

Program
questions
contact:

OD2A-S

dhhs.pdmp@nebraska.gov



NEBRASKA

Good Life. Great Mission.

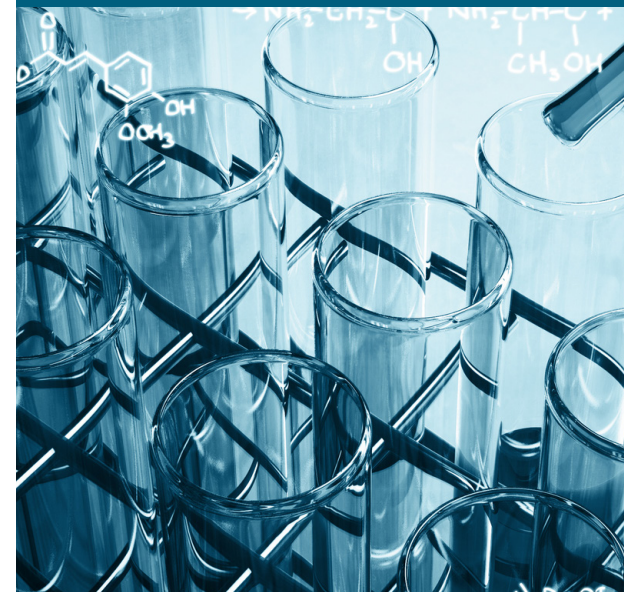
DEPT. OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

**DRUG
OVERDOSE
PREVENTION**

PH-PAM-78 Rev. 8/2025

Nebraska Autopsy and Toxicology Program

Funded by the Opioid Overdose
Data to Action in States (OD2A-S)
Grant at Nebraska Department of
Health and Human Services
(DHHS)



The Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services administers a Post-Mortem Toxicology Testing Program to assist Nebraska County Attorneys with toxicology testing.

The Post-Mortem Toxicology Testing Program is a FREE service that covers the cost of testing for suspected substance use overdose deaths.

This program is another tool to help Nebraska with substance abuse and overdose data and prevention.

U.S. Overdoses

DRUG OVERDOSE
is a leading cause of preventable death in the United States.



The Toxicology Testing Program is available to all counties within Nebraska. The program provides counties with supplies and toxicology testing at NO COST.

The Toxicology Testing Program covers testing of blood, urine, and serum/plasma.

Suspicious substances can be legal, prescription, and/or illicit drugs. It is not required that an autopsy be performed.

Common drugs found in test results in Nebraska: cocaine, opioids, marijuana, methamphetamines, and prescriptions.

Benefits

- Testing costs are paid by DHHS
- Turnaround time for results is 10-14 days
- Even if results show no drugs were present, testing costs are still paid by DHHS
- Data from tests helps inform decision-making and prevention efforts at the state and local level.

Process

- County Attorney (CA) account is set up
- When a CA identifies a death caused by a suspected overdose, the collection kit is completed and sent to lab for testing
- The lab sends DHHS the invoice and de-identified data of toxicology testing
- If interpretation of test results are needed please contact the lab



Autopsy Program

- In partnership with Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), jurisdictions focus on strategies:
Mortality Data: Collect and report timely and complete data on overdose-related deaths.
Innovative Surveillance Strategies: Focus on new and innovative ways to identify and collect data on drug misuse or overdose tailored to community needs.
- To address these strategies, grant funds have been set aside to assist Nebraska counties with the cost of testing for suspected opioid or other drug overdose-related deaths.
- What are the steps you need to take?
 - o Form can be requested by sending an email to: dhhs.pdmp@nebraska.gov
 - o Once form is received, it will be sent to Physicians Lab to cover the cost of the autopsy.

Please note:

- The county is responsible for arranging transportation and associated costs. Once the autopsy is completed you will receive the full results from Physicians Lab.

- Physicians Lab will also provide de-identified data such as drugs found from autopsy, sex, age range, and the month of death, to DHHS.