

University of Alabama at Birmingham Health System Commitment Statement

National Academy of Medicine Opioid Action Collaborative

April 2019

The University of Alabama at Birmingham's Health System pledges support for the National Academy of Medicine's Action Collaborative on Countering the U.S. Opioid Epidemic. This public-private partnership is comprised of organizations representing government, health systems, accrediting institutions, industry, nonprofit organizations, academia and other healthcare stakeholders committed to collaboration and alignment of resources to address the national opioid crisis.

The mission of UAB Health System is to improve the health and well-being of society, particularly the citizens of Alabama, by providing innovative health services of exceptional value that are patient- and family-centered. As an academic institution, UAB is also committed to providing a superior environment for the education of health professionals and supporting research that advances medical science. As such, it is our responsibility, as the largest academic medical center in our state, to address the nationwide opioid crisis with the resources available to our institution. UAB Health System Leaders have agreed to support efforts that support, align, and advocate for patient-centered, effective, and safe pain management and opioid prescribing practices.

Our mission, vision, and opioid stewardship goals are defined with our patients in mind.

Mission

Provide safe, effective and patient centered pain management across UAB Health System

Vision

Create an organizational infrastructure that advocates for safe opioid prescribing while sustaining safe, effective, patient-centered pain management throughout UAB Health System through engagement and education of patients, clinicians, and administrators.

Goals

- Establish the Opioid Stewardship Program by establishing a committee with defined structure, roles, and responsibilities
- Create an opioid data infrastructure to drive change through data transparency and measure impact
- Use a systematic approach to develop and implement best practices guidelines, policies and care processes related to opioid prescribing and pain management
- Educate staff and patients on pain management, and pain expectations, as well as safe opioid prescribing, storage, and disposal
- Appropriately reduce the oversupply of opioid prescriptions while supporting treatment programs for patients with opioid use disorder

UAB Health System is committed to working together with the National Academy of Medicine's Opioid Action Collaborative by actively engaging with our patients, our clinicians, and our administrators in order to achieve these shared goals and overcome the nation's opioid crisis.