

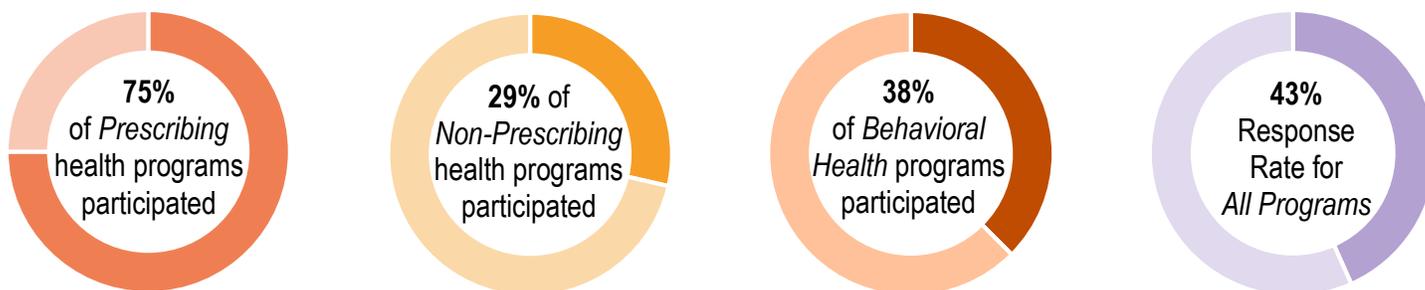
South Dakota Opioid Abuse Curricular Assessment



This curricular assessment will help the South Dakota Department of Health and stakeholders understand how and what we are teaching future health professionals in South Dakota on topics related to safe opioid prescribing, pain management, and substance use disorders. Findings will inform ways to improve or develop new curricula and training that aim to prevent prescription drug overdose, misuse, and abuse.

This project was a component of the South Dakota Department of Health's Prescription Drug Overdose Data-Driven Prevention Initiative (DDPI),¹ a 3-year (2016-2019) cooperative agreement funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The DDPI evaluation team conducted the assessment, which was a partnership between the University of South Dakota's Master of Public Health program and Sanford Research.

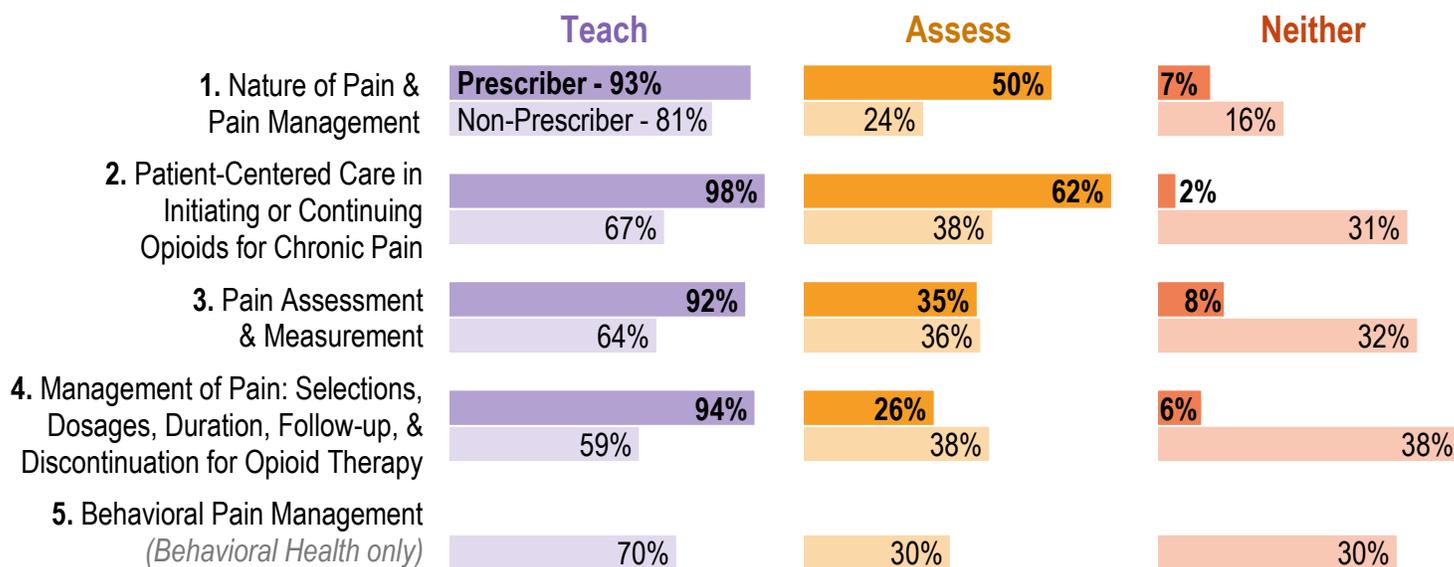
Academic deans from 30 graduate and health professional *prescribing* (MD, MSPA, APRN, PharmD, DDS)² *non-prescribing* (DPT, OTD, BS in Nursing)³, and *behavioral health* (MSW, BSW, MA)⁴ programs in or near South Dakota were invited to participate.



