

# How to Identify and Collect Relevant Data

## 1. Identify Drug Information Needs:

- Investigative entities
- Public health entities
- Questions to ask:
  - What information do you need to help you better fulfill your job responsibilities?
  - What information may help make your efforts more effective and impactful?
  - How often do you require updates of the information?
  - What other drug data do you believe that we should be collecting to bolster our anti-drug efforts?
  - Do you have any other recommendations?

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## 2. Identify Essential Drug Data Sets & Specific Data Elements Required:

- Which drug data sets will help fulfill the customers' needs?
  - Those data sets establish your drug data collection requirements
    - (Drug arrests, overdoses,...)
- Which specific data elements will you need?
  - (Date, time, location, drug type,...)
- Which specific data elements have require special handling?
  - Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA).

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## 3. Identify Drug Data Sources

- DMI identified the source entities that generate the essential drug data sets.
  - Law Enforcement
    - Drug Submission and Examination result data from *crime forensic labs* statewide
    - Drug Arrests from the Automate Fingerprint Information System
    - Naloxone Deployments by EMS from the police departments
    - Firearm Shootings from Tetras, hospitals, open source
    - Firearm Recoveries from the state's database that provides data to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives
    - Clandestine Drug Lab processing data from hazmat units statewide
    - Urinalysis results from State and County probation and parole offices

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## 3. Identify Drug Data Sources continued...

- Public Health: De-identified as per HIPAA
  - Naloxone Deployments by EMS from the DOH
  - Toxicology Results data from the State Medical Examiner's Office
  - Addiction Treatment Admissions from the DHS
  - Prescription Drug Monitoring Program data from the Division of Consumer Affairs
  - New Jersey Poison Information & Education Systems
  - Medicaid Data

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## 4. Identify the Drug Data Central Repositories and Establish Strategic Relationships:

- 496 police departments
- More than 200 EMS providers
  - Where does all of their data go?
    - Crime forensic labs and the DOH
- Met with executives of these central repositories
  - What DMI was seeking to accomplish
  - Why their drug data is vital
  - *They will receive drug intelligence even if they opted not to share*
  - How their personnel could play a role in intelligence production
  - How DMI will provide training opportunities for their employees

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## 5. Automate the Data Collection Processes

- Monitoring the drug environment requires timely and consistent data sharing
- DMI used programs such as Crystal Reports
  - Generates a report
    - preset schedule
    - automatically generates an email
    - sends drug examination report to DMI
- This process is being implemented statewide