**Meet the Oregon Health Authority**

**PAIN MANAGEMENT IMPROVEMENT TEAM (PMIT)**

The Pain Management Improvement Team (PMIT) provides Technical Assistance to health care organizations for the Prescription Drug Overdose (PDO) project, supporting health systems to enhance internal capacity for a team-based approach to chronic pain and/or opioid management.

**PMIT provides resources as needed to help organizations work toward goals. Resources include:**

* **Practice Facilitation** to develop customized trainings on specific topics such as Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT), improving clinic workflows, forming interdisciplinary teams for clinicians, and preparing for difficult conversations with complex patients.
* **Technology Consultation** to improve care-related informational technology, such as workflow integration, EHR templates and tools, and patient monitoring.
* **Connecting Practices with University of Washington Telepain™program**, which provides access to inter-professional specialists with expertise in the management of challenging chronic pain problems.
* **Connecting Practices** to state-of-the-art resources and clinic tools compiled on the state project website.
* **Providing Reports and Feedback** to organizations to help monitor progress.

**Dr. Jim Shames, MD,** has lived and practiced in Southern Oregon since 1973. He is Board certified in Family Medicine and Addiction Medicine, has been the Medical Director and Health Officer for Jackson County since 2002, is a consultant for the Oregon Health Authority, and was one of the founding members of the Oregon Pain Guidance. The OPG is a collaboration of health care providers in Southern Oregon that facilitates the safe treatment of chronic pain and has created guidelines for safe prescribing, and has created a website for professionals and the public ([www.oregonpainguidance.org](http://www.oregonpainguidance.org)). In 2012 Dr. Shames was awarded the Doctor–Citizen of the Year Award by the Oregon Medical Association for this work. 

**Laura Heesacker, LCSW,** is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker with over 25 years of experience in behavioral health and chronic pain management in primary care. Laura currently works as a Behavioral Health Innovation Specialist with Jackson Care Connect/Care Oregon in Southern Oregon.  She is a founding member of the Oregon Pain Guidance (OPG) group and is a consultant with the Center for Disease Control and Oregon Health Authority. Laura specializes in supporting health systems in finding the delicate balance of providing compassionate care and establishing boundaries that enable safe and effective treatment of chronic pain and use of opioids.  

**Nadejda Razi-Robertson, PhD, LCSW** is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and has a doctorate in behavioral health. Her doctoral research focused on understanding the barriers to implementing changes in opioid prescribing practices. Nadejda currently works as a Behavioral Health consultant offering technical assistance and practice facilitation to clinics developing clinical pathways for addressing long-term opioid use, pain management, and integrated behavioral health programs within primary care. 

**John Kolsbun, MD** is the Medical Director of AllCare Health CCO in Jackson and Josephine counties and a founding member of the OPG. He has worked as a hospitalist, PA, internist, and as a primary care provider. Combining his experience with the OPG, working on the “frontlines” with clinic and hospitalized patients with pain, and his administrative experience, Dr. Kolsbun has developed a broad and deep perspective on the opioid crisis and how best to approach it.

**Simon Parker-Shames** is a Health Informatics Consultant who provides guidance and coaching on EHR tool implementation strategies and in-house data collection. He has ten years experience working with EHRs, data analysis, and medical IT, with a public health perspective. He has particular expertise in simple EHR tools to support opioid management in primary care settings.

**OHA PAIN MANAGEMENT IMPROVEMENT TEAM (PMIT)**

Oregon’s Pain Management Improvement Team (PMIT) provides Technical Assistance to health care organizations for the OHA Prescription Drug Overdose (PDO) Prevention project, supporting health systems to enhance internal capacity for a team-based approach to chronic pain and/or opioid management.

**RESOURCES AVAILABLE THROUGH PMIT:**

PMIT provides resources as needed to help organizations work toward these goals. Resources include:

* **Six Building Blocks of Pain Management:** A self-assessment tool for implementing pain management on the clinical or organizational level. Aligns with CDC and OHA 2017 Opioid Prescribing Guidelines.
* **Practice Facilitation** to develop customized trainings on specific topics such as
  + Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT)
  + improving clinic workflows
  + forming supportive interdisciplinary teams for clinicians
  + preparing for difficult conversations with complex patients
* **IT-Support**: Help improving care-related informational technology, such as integrating workflows within EHRs and developing patient monitoring systems.
* **University of Washington Telepain™program** linkages, which provides access to inter-professional specialists with expertise in the management of challenging chronic pain problems.
* **Written reports and ongoing feedback** for monitoring progress related to organizational pain management policies and practices.
* **Help with Difficult Conversations** with patients needing to reduce their opioid doses and/or switch to other therapies
* **Developing access to alternative therapies**
* **Creating linkages** between your organization, SUD Treatment options, and alternate pain therapies
* **Coaching on using Online Tools:**
  + **PMIT Toolkit**: State-of-the-art resources and clinic tools compiled on the state project website.
  + **MED Calculator**
  + **Prescription Drug monitoring Program (PDMP)**
  + **OHA Opioid Data Dashboard**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION ON PMIT, CONTACT:** Lisa Shields, Prescription Drug Overdose Prevention Coordinator, OHA Public Health Division, [lisa.m.shields@state.or.us](mailto:lisa.m.shields@state.or.us), [971-673-1036](about:blank)