Opioid Response Network

Word of Mouth: Building the Oral Health Response to Opioid and Stimulant Use

September 23, 2026 @ 9am - 3pm MT/10am - 4pm CT

Free Virtual Summit

Oral health providers play a vital role in addressing opioid and stimulant use through prevention, pain management, early intervention, and recovery support. The Opioid Response Network (ORN) provides free, customized training and technical assistance to help oral health professionals strengthen these efforts in their practices and communities.



At this summit, you will learn how to:

- **Learn about the Opioid Response Network**
- **Request free training and technical assistance**
- **Partner with ORN as a consultant**

Join us to explore opioid stewardship, stimulant-related oral health issues, pain management, screening and intervention strategies, trauma-informed care, and integrating oral health into substance use treatment systems.

Register Here or

Opioid Response Network

Presenting Consultants



Dr. JK Costello, MD, MPH

JK Costello develops population health plans for substance use disorder prevention, treatment, and recovery. Inspired by the ongoing explosion of substance use and overdose, he works across medicine, public health, and community organizations to create a community of recovery. His work covers all parts of the continuum from prevention and stigma reduction to clinical workflows. He has extensive experience developing clinical programs for opioid use disorder treatment, having worked with more than a dozen clinics, syringe access programs, and jails. He has worked with numerous jails across our region on their medication programs for opioid use disorder. He has advocated at the legislature for better treatment in carceral facilities. As a physician in recovery himself, he understands both the health care system and community recovery. But perhaps the most powerful work he does is sharing his story of recovery as a person in recovery who has found his purpose in helping other people navigate the treatment and justice systems



Jenn Sobolik, MSN, CNP, FNP-C, AACRN, CARN-AP, AAHIVS

Jenn Sobolik is an HIV Certified Nurse Practitioner at an FQHC in rural western South Dakota where she cares for individuals living with HIV as well as Hepatitis C, substance use disorders, mental health concerns, and sexually transmitted infections. She works in a resource-limited rural setting where HIV and substance use care are integrated into a primary care model. She has a particular interest in helping people who use stimulants as many people in her small community struggle with this form of substance use. She is passionate about empowering nurses and healthcare teams who work in rural areas to provide the most compassionate and comprehensive care possible with the resources they have available.



Dr. Vanessa C. Mareno DDS, MPH

Dr. Vanessa Mareno is a Dentist and Faculty of the Advanced Education in Dental Public Health Residency Training Program at NYC Health + Hospitals | Jacobi Medical Center. Dr. Mareno has been nationally recognized for her work addressing oral health disparities among individuals with substance use disorders. Dr. Mareno's work focuses on integrating oral health services into addiction treatment settings through research, education, clinical care, and program development. She has received awards and grant support from several national public health and oral health organizations for her contributions to population health and workforce development. Dr. Mareno is also a Clinical Leadership Fellow at NYC Health + Hospitals, where she leads initiatives to strengthen integrated care delivery, improve clinical operations, and advance patient-centered models of care.



Dr. Don Teater, MD, MPH

Don Teater is a board-certified family physician who has specialized in pain and addiction treatment for the past 20 years. He currently works as a pain and addiction consultant for two Tribal Health Organizations in Alaska as well as treating patients for opioid use disorder in North Carolina. In addition to his patient care, he speaks to medical groups across the country educating them on our current understanding and management of both chronic pain and addiction.



Dr. Marcus Tanabe, DDS

Dr. Marcus Tanabe is an Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon with over 20 years of experience practicing the full scope of the specialty in both metropolitan and rural healthcare settings. Throughout his career, he has managed complex dental and surgical pain in patients with substance use disorders, chronic opioid exposure, and co-occurring medical and mental health conditions. His work sits at the intersection of dentistry and medicine, where safe, effective pain management must be balanced with the realities of opioid stewardship and illicit drug use. Dr. Tanabe brings a practical, evidence-based approach focused on patient safety, interdisciplinary collaboration, and real-world clinical decision-making.

Agenda

10:00am – 10:30am CT

Presenters: Jordan Jaeger

Introduction to the Opioid Response Network, Region 8

- Gain an understanding of the mission of the Opioid Response Network
- Learn how to submit requests for free trainings on opioid and stimulant use prevention, treatment and recovery
- Inform participants and provide resources on becoming a consultant for the Opioid Response Network.

10:30am – 11:30am CT

Keynote Speaker: JK Costello

From Wisdom Teeth to Wisdom: A Dentist's Role in Opioid Use Prevention, Addiction, and Recovery

- Hear a nuanced, firsthand story of how opioid prescribing related to dentistry influenced one person's addiction.
- Apply secondary prevention principles to recognize early warning signs and have a supportive, non-stigmatizing conversation with a patient, colleague, or family member.
- Explain how stigma and language shape patient willingness to disclose substance use history in a dental setting, and identify practices that reduce that stigma.

11:30am – 12:30am CT

Presenter: Jenn Sobolik

It's More Than the Methamphetamine: Understanding Stimulant-Related Oral Health Issues

- Describe how stimulant use, including methamphetamine and cocaine, contributes to oral diseases and dental complications.
- Understand how stigma related to stimulant use results in poorer health outcomes
- Identify evidence-based strategies, trauma informed strategies to prevent and manage dental disease in this population.
- Discuss opportunities for interdisciplinary collaboration between dental, medical, and behavioral health professionals to improve overall health outcomes

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12:30am – 1:00pm CT

Lunch Break

1:00pm – 2:00pm CT

Presenter: Vanessa Mareno

From Screenings to Systems Change: Integrating Oral Health into Opioid, Alcohol, and Substance Use Care

- Review the epidemiology, risk factors, and prevalence of oral disease and factors affecting oral health for people who use drugs and alcohol
- Recognize barriers to oral healthcare for people who use drugs
- Discuss practice, provider, and policy-based recommendations for integrated care
- Discuss an example of medical-dental integration in outpatient addiction treatment center

2:00pm – 3:00pm CT

Presenter: Don Teater

Opioid Prescribing and Indigenous Peoples

- Describe 2 major factors that cause Native individuals to be at a higher risk of developing opioid use disorder.
- Identify the two most effective treatments for opioid use disorder in Native Peoples.
- Describe the effects of historical trauma on increasing the risk of addiction in Native Peoples.

3:00pm – 4:00pm CT

Presenter: Marcus Tanabe

Changing the Script: Opioid Stewardship

- Explain the physiology of acute dental pain and apply current evidence-based approaches to pain management, emphasizing non-opioid therapies as first-line treatment when appropriate.
- Apply principles of opioid stewardship by balancing effective pain control with safe, responsible prescribing and individualized patient care.
- Identify patient-specific risk factors for opioid-related harm and incorporate screening, trauma-informed communication, and SBIRT principles into clinical decision-making.