

Harm Reduction Commission



**Executive Office of Health & Human Services
Marylou Sudders, Secretary**

**November 20, 2018
3:00-5:00 pm**

**One Ashburton Place
21st floor, Conference Rooms 2 & 3
Boston, Mass.**



Agenda



1. Welcome
2. Approval of minutes from October 24, 2018 meeting
3. Review updated meeting agenda
4. Harm reduction overview
 - Commissioner Bharel
5. Presentations on SPOT and Boston Engagement Center
 - Jessie M. Gaeta, MD
 - Devin Larkin
6. Timeline review



Updated Agenda for Each Meeting



Proposed strategy: the commission will dedicate each meeting to answering specific questions

<p>November 20, 2018</p> <p><u>Agenda:</u></p> <p>1) Harm Reduction Conversation</p> <p>1) Commission members will discuss public health/public safety benefits and risks</p>	<p>The Commission must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Commission must review existing harm reduction efforts in the commonwealth and determine whether there is potential for collaboration with existing public health harm reduction organizations. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DPH • SPOT • Boston Engagement Center • Identify potential public health/public safety benefits and risks of operating a harm reduction site (HRS) in the Commonwealth. • Identify opportunities to maximize public health benefits, including educating persons utilizing the sites of the risks of contracting HIV and viral hepatitis and on proper disposal of hypodermic needles and syringes. • Identify ways to support persons utilizing the sites who express an interest in seeking substance use disorder treatment, including providing information on evidence-based treatment options and direct referral to treatment providers. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is there any specific information the Commission would like presented on this topic to aid with the discussion?
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Updated Agenda for Each Meeting (cont.)

December 17, 2018

Agenda:

- 1) Review document capturing last meeting's discussion
- 2) Commission will be presented with an updated document based on received feedback
- 3) Commission members will discuss 3 harm reduction questions

- Review and finalize document that summarizes the commission's findings from the prior meeting regarding: public health/public safety benefits and risks of a HRS, opportunities to maximize benefits, and way to support referrals to treatment.
- The Commission must review alternatives and recommendations to broaden the availability of naloxone without a prescription.
- The Commission must review existing harm reduction efforts in the commonwealth and determine whether there is potential for collaboration with existing public health harm reduction organizations.
- The Commission must Identify other harm reduction opportunities, including but not limited to, broadening the availability of narcotic testing products, including fentanyl test strips.
 - A background document on harm reduction and the availability of Naloxone was provided prior to today's meeting, it would be helpful if members could provide comments on the document to Gabe. Gabe will incorporate all edits, additions, comments & feedback.
 - **Is there additional information the Commission would like presented on these topics?**



Updated Agenda for Each Meeting (cont.)



January 9, 2019

Agenda:

- 1) Review document capturing last meetings discussion
- 2) Review responses from the boards
- 3) Discuss necessary guidance/regulation changes

- Review and finalize document that summarizes the commission's findings from the prior meeting regarding harm reduction
- The Commission must review potential federal, state and local legal issues involved with establishing harm reduction sites.
 - A background document was provided prior to today's meeting, it would be helpful if members could provide comments to Gabe on the document by November 9th.
 - Is there additional information the Commission would like presented on this topic?
- The Commission must recommend appropriate guidance that would be necessary and required for professional licensure boards and any necessary changes to the regulations of such boards.
 - Prior to 1st meeting letters were sent requesting information from Board of Registration in Medicine, Board of Registration in Nursing, and Board of Registration of Social Workers.
 - Responses from licensing boards and catalogue of appropriate guidance/regulation changes will be presented to the commission for discussion.
 - Is there additional information the Commission would like presented on these topics?



Updated Agenda for Each Meeting (cont.)



<p>January 28, 2019</p> <p><u>Agenda:</u></p> <p>1. Discussion about feasibility of a harm reduction site in the Commonwealth</p>	<p>The Commission must determine the feasibility of operating a SIF in the Commonwealth where (A) a person with a substance use disorder may consume pre-obtained controlled substances, (B) medical assistance by health care professionals is made immediately available to a person with a substance use disorder as necessary to prevent fatal overdose, and (C) counseling, referrals to treatment and other appropriate services are available on a voluntary basis.</p> <p>Is there any specific information the Commission would like presented on this topic before the discussion occurs?</p>
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Presentations



Harm Reduction Overview

- Commissioner Bharel

SPOT

- Jessie Gaeta, MD

Boston Engagement Center

- Devin Larkin



Timeline



Key Dates	Location
December 17, 2018 from 3:00-5:00 pm	One Ashburton Place, CR 1 & 2
January 9, 2019 from 3:00-5:00 pm	One Ashburton Place, CR 1 & 2
January 28, 2019 from 3:00-5:00 pm	One Ashburton Place, CR 1 & 2
February 1st, 2019 – Report submission to the legislature	