

Overdose Fatality Review Data System

Overview

Implementation

Overdose fatality review (OFR) is being used by a growing number of communities to strengthen their responses to the overdose epidemic.

To assist local communities in storing OFR data and monitoring recommendations, the Bureau of Justice Assistance and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention—in partnership with the Institute for Intergovernmental Research (IIR), epidemiologists, researchers, and local OFR practice professionals—started developing a secure, standardized data system in August 2019.

Version 1.0 of the OFR Data System was piloted by 57 counties in 11 states from October 2020 through August 2021. Many additional OFR sites were interested in using the OFR Data System but had significant challenges with securing access to REDCap on their agencies' servers due to their technology staff members' limited capacity to support REDCap installation and maintenance.

OFR Data System pilot site users and OFR practitioners provided feedback on Version 1.0 to help improve and enhance the use, completeness, and capabilities of the OFR Data System to meet the field's needs. Version 2.0 was released in February 2022 after pilot site, one-on-one interviews and over a dozen listening sessions. A crosswalk was developed for Version 1.0 pilot sites to upload data into Version 2.0. To address REDCap technology limitations, IIR

is hosting Version 2.0 on its REDCap server and supporting sites with ongoing OFR Data System and REDCap training and technical assistance.

OFR Data System Access

OFR sites can access the OFR Data System by completing the [OFR Data System Registration](#). Sites will be able to designate if they want to access the OFR Data System on their agency's or IIRs REDCap server. REDCap is a secure Web application for building and managing secure online surveys and databases. To use the OFR Data System onsite, your agency needs to have access to REDCap (Version 8.10.0 or later); otherwise you can use the IIR REDCap server free of charge.

OFR sites using their own REDCap will be provided the OFR Data System REDCap projects to download and install on its secure network. The site can then begin entering data.

When possible, it is recommended that states with multiple OFRs host the OFR Data System on a state agency REDCap server and create Data Access Groups (DAGs) for each local OFR team.

Sites that don't have REDCap on their network and don't have a state-hosted DAG can join the IIR OFR DAG on the IIR REDCap server for free. Registered users of the IIR OFR DAG need to sign a data use agreement (DUA) before getting access.

REDCap Access

Information on obtaining the REDCap software can be found on the REDCap website (www.projectredcap.org), and questions should be directed to the REDCap support team at Vanderbilt University

OFR Data System Access

To access the OFR Data System register at http://s.iir.com/ofrds_site

OFR Data System User Group

All OFR Data System users are encouraged to participate on the monthly OFR Data System User Group calls on the third Thursday from 3:00 – 4:00 p.m. ET. To sign up or learn more about the user group, contact COSSAP@iir.com.

Questions?

- OFRs, OFR data, or the OFR Data System REDCap Project to www.cossapresources.org/Program/TTA/Request/OFR
- Submit your questions about REDCap to the REDCap support team at Vanderbilt University (redcap@vumc.org).

OFR Data System Version 2.0 Data Sections

- A. Case information
 1. OFR Administration
 2. Decedent Demographic Information
 3. Cause of Death
 4. Scene of Overdose and Death
 5. Drugs at the Scene of Death
 6. Death Investigation and Toxicology Information
 7. Interventions Following Overdose
 8. Life Stressors
 9. Health History and Health Care Access
 10. Prescription Drug Monitoring Program Summary Indicators
 11. Mental Health History
 12. Substance Use History
 13. Trauma History
 14. Criminal Justice History
 15. Social Services History
 16. Education History
 17. Recommendations
 18. Site-specific Community Context Variables
 19. Site-specific Variables
 20. Narrative Section
- B. County Profile
- C. Recommendation Monitoring
- D. Next-of-Kin Interview

Visit REDCap at www.projectredcap.org.

Visit the COSSAP Resource Center at www.cossapresources.org.

Register to Access the OFR Data System at http://s.iir.com/ofrds_site.

Learn more about OFR Data System at www.cossapresources.org/Tools/OFR/Collect.

About the Institute for Intergovernmental Research

The Institute for Intergovernmental Research (IIR) serves as the connecting point for Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Abuse Program (COSSAP) training and technical assistance (TTA) efforts and collaborates with Bureau of Justice Assistance leadership and fellow TTA providers to work directly with COSSAP site-based grantees. IIR's role includes guidance and contributions by subject-matter experts in priority COSSAP areas of focus; coordination of the COSSAP TTA network's cadre of experts and providers; publication production and design of COSSAP resources; planning, coordination, and delivery of national-level trainings and working group meetings; COSSAP Resource Center development and maintenance; coordination of distance-learning opportunities and resource dissemination; and other complementary activities.

About BJA

The Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) provides leadership and services in grant administration and criminal justice policy development to support local, state, and tribal law enforcement in achieving safer communities. To learn more about BJA, visit www.bja.gov and follow us on Facebook (www.facebook.com/DOJBIA) and Twitter (@DOJBIA). BJA is part of the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs.