Ohio Pre-Criminal Intervention Program
Background

- OARRS is located in the Board of Pharmacy
- Board of Pharmacy is uniquely positioned in both healthcare and law enforcement
- According to experts, there are several benefits to getting a patient into treatment before transition to heroin
  - Patient is more receptive to treatment
  - Better chance of success
  - Less expensive
- If a patient is actively doctor shopping, they likely haven’t transitioned to heroin
The Plan

• Start in one county (Franklin). Prove the concept before moving on to others.
• Obtain agreement with local prosecutor
• Obtain agreement with local treatment provider
• Get list of local doctor shoppers
The Plan

• Intervention agent and local law enforcement officer visit patient – offer treatment
• Transport patient to local treatment provider
• After training with intervention agent, local law enforcement takes over program for their county
Still in Early Stages

• Three interventions, so far
  – Two went as planned; patients accepted treatment offer and were transported directly to the treatment provider
  – One had young children at home and could not leave them to go to treatment provider. However, an appointment was made for the following day, which was kept
Challenges

• Each county’s prosecutor wants to negotiate a different agreement
  – Time
  – Legal resources

• Finding a trusted local treatment provider with capacity may be a challenge in some areas

• Local law enforcement buy-in has been slow
Challenges

• Not all “doctor shoppers” are created equal
  – Legitimate use of multiple prescribers and pharmacies
  – “Deception to obtain” threshold not met
    • Overlapping prescriptions of same type
    • Patient misleading prescribers
  – Typically small amounts
  – Many of Ohio’s overdose decedents showed no sign of doctor shopping
Possible Mitigations

• Use Overdose Risk Score in conjunction with Doctor Shopping criteria
  – Additional Challenge: Overdose risk score frequently detects switch to heroin
• Future collection of non-fatal overdose information
• Work with other agencies who may have different leverage with patients (e.g. child protection agencies, Medicaid Fraud)