Ensuring Medical Accuracy of Teen Pregnancy Prevention (TPP) Programs: Grantee Webinar

Office of Adolescent Health (OAH)
Teen Pregnancy Prevention (TPP) Program
September 3, 2015
1:00 pm EST

Agenda

- Defining Medical Accuracy
  - What is Medical Accuracy?
  - Why is Medical Accuracy Important?
- Defining What is Required of TPP Grantees
  - Initial/Grantee Medical Accuracy Review
  - OAH Medical Accuracy Review
  - Responding to OAH Review Reports
- Tips and Tools for Ensuring Medical Accuracy
- Q&A

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What is Medical Accuracy?

The definition of medical accuracy used by OAH was adopted from the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and reads as follows:

The term "medically accurate and complete" means verified or supported by the weight of research conducted in compliance with accepted scientific methods; and published in peer-reviewed journals, where applicable or comprising information that leading professional organizations and agencies with relevant expertise in the field recognize as accurate, objective, and complete.

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Why is Medical Accuracy Important?

- Adolescents, along with all recipients of public health information deserve reliable, accurate information to best equip them to make healthy decisions for their lives.

- Credibility is closely tied to accuracy, and programs that wish to impact and influence behaviors must ensure that information presented is medically accurate.

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Medical information is constantly evolving and as new discoveries are made, program materials can become outdated. Medical accuracy reviews help ensure program materials are accurate and complete and kept current and up-to-date. Grantees are encouraged to independently review materials on a regular basis and make updates as needed.

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What is required of TPP grantees to help ensure medical accuracy of program materials?

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- [Capacity Building to Support Replication of Evidence-Based TPP Programs (Tier 1 A)](#)

- [Replicating Evidence-Based Teen Pregnancy Prevention Programs to Scale in Communities with the Greatest Need (Tier 1B)](#)

- [Supporting and Enabling Early Innovation to Advance Adolescent Health and Prevent Teen Pregnancy (Tier 2A)](#)

- [Rigorous Evaluation of New or Innovative Approaches to Prevent Teen Pregnancy (Tier 2B)](#)

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Initial/Grantee Medical Accuracy Review (MAR)

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OAH funding announcements state "Grantees should do an <u>initial review</u> of the materials for medical accuracy prior to submitting to OAH for final review."

Overview: Initial MAR Process

1. Conduct needs assessment and select program for implementation
2. Recruit expert reviewers (could be within grantee organization or outside consultants)
3. Provide training, guidelines, and tools to reviewers, (including this webinar, FAQs, standardized review report form, and OAH list of commonly used resources
4. Provide the reviewers with program materials and request they conduct a thorough review and document any issues found, along with recommendations and references for addressing issues
5. Grantee reviews the findings from the review and determines whether to proceed with selected program/materials (Could decide to change program)
6. Make necessary modifications (page inserts or modify actual program material), if any
7. Once the initial MAR is complete and your program selection is final, submit a list of the materials you plan to implement to your OAH project officer.

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Recruitment & Training

- <u>Recruit</u> 2-3 experts in the fields of adolescent health, reproductive health, pregnancy prevention, STI/HIV prevention, etc., preferably, with some clinical experience (e.g., physicians, nurses)

- Provide <u>training</u> for the reviewers about what they should be looking for in program materials (medical information that is inaccurate, incomplete, outdated, misleading) and what to do when any of these issues are found.

- Provide reviewers with OAH Medical Accuracy Review (MAR) <u>resources</u> available online (including this webinar, the OAH MAR resources list, the standardized OAH MAR review report form)

- Provide reviewers with all program materials and request they review for medical accuracy

Documenting Issues Found

If issues are found, request that the reviewers clearly document the issues by providing the following information:

- Page number
- Paragraph number
- Statements that appear inaccurate, out-of-date, etc.
- Recommendations for correcting the information containing medical accuracy issues
- References supporting any recommendations given

Standardized Review Report Form

OAH has a standardized review report form you can use. It can be downloaded from the handout section in the upper right hand corner of your screen. It will also be available in the coming days on the OAH website along with other materials from this webinar.

Addressing Issues Found

- After the initial review is done and results have been provided to the grantee, grantee should select staff members to review the findings and finalize strategies for addressing issues found.

