Moving Knowledge, Not Patients

Arizona's rural areas are vulnerable with respect to having a qualified health workforce to combat the opioid epidemic.

The goal is to increase access to high quality substance abuse and opioid addiction treatment education for primary care and other health professionals practicing in Arizona’s rural and urban underserved communities.

Project ECHO® will be utilized to educate providers within each AzAHEC regional center about medication assisted treatment (MAT) of substance use disorders.

The MAT virtual curriculum topics include:

1. Introduction to Opioid Use Disorder
2. Risk Reduction: Overdose prevention and Management of Prescribed Opioids
3. Mental Health and Trauma Informed Care in Opioid Use Disorders
4. Introduction to Motivational Interviewing
5. SBIRT Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment
6. Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) for Opioid Use Disorder
7. Opioid Overdose Education, Risk Reduction, and Naloxone Distribution

How to Participate in the ATP Project ECHO®.

Register: https://uarizona.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6MxJhkQ0WGoa3WZ

The initial Medical Assisted Treatment (MAT) modules of this training will begin on 2/14/18 at noon and will last for two hours. Modules will continue for the next three weeks (i.e. 2/21, 2/28 and 3/6) for two hours beginning at noon. **Attendance at all four sessions (2/14, 2/21, 2/28, and 3/7) is required.** These four sessions will be followed by eight Project ECHO sessions every other Thursday for 90 minutes. **Attendance must be through one of the five AzAHEC sites.**

Participate in brief lectures and presentations.

Complete periodic surveys evaluating practice style, knowledge, and self-efficacy related to treating substance abuse and opioid addiction disorders.

**ATP Project ECHO® Leadership:**

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Associate Vice President Community Engagement and Director, Arizona Area Health Education Centers (AzAHEC)

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What is Project ECHO®?

Project ECHO® (Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes) is a guided-practice model that aims to increase workforce capacity by sharing knowledge. Specialists at the “hub” site meet regularly with primary care providers in local communities via videoconferencing to train the primary care providers substance and opioid addiction treatment education.

The University of New Mexico successfully implemented teleECHO clinics to recruit physicians to participate in DATA-2000 buprenorphine waiver trainings as well as presented approximately 950 patient cases during the teleECHO clinics inclusive of opioids, alcohol, and cannabis. This dramatically increases access to treat substance abuse and opioid disorders in rural and underserved areas. Arizona seeks to replicate similar teleECHO clinics throughout the AzAHEC regional centers, which cover all fifteen Arizona counties.

How Does It Work?

Project ECHO® will be utilized to educate providers about pain management. Project ECHO® delivered through ATP, is part of the statewide effort to expand medication assisted treatment (MAT) of substance use disorders and stretch the limited resources as broadly and effectively as possible.

Project ECHO® sessions will occur every two weeks for 90 minutes. Participants will join in virtually. Each virtual ECHO session will include case presentations on a topic followed by a didactic presentation.

Participants in the ATP Project ECHO® can:

- Present and discuss your challenging Cases.
- By attending the Arizona teleECHO MAT training physicians, nurse practitioners, and physician assistants can learn how to prescribe buprenorphine and treat individuals with opioid disorder.
- Reduce your patients’ travel time and wait time for treatment and care.

All level of Arizona providers are welcome to participate in teleECHO clinics at no cost. A limited number of stipends are available through AzAHEC Centers.

Participants can include: physicians, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, registered nurses, psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers, community health workers, pharmacists, and emergency medical technicians.

Benefits for Arizona health-care providers and institutions:

- Enables providers to practice at the top of their licenses, confidently treating patients with common complex conditions.
- Allows patients to stay in their local communities and receive treatment from their primary care providers.
- Enhances clinician development by enabling primary care providers to acquire new skills and competencies.
- Rural providers become part of a community of learning, increasing professional satisfaction, allowing providers to be more productive and motivating them to stay in rural communities longer.

Technology requirements:

You can participate in teleECHO clinics at an AzAHEC Center, or in collaboration with an AzAHEC Center in a room set up for small-group videoconferencing.

TeleECHO clinics use a cloud-based videoconferencing system called Zoom, which runs reliably on both high- and low-speed internet connections.

Educational credits for this program have been requested. Please confer with your AzAHEC Center for updates.