OVERDOSE RESPONSE STRATEGY

PUBLIC HEALTH | PUBLIC SAFETY | PARTNERSHIP

Illinois Partners in Law Enforcement,

First and foremost, thank you for your continued commitment to addressing the overdose crisis in Illinois. We're excited to share an important update that will make it easier to capture timely suspected overdose data—and open the door for more partners to join this effort.

Starting January 1, 2026, the Illinois Public Health Department will begin submitting statewide suspected overdose data to the Overdose Detection Mapping Application Program (ODMAP). We, the Illinois Overdose Response Strategy (ORS) team, are here to assist local and state organizations with questions and support.

What's Changing in Illinois?

On **August 15, 2025**, Governor Pritzker signed **House Bill 3645 (Public Act 104-0321)** into law. Beginning **January 1, 2026**:

- Due to new state legislation that allows for a new API connection, suspected overdose data from EMS will be automatically entered into ODMAP. This automation means you'll no longer need to manually enter many of the suspected overdose events that EMS also responds to.
- Law enforcement officers who respond to an overdose and deploy naloxone should still report to ODMAP if EMS is not on scene.

This new process means many overdose events will be automatically included in ODMAP, reducing the need for duplicate manual entry.

What is ODMAP, and why is it important for your community?

ODMAP is a free, web-based, mobile-friendly platform for near real-time reporting and monitoring of suspected fatal and non-fatal overdose events. Developed and managed by the Washington/Baltimore High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (W/B HIDTA), ODMAP works with agencies to collect, visualize, and analyze suspected overdose data within and across jurisdictions. The system enables users to leverage data to drive informed, coordinated, and community-based overdose response strategies.

ODMAP is available to all **local, state, federal**, and **tribal agencies** that serve the interests of **public safety** and **public health**. As of December 2025, approximately 5,600 agencies across all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico are using the platform. Over 3.3 million overdose events have been entered into ODMAP and 37,875 users registered.

ODMAP helps communities:
- Track and respond to overdose spikes
- Share information across agencies and jurisdictions
- Strengthen local strategies and save lives

Learn more at ODMAP.org.

What This Means for You

- **Avoid Duplicate Entries**: If EMS responds to the overdose, IDPH will submit the case into ODMAP. Please do not manually re-enter those cases.
- **Continue Reporting Non-EMS Cases**: Law enforcement should continue to enter suspected overdose events where EMS is not involved—for example, fatal overdoses discovered by your agency or situations where law enforcement responds independently.
- **Spike Thresholds**: With the influx of EMS data, you may see an increase in reported suspected overdose spikes in the short term. If your agency uses custom spike thresholds, you may want to review and adjust them to prevent false alarms.
  - 👉 Resource: ODMAP Resources – Spike Alert Overview

A Note on ODMAP Use

It is important to note that **ODMAP is not meant for the general public or media**. It is an **internal situational awareness tool** designed to help agencies monitor suspected overdose activity in near real-time.

- Entries represent **suspected (i.e., unconfirmed) overdose events**, based on initial impressions from EMS and other first responders.
- Data is **de-identified** and **may not reflect confirmed cases**.
- ODMAP is not intended to be a system of record and does not replace official overdose data produced by the **Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH)**.

Resources and Support

- Learn more: ODMAP.org
- Resource index: ODMAP Resources
- Illinois opioid data: IDPH Opioid Data Dashboard
- Questions about implementation, privacy, or technical setup? For technical assistance contact Washington Baltimore HIDTA at odmap@wb.hidta.org or (301) 489-1744 (Monday-Friday 8:30 AM-4:30 PM EST).
- For additional information on the Overdose Response Strategy and training needs, please contact the **Illinois Overdose Response Strategy (ORS) Team** at orsprogram.org.
  - Victor Markowski v.markowski@chicago-hidta.org
  - Kate Drayton kdrayton@cdcfoundation.org

Thank you again for your dedication and for helping us strengthen Illinois's overdose prevention and response efforts.

Sincerely,

The Illinois ORS Team

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