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#NASHPCONF19
AUGUST 21 -23, 2019
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Top Headlines

- [Effective Cross-Agency Strategies to Address Substance Abuse](#)
- [Op Ed: States Take the Lead in Tackling the Drug Pricing Problem](#)
- [Importing Rx Drugs from Canada Is Safe and Cost-Effective](#)

Featured Stories



Report Highlights Cross-Agency Strategies to Address Substance Use Disorder

Across the country, states are realigning policies, funding, staffing, and data across agencies to better serve people living with or at risk of substance use disorder (SUD). NASHP and the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials convened Medicaid and public health leaders recently to discuss effective strategies for working across agencies to address SUD. Their new [report](#) highlights four recommendations for states to align policies and programs across agencies to address SUD prevention and treatment.



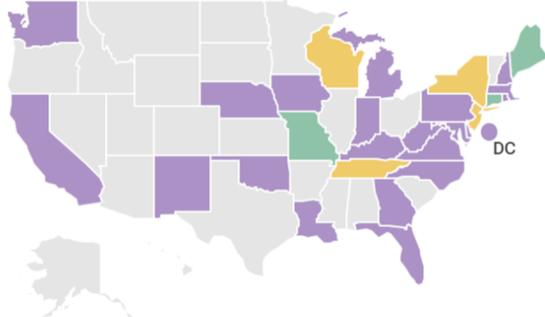
NASHP Op Ed: States Take the Lead to Tackle America's Drug Pricing Problem

In an op ed published in *The Hill*, NASHP Executive Director Trish Riley explores how states are on the frontlines fighting to curb unpredictable Rx price hikes. Riley reviews state strategies, such as importation, regulation of pharmacy benefit managers (PBMs), and mandating pricing transparency, and highlights a legislative model that creates drug affordability review boards. Riley stresses states' roles as laboratories of innovation – informing federal debate on drug pricing as they did in the creation of the Children's Health Insurance Program, mental health parity, and insurance reforms. She notes it was only after 28 states outlawed PBM gag clauses that prohibited pharmacists from telling consumers about less-costly drug options that Congress outlawed the practice in 2018.



Importing Rx Drugs from Canada Is Safe and Cost-Effective

During the current legislative session, 16 states have introduced 27 bills to explore wholesale prescription drug importation from Canada, but is it safe? Will it save money? Can it be done? Three, easy-to-read infographics explain what state leaders need to know if they're considering drug importation legislation.



How States Promote Lead Screening and Treatment

Across the country, states use a variety of strategies to promote lead screening and treatment for children and pregnant women. Elevated blood lead levels can increase the risk of brain and nervous system damage, slow growth and development, and cause other health problems. NASHP has published two maps highlighting state policy levers and strategies that address lead exposure.



NASHP Wants to Hear From You!

We are redesigning our website and invite you to take a short survey so we can make the new website as easy to use as possible! Please answer this short, eight-question survey by 5 p.m. (EST) Friday, March 29.

Free, Online Course: The FDA and Prescription Drugs - Current Controversies in Context

Harvard University is offering a free, eight-week course, *The FDA and Prescription Drugs: Current Controversies in Context*, starting March 26, 2019. The self-paced course, which requires two to five hours per week, focuses on how the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulates pharmaceuticals and explores debates on prescription drug costs, marketing, and testing. Instructors include:

- Aaron Kesselheim, Associate Professor of Medicine, Director of the Program on Regulation, Therapeutics, and Law, Brigham and Women's Hospital Harvard University;
- Jonathan Darrow, Instructor in Medicine, Program on Regulation, Therapeutics, and Law, Brigham and Women's Hospital Harvard University; and
- Ameet Sarpatwari, Instructor in Medicine, Assistant Director of the Program on Regulation, Therapeutics, and Law, Brigham and Women's Hospital Harvard University.

Register [here](#) and view a [course trailer](#) on YouTube.



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Webinars

NASHP Webinars

[Webinar: State Tools to Lower Medicaid Prescription Drug Costs – Exploring Payment Methodologies for Retail and Physician-Administered Drugs](#)

2-3 p.m. (EST)
Friday, March 29, 2019

[Webinar: Balancing Value and Affordability – Lessons from New York's Medicaid Drug Cap and the Role of the Institute for Clinical and Economic Review](#)

3:30-4:30 p.m. (EST)
Tuesday, April 9, 2019

Non-NASHP Webinars

[Webinar: Maximizing System-Level Data to Address Health and Social Complexity in Children – Spotlight on Oregon](#)

2-3 p.m. (EST)
Tuesday, April 2, 2019

[Webinar: Complex Care among Medicaid Beneficiaries with Comorbid Substance Use Disorders and Other Chronic Conditions](#)

3-4 p.m. (EST) Wednesday,
April 3, 2019

Jobs

NASHP Health Policy Associate – Chronic and Vulnerable Populations Team

NASHP seeks a policy associate for its Chronic and Vulnerable Populations team. [View the full job description.](#)

NASHP Research Analyst – Child and Family Health Team

NASHP seeks an entry-level research analyst for its Child and Family Health Team. [View the full job description.](#)

NASHP Health Policy Associate - Child and Family Health Team

NASHP seeks a policy associate for its Child and Family Health Team. [Click for the full job description.](#)

Resource of the Month



Resources to Help States Improve Integrated Care for Children

In March, NASHP features its [Resources to Help States Improve Integrated Care for Children](#) issue hub. Integrating children's care improves early identification and treatment of health issues that can improve children's well-being and avoid costly medical, special education, foster care, and criminal justice expenses. The hub also provides valuable resources for states interested in the [Integrated Care for Kids \(InCK\) Model](#) and others working to implement payment, coverage, and cross-agency strategies to improve for integrated care coordination of behavioral, physical and health-related social needs for children eligible for Medicaid or the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). Check out other resources at the [Healthy Child Development State Resource Center](#), supported by the David and Lucile Packard Foundation. Submit new resources to ehiggins@nashp.org. [Shutterstock.com](#)