



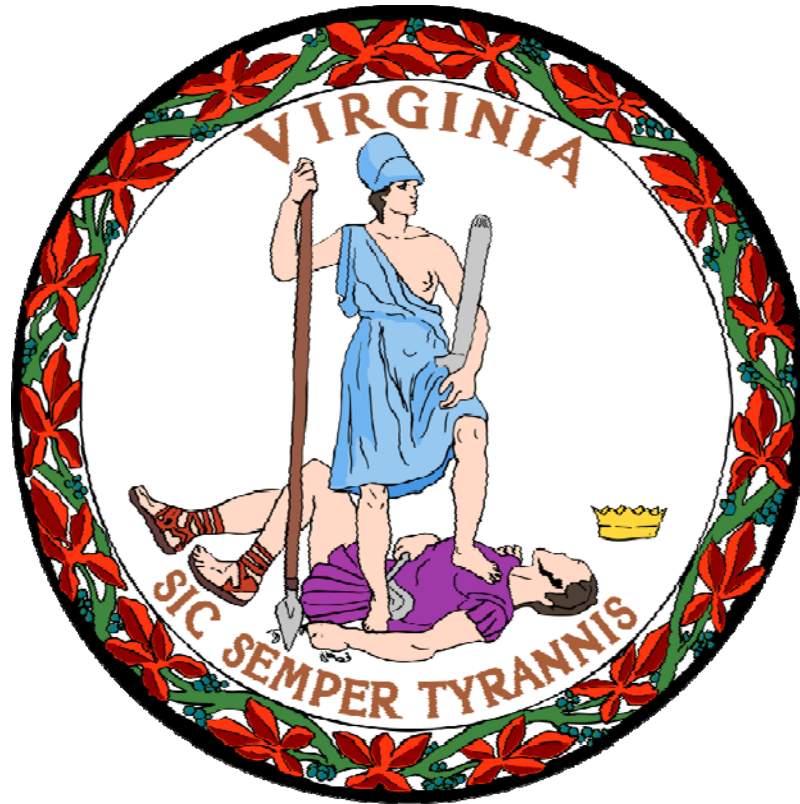
# **Governor's Taskforce on Prescription Drug & Heroin Abuse**

## **Possible Actions of the Task Force for Each Recommendation:**

- Discuss
- Amend
- Agree
- Send back to workgroup for further information and development



# Governor's Taskforce on Prescription Drug & Heroin Abuse



## Education Workgroup Recommendations

December 16, 2014

# Education Workgroup Recommendations

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*Task: Raise public awareness about the dangers of misuse and abuse of prescription drugs*



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Prescription Drug & Heroin  
Abuse

# Education Workgroup Recommendations

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- 1) Develop a state website as an informational hub on prescription drug and heroin abuse
  - a) Governor directs Secretaries of PSHS and HHR to develop v.1.0
    - requires staffing and funding
    - requires content development
    - models from other states
    - can easily target audiences



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- 2) Create and send Op-eds and Dear Colleague letters
  - a) Governor directs appropriate Secretaries to compose and disseminate information to various public and professional audiences
    - Subject matter experts provide draft language
    - Requires coordination with Governor's Policy and Communications Offices



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*Task: Distribute  
information about  
appropriate use, secure  
storage, and disposal of  
prescription drugs*



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Prescription Drug & Heroin  
Abuse



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- 3) Collaborate with Storage and Disposal to place a stationary disposal container in every locality and subsequently inform Virginians of their locations
  - a) Support from Storage and Disposal to for action
    - Public outreach and education provided by Education, potential to add locator info on website



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Prescription Drug & Heroin  
Abuse

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- 4) Collaborate with Storage and Disposal to encourage distribution of lock boxes with controlled-substance prescriptions when dispensed
- a) Support from Storage and Disposal for action
- develop partnerships with pharmacies, commercial sponsors
  - include literature in boxes



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***Task:** Train health care providers regarding best practices for opioid prescribing, pain management, the use of the Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP), and identification and treatment of individuals at risk of substance abuse through screening, intervention, and referral tools*