- Keep records of issues found and modifications made – be prepared to share this information with OAH

How to Make MAR Modifications

Once issues are identified, incorporate recommended modifications into program materials. This can be done by one of two ways:

1. If you are using <u>copyrighted</u> materials you are <u>not</u> able to alter the copyrighted material. Therefore, for your modifications you can develop an insert page that will provide the program facilitators with the information they should use when implementing the program.

2. If you are the owner of the program materials you should modify the materials on the page.

Initial Review Complete…

Once the initial MAR is complete and your program selection is <u>final-submit a list </u>of materials you plan to implement to your OAH project officer.

Submit List to Your OAH Project Officer

- Include the following information on the list:
    - Type of material (curriculum, videos, DVDs, handouts, etc.)
    - Title and Subtitles
    - Copyright Date
    - Edition
    - Author
    - Publisher for each material.

- A template is provided, and is downloadable from the right hand side of your screen.

Getting Ready for the OAH Review

- The list will be used by OAH to make sure all materials are reviewed.

- OAH will notify you which materials need to be submitted for review (OAH has some materials and curricula).

How & What to Submit

- When submitting materials, the grantee can send links or attachments via e-mail, or send materials using a <u>tracking service </u>(FedEx, UPS, USPS).

- (1) If the grantee is using <u>copyrighted materials </u>- submit program materials that are requested by OAH to your OAH project officer with the insert page(s). If OAH has the program materials, submit the insert pages to your OAH project officer.

- (2) <u>For materials owned by the grantee </u>(not copyrighted by someone else) the modifications can be made where appropriate on the page, DVD, handout, etc. (no insert page necessary-changes made right on the materials).

OAH Mailing Address

Your Project Officer's name

Office of Adolescent Health

1101 Wootton Parkway, Suite 700

Rockville, MD 20852

OAH Medical Accuracy Review (MAR) continued…

Any questions about the initial grantee review??

OAH MAR Process Overview

1. OAH receives Program materials for review
2. OAH sends materials to the MAR Contractor and requests medical accuracy review
3. Contractor assigns materials to two independent reviewers
4. Reviewers review materials for medical information, complete review report indicating any issues found and recommendations for correcting them, and send reports to the Contractor
5. Contractor synthesizes the two review reports and sends all final reports to OAH
6. If no issues, the consolidated report is sent to grantees using that particular program material and grantee is required to make corrective changes, when applicable
7. All grantee modifications are reviewed by OAH and a final e-mail is sent to grantee stating that they may proceed with implementation of updated materials.

Medical Accuracy Issues

Types of medical accuracy issues that may arise include information that is:

- Inaccurate
- Incomplete
- Outdated
- Poorly referenced or supported by non-scientific "studies" (e.g., polling data, opinion)
- Confusing/misleading

Please see handout entitled, "OAH MAR Review Report Form Template" available for download on the OAH website, along with this webinar

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The following slides include examples of how the OAH MAR reviewers report issues in the review reports.

Example

XYZ Curriculum - Teacher's Manual

Issue 1:

- Page Number: 10
- Paragraph or Exhibit: 5th paragraph
- Medical Topic(s): Sexually Transmitted Diseases
- Medical Accuracy Issue: Text states that Chlamydia is a viral infection, which is inaccurate and cited Seventeen Magazine as the reference.
- Recommendation: Provide the correct information, which is that Chlamydia is a bacterial infection, and cite with an appropriate source.
- Reference: CDC Fact Sheet on Chlamydia - http://www.cdc.gov/std/chlamydia/STDFact-Chlamydia.htm

Example

XYZ Video
Issue 1:

- Minute Number: 23

- Description of scene: Teenage girl is informing her friend about STIs and their symptoms.

- Medical Topic(s): Sexually Transmitted Infections

- Medical Accuracy Issue: She states that STIs never have symptoms.

- Recommendation: Pause video at this point and provide a handout with correct information and appropriate citation. "Although many STIs have mild to no symptoms, sometimes symptoms do develop. A list of STIs and possible symptoms can be found at the link below."

