

2023 Training and Technical Assistance

Oregon Nicotine Treatment and Recovery

In-person training for direct service staff in inpatient or outpatient SUD facilities

On May 24, 2023, Rede Group hosted a one day, six-hour training in Wilsonville, Oregon for direct service staff working in inpatient or outpatient SUD facilities. The purpose of the training was to help clinical staff working in behavioral health settings address nicotine addiction/commercial tobacco use with their clients. The training was facilitated by Dr. Jill Williams, a Professor of Psychiatry and Director of the Division of Addiction Psychiatry at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (UMDNJ)-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School. Topics included:

- Epidemiology of smoking in behavioral health populations
- Consequences of commercial tobacco use
- Clinical approaches to working with commercial tobacco
- Techniques for assessment and treatment
- Evidence based practices for counseling and pharmacotherapy
- Treatment planning examples
- Techniques for working with lower motivated tobacco users

Participants were recruited through the following channels: through the Expert Panel, recruiting through the TPEP Affinity Group, reaching out to folks who had participated in data collection in the past, through Oregon Council for Behavioral Health, and emailing a list of inpatient and outpatient substance use disorder facilities throughout Oregon that Rede compiled. Participants were offered six Continued Education Credits, certified by the Mental Health & Addiction Certification Board of Oregon (MHACBO).

48 participants attended the training, and left very positive feedback in a post-event survey. Some highlights from the training for participants were:

- Appreciating Dr. Williams' depth of knowledge and facilitation style
- Expanding their knowledge on treatment methods, pharmacology, and inequities in commercial tobacco/nicotine use

- Learning about the importance of choice of language (i.e. “treatment” versus “cessation”)
- Having the opportunity to see video examples of interventions, such as motivational interviewing

Participants were asked to rank the likelihood of using the information or tools they learned about to implement or improve cessation services at their facilities, with “0” meaning they won’t use any and “5” meaning they are eager to return to their facilities to implement their learnings. Three participants responded with a “3”, 10 with a “4”, and 29 with a “5”.

After the event, participants also received handouts from Dr. Williams, including her slide deck, published studies, the Learning about Healthy Living curriculum, and a tobacco assessment tool.

Creation of a billing guide for commercial tobacco and nicotine use and cessation

In response to conversations with the Expert Panel around the need for technical assistance in billing for tobacco and nicotine-related services, the Rede Group compiled information, definitions, and codes for billable treatment services. This resulted in the production of a billing guide. The billing guide was shared back with the Expert Panel for feedback and is on its third iteration. Rede hopes to disseminate the billing guide in the next year in collaboration with the Oregon Health Authority.