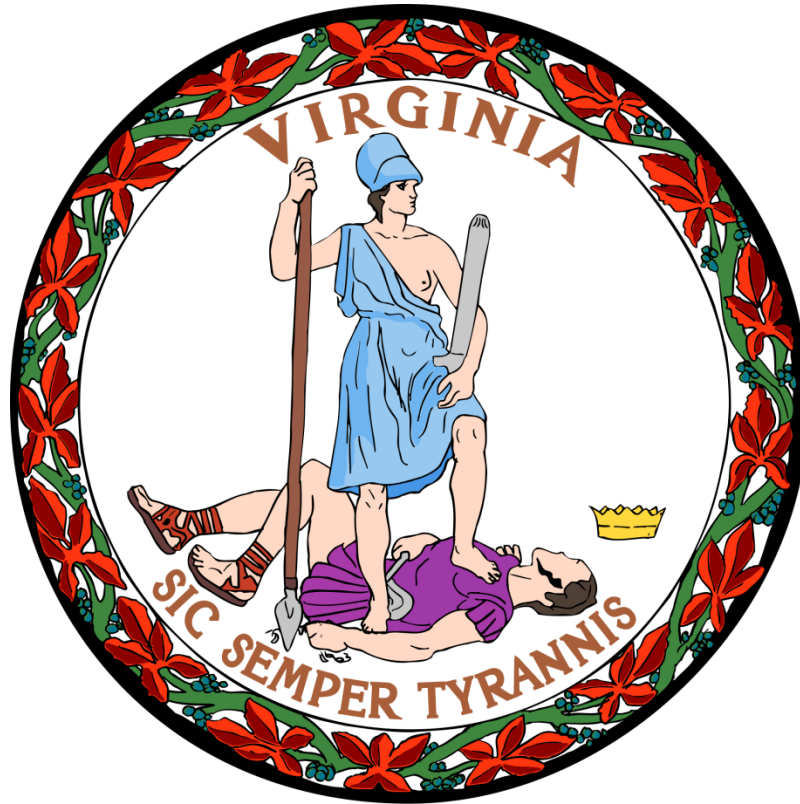




Governor's Taskforce on Prescription Drug & Heroin Abuse



Storage & Disposal Workgroup Recommendations

March 19, 2015

Storage & Disposal Workgroup Recommendations

Task: “To advance effective solutions that lead to safe storage and proper disposal of potentially dangerous prescription drugs.”





Storage & Disposal Workgroup Recommendations

- 1) To increase disposal opportunities via drug take-back events *within the community*.
 - a) Law enforcement (LE) awareness
 - b) Organization, e.g., healthcare provider, awareness
 - c) Public awareness
 - d) Public alerts for disposal and take-back events
 - e) Identify financial assistance opportunities



Storage & Disposal Workgroup Recommendations

- 1) Continued -
 - f) Review & Update the OAG's 'Take Back Event' document
 - g) Explore the feasibility of mobile incinerators



Storage & Disposal Workgroup Recommendations **Update**

1a-e) No further movement

1f) 'Take Back Event' document -OAG indicated at last TF meeting it will continue to review and distribute to LE



Storage & Disposal Workgroup Recommendations **Update**

1g) Mobile incinerators – preliminary research by DEQ member indicates:

- EPA exempts mobile incinerators from testing when destroying “contraband or prohibited goods”
- EPA does not consider take-back pharmaceuticals contraband or prohibited goods, therefore, would be subject to testing



Storage & Disposal Workgroup Recommendations **Update**

1g) Mobile incinerators, continued:

- EPA intends to remove testing exemption for contraband and prohibited goods in next 2-3 years
- Conclusion – mobile incinerators do not appear to be a viable or sustainable option for destroying collected meds



Storage & Disposal Workgroup Recommendations

- 2) To increase disposal opportunities via drug take-back events *within the law enforcement agencies*; Increase number of LE agencies participating as drug collection sites



Storage & Disposal Workgroup Recommendation **Update**

2) Letter from Secretary Moran to law enforcement - January 14, 2015

Content:

- Alerted LE of abuse via medicine cabinet
- Informed LE that DEA does not intend to hold future take-back events
- Emphasized Task Force's agreement to increase number of collection sites in Commonwealth



Storage & Disposal Workgroup Recommendation **Update**

2) Letter Content, continued:

- Identified opportunity for LE to apply for free disposal box from CVS
- Identified 3 commercial incinerators for possible destruction, to include free destruction offered at Covanta in Alexandria, VA
- Provided information on how to obtain current list of reverse distributors for possible destruction, in lieu of using commercial incinerators



