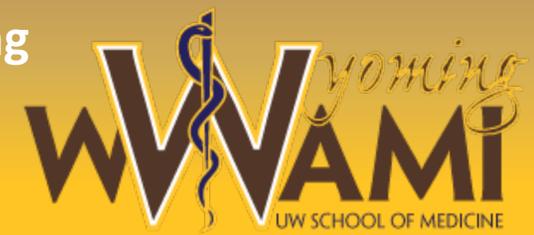


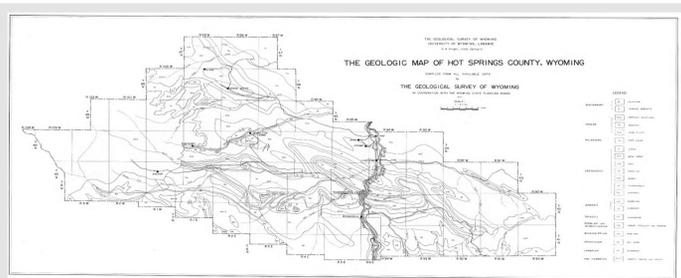
# Assessing general opioid literacy and awareness of high school students in Hot Springs County, Wyoming (Hot Springs Health, Thermopolis, WY)



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## About the Community

- **Population** – 2,725 <sup>(1)</sup>
- **Hot Springs County High School** – 200 students
- **Greek for "Hot city"** - known for its mineral geothermal pools. <sup>(1)</sup>
- **Land Acknowledgement** – Home to the Eastern Shoshone and Northern Arapahoe tribes. <sup>(2)</sup>



Picture Credit - Wikimedia Foundation. (2023, July 21). Thermopolis, Wyoming. Wikipedia. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thermopolis,\\_Wyoming](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thermopolis,_Wyoming)  
Map Credit - Geological Survey of Wyoming, 1937. Geologic map of Hot Springs County, Wyoming. Geological Survey of Wyoming [Wyoming State Geological Survey] Hot Springs County Map, scale 1:126,720

## Hypothesis

Screening high school students using a medication safety survey will help gauge teenage opioid literacy and show need for early intervention and education in Hot Springs County, Wyoming.

## Literature Review

- High school students' knowledge on opioids is seldom studied.
- In the 2021 Journal of Pediatric Pharmacology and Therapeutics, the Adolescent Opioid Safety and Learning (AOSL) Scale was developed.
- Four factors emerged necessary to use the AOSL. Surveys must assess:

- Opioid Learning Interest
- Opioid Misuse Behavior
- Likelihood to Misuse Opioids
- Opioid Harm

- The AOSL framework is vital to defining and measuring adolescents' knowledge of and preferences for opioid safety, current misuse, and storage practice of opioids.



Photo Credit – Hot Springs Health Website. Hot Springs Health. (n.d.). Hot Springs Health. <https://hotspringshealth.com/>

## Deliverables to Community

A Medication Safety survey was designed based on local needs of the school, literature review and AOSL scale.

Goal - Assess general opioid awareness and literacy of high school students in Hot Springs County.



Medication Safety Survey	
Please answer each question with the best of your knowledge. Circle yes, no, or "don't know" for each of the questions. It is completely ok if you aren't familiar with anything on this survey! Thank you for your help!	
Q1. Do you know what an opioid is?	Q6. Can opioids cause medical or physical harm if not used correctly?
a.) Yes	a.) Yes
b.) No	b.) No
c.) Don't know	c.) Don't know
Q2. Do you think opioids are medications?	Q7. Is the opioid crisis affecting High School students such as yourself?
a.) Yes	a.) Yes
b.) No	b.) No
c.) Don't know	c.) Don't know
Q3. Can opioids only be prescribed by medical a professional?	Q8. Do you feel safe talking to parent/guardian or a school staff member about safe use of opioids?
a.) Yes	a.) Yes
b.) No	b.) No
c.) Don't know	c.) Don't know
Q4. Should opioids be shared with others/friends if they are in pain?	Q9. Are heroin and fentanyl opioids?
a.) Yes	a.) Yes
b.) No	b.) No
c.) Don't know	c.) Don't know
Q5. Should you take someone else's opioids without a prescription?	Q10. Have you ever used an opioid whether prescribed for you or not?
a.) Yes	a.) Yes
b.) No	b.) No
c.) Don't know	c.) Don't know

## Next Steps

Disclaimer - I, PERSONALLY HAVE NO ROLE IN ADMINISTERING OR ANALYSIS OF THE RESULTS OF THIS SURVEY.

Details of Distribution Plan: Delivered the survey to community partner school district nurse.

Future Goals – I hope this project and the relationships I built this summer will pave the way for future partnerships and public health projects during WRITE and longitudinal clerkship.



QR code for citations in order as they appear.

Thank you to my RUOP mentors!

## Background

How is the opioid epidemic affecting high school students in the United States?

- In 2015, 276,000 adolescents were current nonmedical users of pain reliever.<sup>1</sup>
- In 2017, one in four adolescents in the United States have misused a prescription opioid at least once in their life, and nearly one in four high school students in the United States were exposed to opioids, medically or non-medically. <sup>2</sup>

How is the opioid epidemic affecting High School Students in Wyoming?

- In a study done by the Wyoming Survey and Analysis Center in 2016, 3% of 10th through 12th graders self reported misusing an opioid prescription medication in the last 30 days.<sup>3</sup>