- Reference: Office of Women's Health STI Overview-

http://www.womenshealth.gov/publications/our-publications/fact-sheet/sexually-transmitted-infections.html

Example

XYZ Poster

Issue 1:

- Page Number: N/A

- Paragraph or Exhibit: Chart on Birth Control Methods

- Medical Topic(s): Birth Control and Brand Names

- Medical Accuracy Issue: Chart contains outdated information on birth control methods and most recently FDA-approved brand names.

- Recommendation: Do not use this poster. Create a new poster or handout with updated information on birth control methods and most recently FDA-approved brand names. Alternatively, the grantee could provide the information directly from the below websites.

- References: Office of Population Affairs (section on Contraception) http://www.hhs.gov/opa/reproductive-health/; and http://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/cder/drugsatfda/index.cfm (use to look up info on specific brand name contraceptives)

Addressing Medical Accuracy Issues

What is Required of Grantees?

All issues noted in the OAH MAR report must be addressed. How the grantee goes about addressing them may vary, for example:

- Make modifications to the actual curriculum text

- Create an insert with updated information

- Select a different brochure, video, handout, etc. to use.

What is Required of Grantees?

The funding announcements state that grantees will not be able to begin implementation of their program until after the OAH medical accuracy review is:

1. Complete
2. All required modifications have been made
3. Verified and
4. Accepted by OAH.

Verification

- How will OAH verify that the modifications have been made?
  - The grantee will provide copies of the insert pages to OAH for copyrighted materials
  - For materials that are owned by the grantee, modifications will be incorporated into the materials themselves and submitted for review
- When modifications are made to the satisfaction of OAH an acknowledgement via e-mail will be sent to the grantee.

Additional Tips and Resources

Things to look for: Contraceptives

- New contraceptives that have been added to the marketplace or new vaccine schedules for immunizations

- Contraceptives that have been taken off of the marketplace

- Current contraceptive effectiveness rates (see latest edition of <u>Contraceptive Technology,</u> 20th edition)

- Abstinence should be defined as abstaining from oral, anal, and vaginal sex, and discussed as the most reliable way to prevent pregnancy and STI transmission

- The use of dual method (condom plus reliable form of birth control) is a more effective approach to pregnancy and STI prevention than the use of one method alone

- The importance of STI testing if one has engaged in sexual activity

- Current STD treatment options

Complete Information on STIs

The following addresses OAH's policy on infections and diseases and what grantees need to provide to participants to be considered "complete":

Information on syphilis, gonorrhea, chlamydia, herpes simplex II, hepatitis B, human papillomavirus (HPV), trichomoniasis, and HIV/AIDS.

The information should include the (1) type of organism that causes the STI, (2) modes of transmission, (3) symptoms, (4) treatment, (5) possible complications/sequelae, and (6) prevention details.

Complete Information on STIs

If an immunization exists for a given STI, such as HPV and hepatitis B, this information should also be included.

In addition, a recommendation of HIV and STI testing for sexually active individuals is vital.

An excellent resource for information on STIs is the CDC website where there are "Fact Sheets" for STIs in English and Spanish, and many are also translated into Haitian Creole, Russian and Vietnamese.

Complete Information on Contraceptives

OAH defines "complete" information for contraceptives: Describe each method, including:

1. how the method works,
2. duration of contraceptive effects,
3. effectiveness/failure rates (typical and perfect use),
4. whether it provides no protection or reduces the risk of HIV/AIDS and other STIs,
5. health risks/drawbacks (medical/personal), and
6. benefits (medical/personal) associated with the method.

- If a program has information on STIs and contraception it needs to be "complete."
- However, if the program does not have STI information or contraception information it is not necessary to provide information as discussed in the earlier slides (e.g., Positive Youth Development programs).

List of Frequently Used Resources

OAH developed a list of resources to help reviewers and grantees verify medical information and provide recommendations and references for correcting medically inaccurate information. This list is provided as a download in the upper right hand corner of your screen.

Please see handout entitled,
"OAH MAR List of Commonly Used Resources" available for download on the OAH website,
along with this webinar

In Closing…

- We're excited about the work you're going to be doing!

- We're here to help you ensure your programs are medically accurate and ready for implementation.

- We encourage you to continue conducting medical accuracy reviews periodically, such as annually, to keep your materials current, accurate, and complete.

Questions and Answers

Contact Information

Office of Adolescent Health

(240) 453-2846
Email: oah.gov@hhs.gov