Programs were asked about various aspects of their curricula and how they address pain education across **five domains** (listed below). Questions were adapted from a 2018 American Academy of Medical Colleges⁵ survey on addressing the opioid epidemic through curricular approaches and informed by the CDC Guideline for Prescribing Opioids for Chronic Pain.⁶

RESULTS

Within each of the five domains, there were several related questions for which respondents could select “**Teach**,” “**Assess**,” or “**Neither**.” The figure below illustrates the percentage of competencies in each domain that are taught and assessed. Results are grouped by *prescribing* programs and *non-prescribing* programs, which includes *behavioral health* programs.



Teach refers showing or explaining. Programs answered on how much of each domain is *taught* in their curriculum.

Assess refers to evaluating or testing. Programs answered on how much of each domain is *assessed* in their curriculum.

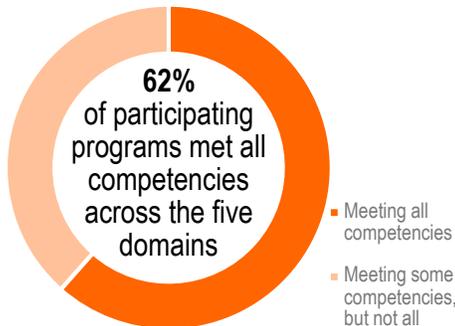
Neither refers to *not teaching* nor *assessing*. Programs answered how much of each domain they do *not teach* nor *assess*.

Teaching Methods

- 100% of *prescribing* programs used 3 of 19 teaching methods (Large Group Discussion [>12], Lecture, Case-based Learning)
- 100% of *non-prescribing* programs used 1 of 19 teaching methods (Lecture)
- At least 1 *prescribing* or *non-prescribing* program used **each** of the 19 teaching methods

Assessment Methods

- No assessment method was used by all participating *prescribing* or *non-prescribing* programs
- Written Test – Multiple Choice Question or Essay was the **most common assessment method** used
 - 83% of *prescribing* programs used written tests
 - 71% of *non-prescribing* program used written tests
- Only 1 assessment method (MiniCEX) was not used by *any* participating program



No program identified their curriculum as, “Exemplar (meeting all competencies with innovation)”



83% of *prescribing* programs **teach all** of the CDC Guideline for Prescribing Opioids for Chronic Pain⁶

CHALLENGES & EFFECTIVE STRATEGIES IN PAIN MANAGEMENT EDUCATION

Challenges



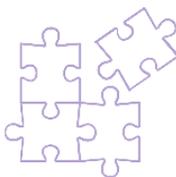
Time constraints

“Lack of time to add the required content. Our curriculum is very full.”



Varied Clinical Experiences

“Some students are being exposed to great clinical experiences in pain management, but not all sites give students the same level of exposure.”



Lack of Coordination

“Classes of pain medication (especially opioids) are covered in many different classes so coordinating content across courses is challenging.”

Effective Strategies

Active Educational Methods

“It [pain education] requires a multi-faceted approach with application; lecture is not enough.”



Share & Make Use of Existing Resources

“Simulation models and videos have been very useful and we can share.”
“Would be interested to learn how others are teaching this”



Coordinate Pain Management Education

“IPE [interprofessional education] team is developing a program for treatment of chronic pain.”



¹ <https://www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/foa/ddpi.html>

² Doctor of Medicine, Master of Science in Physician Assistant, Master of Science – Family Nurse Practitioner, Doctor of Pharmacy, Doctor of Dental Surgery

³ Doctor of Physical Therapy, Doctor of Occupational Therapy, Bachelor of Science in Nursing

⁴ Master of Social Work, Bachelor of Social Work, Master of Arts in Addiction and Prevention Studies

⁵ <https://www.aamc.org/download/485934/data/january2018addressingtheopioidepidemicu.s.medicalschoolcurricul.pdf>

⁶ https://www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/pdf/Guidelines_Factsheet-a.pdf