

# OPEN

Evidence. Resources. Engagement.

## Pediatric Post-Surgical Medication Disposal Envelope Funding Opportunity

Opioid Prescribing Engagement Network (OPEN) is pleased to offer an opportunity for medical organizations to apply for fully funded medication disposal envelopes in order to provide safe opioid disposal options to pediatric patients and their families after surgery. OPEN partners with [American Rx Group](#) to provide secure [Mail In Take-Back Envelopes](#) for an easy, at home medication disposal option. Unused medication can be disposed of by inserting into the 7.5" x 11" envelope, securing the envelope with the pre-applied adhesive, and dropping the envelope in the mail.

Organizations can request case(s) of medication disposal envelopes. OPEN will purchase them and have the envelopes sent directly to their organization. OPEN will also provide awardees with our [Pediatric Surgical Pain Management Toolkit](#) to share information and guidance on pediatric opioid prescribing for providers and educational tools for patients and their families.

### Logistics

<b>Eligible Applicants</b>	Organizations in Michigan providing care for patients 18 years of age and younger who receive opioid medications
<b>Due Date for Applications</b>	Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis from August through October 2022 Priority will be given for applications submitted by September
<b>Award Opportunity:</b>	Case(s) of medication disposal envelopes, each case containing 250 envelopes (\$620 value) Number of cases can be requested based on the number of pediatric patients receiving opioid prescriptions at the organization.
<b>Cost sharing/Match Required:</b>	No
<b>Reporting Requirements:</b>	One summary report completed in November 2022

## Rationale

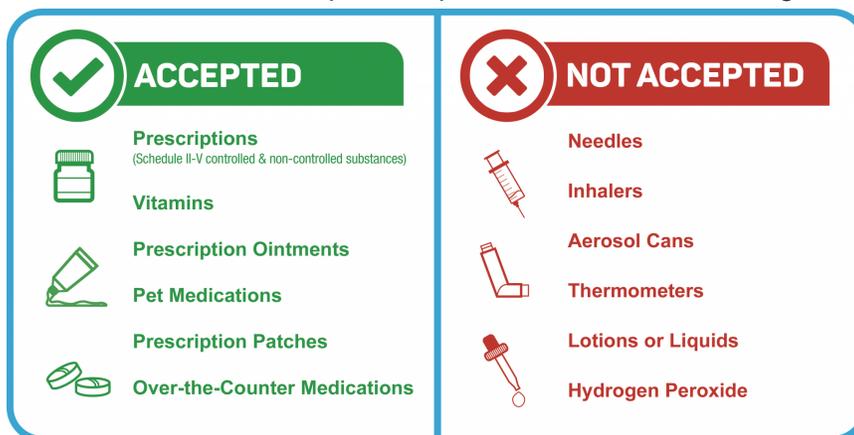
Each day more than 200 Americans die from opioid overdose. Prescription opioids play a significant role in overdose and death, and unused opioids are an opportunity for medication diversion, misuse, and overdose. Approximately 71% of dispensed pills from post-surgical prescriptions go unused and often are left unattended and unsecured in patients' homes for years. These pills may be diverted for misuse by others, as 54% of those who used a prescription medication for non-medical purposes obtained the medication from a friend or relative. Opioid [poisoning among children has increased over the last several decades](#). There is also a [significant economic burden](#) associated with pediatric opioid poisoning. [Educating pediatric patients](#) on the [complexities of opioid](#) use [can be challenging](#), necessitating an easy disposal method for unused opioids. Take back events, police stations, and home disposal are methods for medication disposal, but each comes with barriers to access or effectiveness. Mail-in take back envelopes can serve as a safe and easy medication disposal option to complement other available disposal methods.

## Eligibility Requirements:

- Awardees must be based in Michigan and provide care for patients 18 years of age and under who receive opioid medication
- Awardees must demonstrate how their organization and community would benefit from medication disposal envelopes

## Awardee Agreement:

- Create a plan for:
  - Identification of pediatric patients/families who benefit from easy disposal of their opioid medications
  - Distribution of envelopes to patients
  - Tracking of envelope distribution
- Review the [Pediatric Surgical Pain Management Toolkit](#) provided by OPEN
- Provide education to patients and their families about proper disposal, including but not limited to mail-in take back envelopes
  - Note - American Rx Group envelopes come with the following restrictions:



- Distribute medication disposal envelopes (all envelopes do not need to be distributed by November)
- Complete one end-of-project report (example questions below) submitted to OPEN at the end of November through an online submission process

## OPEN Agreement:

- OPEN will select awardees and contact them by email. Award purchase will be initiated within 2 weeks of notice of project funding.
- OPEN will provide awardees with:
  - [Pediatric Surgical Pain Management Toolkit](#)
  - Mail-in take back envelopes shipped directly to your organization
  - Access to online portal to view metrics on medication destruction
- OPEN will provide a link for online end-of-project report submission at the beginning of November
  - Collect end of project reports, collate findings, and share a summary report

## Example End-of-Project Report Questions:

\*These questions are a sample and may be modified based on OPEN's discretion.