Storage & Disposal Workgroup Recommendation **Update**

- CVS reports placing 23 boxes in Virginia during January and February



Storage & Disposal Workgroup Recommendations

- 3) To increase disposal opportunities via mail back programs & collection boxes provided by pharmacies.
 - a) Determine State's need to promulgate regulations regarding pharmacy collection & mail back programs via legal guidance
 - b) Increase pharmacy collection and mail back participation
 - More research needed to mitigate risk such as armed robberies



Storage & Disposal Workgroup Recommendation **Update**

- 3a) Counsel to Board of Pharmacy (OAG) advised state regulations not necessary for entities to implement collection process in compliance with federal rules
- However, Board cannot enforce compliance or impose disciplinary action for non-compliance without state regulations
 - Board of Pharmacy to consider adoption of NOIRA March 24th



Storage & Disposal Workgroup Recommendation **Update**

3b) No further movement



Storage & Disposal Workgroup Recommendations

- 4) Determine preferred methods for disposing of unwanted or unneeded drugs; Determine federal rule impact of existing drug disposal/take-back programs



Storage & Disposal Workgroup Recommendations **Update**

4) No further movement



Storage & Disposal Workgroup Recommendations

Short Term Action Items from Last TF Meeting:

- 1) Increase awareness and provide information on securing drugs in the home



Storage & Disposal Workgroup Recommendations **Update**

Short Term Action Items from Last TF Meeting:

1. Brochures available on federal websites. Fits in with Education Workgroup recommendations 1 & 2
 - No further movement



Storage & Disposal Workgroup Recommendations

Legislative Item:

1. Require Hospice to notify pharmacies about the death of a patient.



Storage & Disposal Workgroup Recommendation **Update**

1. HB 1738 Passed

- Patron - Delegate Keith Hodges

§ 32.1-162.5:1. Notice to dispenser of patient's death.

Any hospice licensed by the Department or exempt from licensure pursuant to § 32.1-162.2 with a hospice patient residing at home at the time of death shall notify every pharmacy that has dispensed partial quantities of a Schedule II controlled substance for a patient with a medical diagnosis documenting a terminal illness, as authorized by federal law, within 48 hours of the patient's death.



Storage & Disposal Workgroup

- For Informational Purposes:
 - December 2014 - Board of Pharmacy imposed requirement that all pharmacists obtain at least 1 hour of continuing education in 2015 in subject of opioid use or abuse.



Storage & Disposal Workgroup: New Opportunities

- Explore Pennsylvania's ability to place > 250 collection boxes in LE through grant funding
- Possibly determine feasibility, cost, and funding opportunities for Virginia to take a similar approach



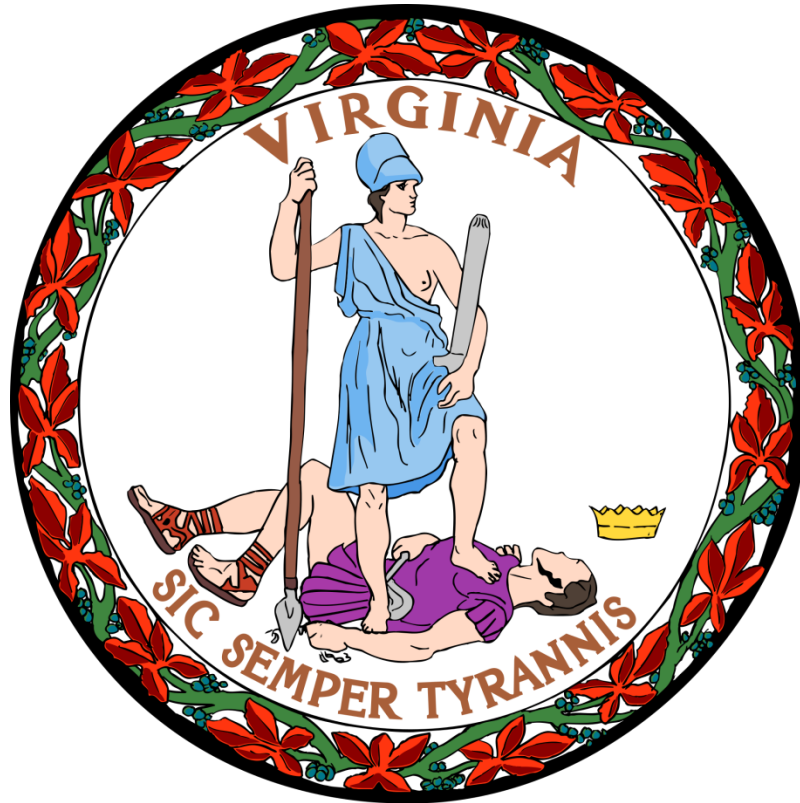


Storage & Disposal Workgroup Recommendations

Questions & Comments?



Governor's Heroin & Prescription Drug Taskforce



Storage & Disposal Workgroup

Co-Chairs: Caroline Juran & Rick Clark

March 19, 2015