

Early results reported on e-health tool to prevent opioid overdose

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The new ORION e-health psychoeducational tool, designed to help opioid-dependent individuals prevent an overdose, can impart new knowledge and impact a person's intention to change opioid abuse behavior, but it did not improve overall self-efficacy in overdose prevention. Researchers concluded that ORION was useful for identifying individuals most in need of reducing modifiable risk factors through appropriate interventions, as reported in an article in *Cyberpsychology, Behavior, and Social Networking*.

In the article entitled "Engagement in the Overdose Risk Information (ORION) e-Health Tool for Opioid Overdose Prevention and Self-Efficacy: A Preliminary Study," Giuseppe Carrà, University College London (U.K.) and coauthors from University of Milano-Bicocca (Monza, Italy), University of St. Andrews and Startheden Hospital (Fife, U.K.), and Hospital of University of Duisburg-Essen (Essen, Germany) describe ORION and present initial results of its use in opioid-dependent individuals in treatment in four European countries. ORION provides information about the risk of experiencing a [drug overdose](#). This proof-of-concept study evaluated participants before and after exposure to the e-health tool.

"Despite the lack of improvement in overall self-efficacy, the e-health tool, available for free download, did show a positive impact in a clinical setting in four different cultures," says Editor-in-Chief Brenda K. Wiederhold.

More information: Giuseppe Carrà et al. Engagement in the Overdose RIsK InfOrmationN (ORION) e-Health Tool for Opioid Overdose Prevention and Self-Efficacy: A Preliminary Study, *Cyberpsychology, Behavior, and Social Networking* (2017). [DOI: 10.1089/cyber.2016.0744](https://doi.org/10.1089/cyber.2016.0744)

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