1. How many disposal envelopes has your organization distributed so far?
2. What groups were disposal envelopes distributed to? What proportion of envelopes were distributed to each group?
3. What strategies for distributing the disposal envelopes did you implement?
4. What worked well during the distribution of envelopes to pediatric patients and their families?
5. What challenges or barriers did you face in distributing envelopes to pediatric patients and their families?
6. What strategies for educating patients and their families on safe disposal did you implement?
7. How did you utilize the [Pediatric Surgical Pain Management Toolkit](#) in your opioid prescription, education and/or safe disposal implementation?
8. Do you have any other general feedback about the medication disposal envelopes or partnership with OPEN?

## Application Process:

[Use this link](#) to submit your application. If clicking the link doesn't work, copy and paste the full link from the table at the end of this document into your internet browser. The questions are listed below for preparation. Once the form is started, it cannot be saved prior to submission.

Please contact Chelsea Graham ([chelsegr@med.umich.edu](mailto:chelsegr@med.umich.edu)) with questions.

Applications will be reviewed through October 14th, 2022 and selected applicants will be contacted by email.

## Application Questions:

### Applicant Information

1. Organization name
2. Organization location
3. Name, title, email of project lead
4. Name, title, email of person responsible for grant administration

### Organizational Context

5. Why is it important to distribute mail back medication disposal envelopes to your patient population? What unmet needs will this opportunity help address?
6. What existing structures does your organization have in place to encourage medication disposal after surgery?
7. Please provide context on pediatric patients at your organization
  - a. What pediatric services are provided?
  - b. Age range of pediatric surgical patients
  - c. Percent of patient population that is pediatric

### Project Proposal

8. Please describe your plan for identifying pediatric patients and their families that would receive medication disposal envelopes
9. Please describe your plan for distributing medication disposal envelopes
10. How will you educate patients and their families on disposal options?
11. How many cases of medication disposal envelopes are you requesting? (Note: disposal envelopes must be ordered by case. Each case contains 250 envelopes.)
  - a. Why have you chosen this number?

### Acknowledgements

- We have reviewed the Pediatric Pain Management Toolkit
- Our organization's mission is to provide care and prevent harm to pediatric patients. We will use the envelopes and other resources provided in this grant opportunity towards this intended purpose *only*.

## Full links

Application Submission	<a href="https://forms.gle/GZzodeR6V6gKgPfG7">https://forms.gle/GZzodeR6V6gKgPfG7</a>
Call for Application	<a href="https://michigan-open.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/Pediatric-Disposal-Envelope-Program-2022--OPEN.pdf">https://michigan-open.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/Pediatric-Disposal-Envelope-Program-2022--OPEN.pdf</a>
OPEN Pediatric Website	<a href="https://michigan-open.org/pediatrics/">https://michigan-open.org/pediatrics/</a>
Pediatric Surgical Pain Management Toolkit	<a href="https://michigan-open.org/resource/pediatric-surgical-pain-management-toolkit/">https://michigan-open.org/resource/pediatric-surgical-pain-management-toolkit/</a>
American Rx Mail-In Take Back Envelope	<a href="https://americanrxgroup.com/take-back-envelope/">https://americanrxgroup.com/take-back-envelope/</a>

## Frequently Asked Questions

- Do we have to distribute all of the envelopes by the end of November 2022?
  - No. We hope that the envelopes get used promptly but it is not required to complete distribution by the end of the project period.
- If we distribute all of the envelopes, can we request more?
  - Yes! Please reach out to Chelsea Graham to request additional envelopes. Determination on the second round of funding will be made on an individual basis.
- Does our organization have to be a surgical center to request envelopes?
  - No. If your organization works with pediatric patients who receive opioid prescriptions and they could benefit from these envelopes, please apply.
- Do the mail-back envelopes expire?
  - No, the envelopes do not expire and can be stored at your organization.
- How large is a case of envelopes?
  - One case of 250 envelopes is 13" x 10" x 8".