The VA’s Opioid Safety Initiative and Toolkit includes various documents and presentations for clinicians to aid in decisions about starting, continuing, or tapering opioid therapy, and other challenges related to safe opioid prescribing.

The DEA and Discovery Education teamed up to provide this website, which aims to educate students and parents about opioids. The program includes two virtual field trips with personal stories from individuals in Huntington, WV
and The Science Behind Opioid Addiction, resources, activities, online modules, lessons for K-12 students, a parent toolkit, and a yearly opioid awareness video challenge.


This manual highlights nine case studies on various programming regarding opioids and safe drug use. There is also a guide for basic understanding, prevention strategies, program development and implementation, and a frequently asked question section. Included are 13 worksheets with a wide range of topics from rescue breathing and administering nasal and injectable naloxone to developing naloxone educational materials. Also added are sample documents, kit materials, and public policy fact sheets.