



# Trauma Times

May/June 2023

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## IDOH Updates

### Historic achievement for public health and trauma care

Two years of dedicated public health efforts in Indiana have culminated in the passing of [Senate Enrolled Act 4](#) and a [new state budget](#) that includes historic investments in public health. The budget also fully funds emergency preparedness, including EMS support and trauma system improvements, funds a state strategic stockpile and our data and analytics efforts, will help improve other core public health services as recommended by the Governor’s Public Health Commission.

Funding for local public health will increase from roughly \$7 million per year to \$75 million in the next fiscal year and \$150 million the following year. Thanks to this legislation, Hoosiers will benefit from access to expanded core public health services. When coupled with funding for mental health that was approved separately, the outlook for Hoosiers’ health looks significantly brighter.

## News Updates

### FDA approves first over-the-counter naloxone nasal spray

At the end of March 2023, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration approved Narcan, 4 mg nasal spray, for over-the-counter use. Naloxone rapidly reverses the effects of opioid overdose, and this action paves the way for naloxone to be sold directly to the public in places such as drug stores, convenience stores, and grocery stores.

The FDA will work with all stakeholders to help facilitate the continued availability of naloxone nasal spray products during the time needed to implement the switch from prescription to over-the-counter status, which may take months.

[CLICK THIS LINK](#)

### Teletrauma can help advance rural trauma care

One session at the American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma Annual Meeting centered on ways to address the needs of rural providers and patients. The role of telehealth in trauma, or teletrauma, was highlighted during this session. Teletrauma helps connect providers and patients in rural facilities to trauma surgeons and subspecialists at trauma centers to leverage readily-available resources and make decisions in the best interest of the patient. Despite barriers to implementation such as costs and health information security, it is a solution that may help improve access for rural Americans.

[CLICK THIS LINK](#)

### Trends in drug overdose fatalities among older adults

US opioid overdose deaths have been concentrated in the working-age population, but older adults may be at increasing risk as the baby boom generation ages. The rate of fatal drug overdoses among people 65 years and older quadrupled from 2002 to 2021, with the highest rates among non-Hispanic Black individuals. By 2021, 1 in 370 deaths among those 65 years and older was caused by an overdose.

[CLICK THIS LINK](#)

### Drivers of substance use in Indiana

Key informant interviews revealed that the majority of respondents initiated substance use between 13 and 18 years. “Chasing the high” after experimental use of substances such as marijuana, alcohol, and tobacco led to use of illicit substances such as methamphetamine and heroin. Some respondents indicated that substance use was also in an attempt to quell unpleasant emotions or prior traumatizing experiences.

Nearly all of the respondents described impactful moments that changed their mindset and helped them move towards treatment and recovery, and social connections were found to be a critical contributor to treatment seeking. However, respondents cited insurance coverage and stigma as barriers to seeking out and continuing treatment.

[CLICK THIS LINK](#) to learn more about research findings and consequent recommendations.



## Opportunities

### Pediatric Readiness Quality Collaborative and Initiative

The next Pediatric Readiness Quality Collaborative cohort will begin in June 2023, and registration is open through June 2. To learn more or register, [CLICK THIS LINK](#)

The National Pediatric Readiness Quality Initiative is the implementation arm of the National Pediatric Readiness Project and is open to emergency departments looking to be more involved. [CLICK THIS LINK](#) to register (Access code: 8HEW3C4TM).

Questions about Indiana EMS for Children Pediatric Facility Recognition, please contact Margo Knefelkamp, iEMSC Program Manager via email: [margo.knefelkamp@indianapolisems.org](mailto:margo.knefelkamp@indianapolisems.org)

### Car seat certification classes

Upcoming seat certification classes in May and June 2023 include:

Start Date	Location
May 15	Evansville
May 18	Versailles
May 23	Indianapolis
June 5	Columbia City

Start Date	Location
June 8	Bloomington
June 8	Corydon
June 21	Avon
June 28	Vincennes

For more information about each training opportunity, please [CLICK THIS LINK](#). Times will vary anywhere from 8 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., depending on the length of the class.

Additionally, a scholarship program is available through IDOH for \$200 per individual upon completion of this program. Please contact Maria Cariaso ([MCariaso@healthin.gov](mailto:MCariaso@healthin.gov)) for more information regarding this program.

## Upcoming Events

### Opioid ECHO Clinics

**When:** Ongoing

**Where:** Online

There are several Indiana University ECHO (Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes) biweekly clinics addressing opioid use disorder for different disciplines such as first responders, prescribers, and non-clinical service professionals for 2023. Visit this page to learn more about each of the clinics and how to participate.

[CLICK THIS LINK](#)

### 7th Annual Injury Prevention Symposium

**When:** June 7-8

Join the Steadman Clinic and Steadman Philippon Research Institute for a 2-day virtual symposium. Topics such as sports injury prevention for specific populations and data analytic approaches will be covered during this event.

[CLICK THIS LINK](#)

### Indiana Mental Health and Addiction Conference

**When:** June 27-28

**Where:** Indiana Convention Center, Indianapolis

Join the Indiana Family and Social Services Administration’s Division of Mental Health and Addiction, in partnership with Mental Health America of Indiana for a conference that will convene addiction and mental health professionals, recovery organizations, healthcare providers, justice system leaders, and more to learn about innovative programs in prevention, treatment and recovery happening in Indiana.

[CLICK THIS LINK](#)

To **promote**, **protect**, and **improve** the health and safety of all Hoosiers

