

## Media Inquiries:

Don Bolger  
Public Information Officer  
☎ (630) 221-7374

## DuPage County Board of Health

Linda A. Kurzawa  
President

Lanny Wilson, M.D.  
Vice President

Scott J. Cross  
Secretary

John Novak  
Treasurer

Melinda Finch  
Nadeem N. Hussain, M.D.  
Robert Larsen, J.D.  
Lawrence J. Schouten, M.D.  
Robert Spadoni, J.D.  
Charlie A. Thurston  
Sam Tornatore J.D.  
James P. Weeks, D.D.S.

Karen Ayala, M.P.H.  
Executive Director

Established in 1945, DuPage County Health Department promotes physical and emotional health; prevents illness injury and disability; protects health from environmental risk factors, and strives to assure the provision of accessible, quality service.

May 5, 2017

## **DuPage County Health Department to Host Symposium *Improving Patient Safety in the Opioid Crisis***

**DUPAGE COUNTY**—Heroin and opioid-related overdose deaths are at epidemic levels nationally and in DuPage County. Opioid use disorder often starts with prescribed opioids, and may lead to overdose.

In an ongoing response to the increased misuse of opioids and related deaths, the DuPage County Health Department is hosting a symposium, *Improving Patient Safety in the Opioid Crisis: What is the Prescriber's Role?* at 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday, May 10, 2017 at the Medinah Shrine Center, 550 N. Shriners Drive, Addison, Ill.

Guest speakers include Rashmi Chugh, MD MPH, Medical Officer, DuPage County Health Department and Natalie Kirilichin, MD, Medical Advisor, and speaking on behalf of National Safety Council, Prescription Drugs and Advocacy Program.

The target audience, physicians, dentists, oral surgeons, nurses, pharmacists and medical office staff are invited to be a part of the solution by learning best practices from national and local experts. The role of prescribers, and the latest guidance and resources addressing opioid use disorder will be offered.

Those attending will learn to identify the history, scope and causes of the opioid crisis, apply evidence-based guidelines for pain management and a better understanding of the prescriber's role in managing the use of opioids, and more.

There is no charge, but due to limited space advance registration is required. For more information and to register, please call the DuPage County Health Department at (630) 221-7572.

Improving Patient Safety in the Opioid Crisis: What is the Prescriber's Role?

Wednesday, May 10, 2017, 11:30 a.m.

Medinah Shrine Center, 550 N. Shriners Drive, Addison, Ill.

**Speakers**

*Welcome, and Defining the Problem*

Rashmi Chugh, MD, MPH

Medical Officer, DuPage County Health Department

*Safe Prescribing: Opioid Efficacy and the Prescriber's Role*

Natalie Kirilichin, MD

George Washington University Department of Emergency Medicine

Medical Advisor, speaking on behalf of National Safety Council,

Prescription Drugs and Advocacy Program

*How Illinois is Addressing the Opioid Crisis*

Kimberly Fornero

Illinois Department of Human Services

*Opioid Neuroscience: Pain Control vs. Euphoria; Adults vs. Adolescents*

Celeste Napier, PhD

Rush University Medical Center

*The Role of Primary Care Physicians in Managing Chronic Pain,*

*Opioid Use Disorder and Referral for Treatment*

Elizabeth Salisbury-Ahshar, MD

Chicago Department of Health