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Title: *Opioid Stewardship: Evaluating the Impact of Seal and Send Envelopes in the Hospice Population*

Context: The destruction of controlled medications after a hospice patient dies is in the hands of the family/caregiver. There are many methods of disposal available but the impact of the mail-back service has not been evaluated.

Purpose: To evaluate the impact of implementing the Seal & Send Envelope service in the hospice population.

Methods: A retrospective chart review was conducted to analyze the impact. Seal & Send Envelopes were attained through the 340B program by the Hospice facility. The Drug Waste and Destruction Logs were used to calculate how many patients used the envelopes and the number of medications that were properly destroyed. The control group was evaluated using the log sheets from December 24, 2017 to February 28, 2018. After implementation of the envelopes the log sheets from December 24, 2018 to February 28, 2019, were evaluated. The amount of oral morphine equivalents and benzodiazepines disposed of in a dropbox, trash, flushed or unknown was calculated.

Results: There was an equal number of patients using the envelopes compared to patients not using them in the post-intervention period, with a total of 40 envelopes used. In the pre-intervention period, there was 8100 MME that was unaccounted for in the destruction, compared to only 400 MME in the post-intervention period, which was a 90.5% decrease in unwanted/unknown opioid waste. 10692.5 opioid MME have been removed from the community with the envelopes, which is 44.4% of the opioids removed properly and safely from the community via the envelopes. Through the envelopes, 64.7% of the benzodiazepines were removed from the community.

Conclusion: This study shows that the Seal & Send envelopes provide a vast impact on society. The service has decreased a huge amount of opioids and benzodiazepines from the community and is an initiative that should be implemented in all hospice programs.