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- 5) Send a letter to ALL prescribers about the PMP, focusing on urgency of overdose epidemic
  - a) Governor directs OSHHR to have letter composed by appropriate party
    - Workgroup can draft



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Prescription Drug & Heroin  
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- 6) Annual educational outreach to opioid prescribers (based on PMP data) regarding appropriate prescribing of controlled substances



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- 7) Send a letter to healthcare school leaders regarding development of pain management and addiction training curricula
  - a) Governor directs OSHHR to compose and send letter to appropriate education leaders



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***Task:** Train first responders to more effectively respond to calls involving overdose, and use evidence-based interventions to reduce overdose deaths*



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- 8) Develop a minimum 4-hour opioid educational curriculum for law enforcement, corrections, probation and parole, EMTs, CIT officers, and school resource officers
  - a) Governor directs OSPSHS and OSHHR to have appropriate agencies (DCJS, DBHDS, DFP, VDH) collaborate to complete this
    - includes subjects like addiction, opioid specific data, treatment options



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Prescription Drug & Heroin  
Abuse



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- 9) Develop law enforcement training regarding naloxone administration if pilot is expanded to include law enforcement; pilot expansion must include law enforcement immunity for injuries when administering naloxone.
  - a) Governor directs OSPSH to have appropriate agency complete
    - Requires legislative expansion of pilot



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## Additional Workgroup recommendations for consideration:

- Establish a state-wide take back day
- Outreach and education to those who are in a position to dispose of medications (funeral homes, hospice, physicians, users, etc.)
- PSAs on social and traditional media
- Add disposal information prominently in pharmacies
- School education programs - Generation RX in the four pharmacy programs
- Legislation for pharmacies to accept medication take backs (Federal?)
- DHP to provide information about appropriate prescribing practices and resources on website
- Develop a tangible information product (brochure, one-pager, etc.) for individuals and families to be distributed by first responders



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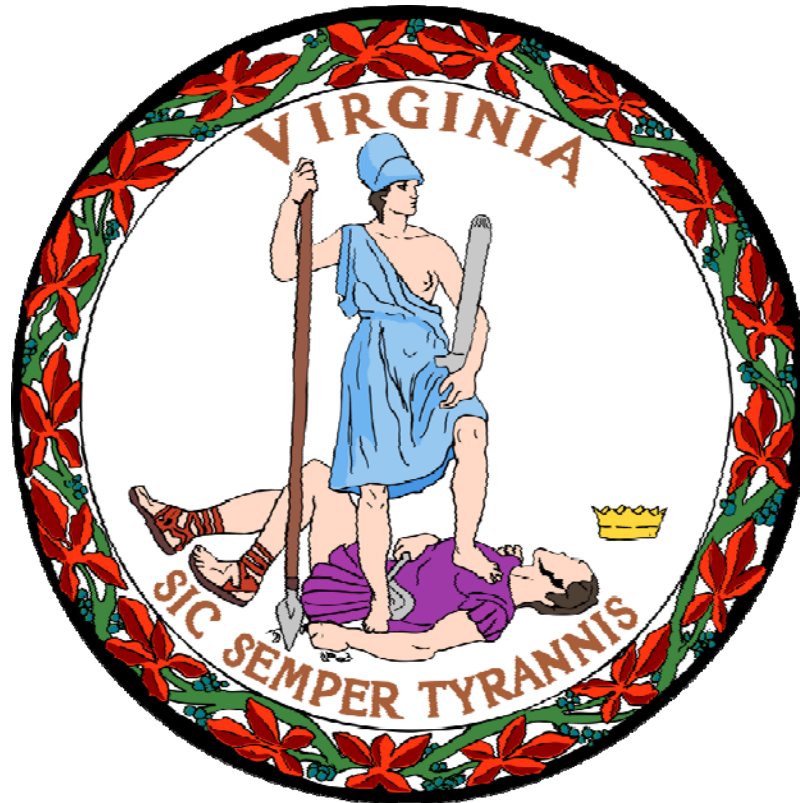
## Questions & Comments?



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Abuse



# Governor's Heroin & Prescription Drug Taskforce



## Education Workgroup

Co-Chairs: Sarah Melton, PharmD, & Victoria Cochran

December 16, 2014