

United States Department of Justice
Office of Justice Programs
Bureau of Justice Assistance

Harold Rogers Prescription Drug Monitoring Program
North Regional Meeting

Performance Measures for Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs

June 9, 2009

Simeone Associates, Inc.

Review

Federal Mandates

Performance measurement is required by executive law and by the federal budgetary process:

- The Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA)
- The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Program Assessment Rating Tool (PART)

Developing Measures

The Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) and its consultants worked with representatives from the following states:

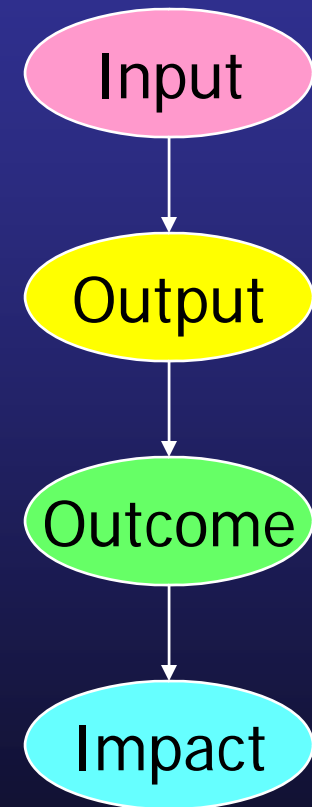
- Alabama
- California
- Kentucky
- Maine
- Nevada
- Ohio
- Virginia

Together we developed a model for evaluation and associated performance measures.

A Model for Evaluation

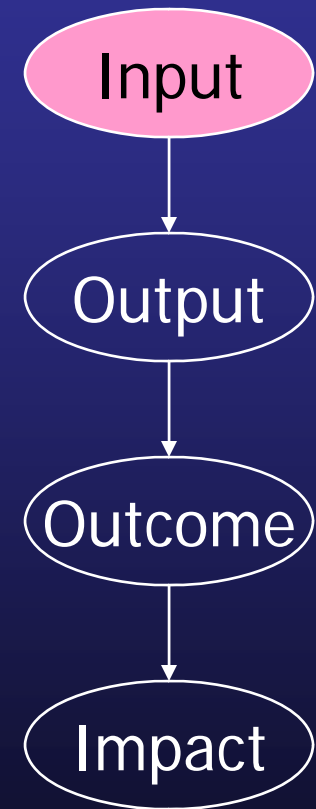
The approach assumes:

- That there is an underlying process with four components
- That each component depends on preceding components
- That impact is the ultimate indicator of success



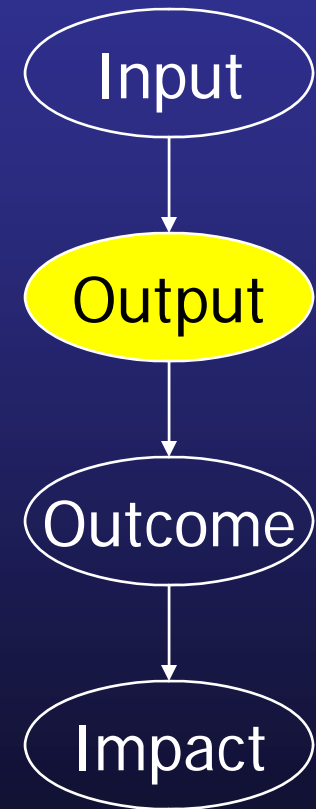
A Model for Evaluation: Input

- Inputs are the “ingredients” of the system that allow it to do its work. Formal and informal training are very important inputs.



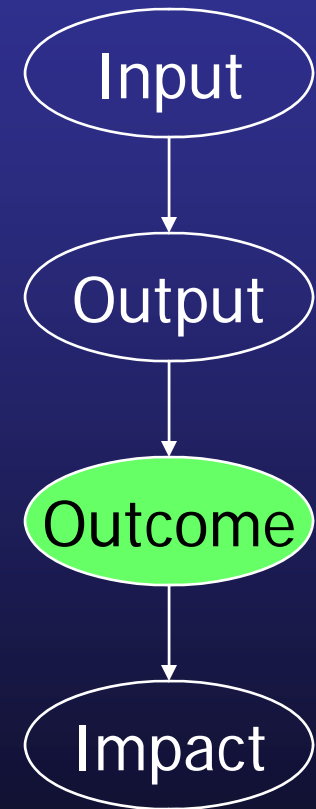
A Model for Evaluation: Output

- Outputs are the actual work done by the system. Solicited and unsolicited reports are examples of outputs.



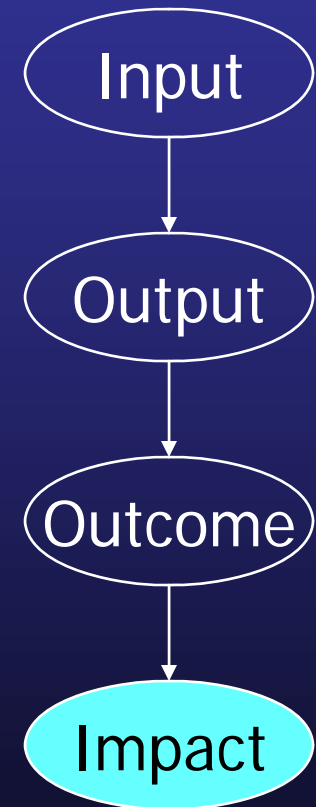
A Model for Evaluation: Outcome

- Outcomes are the most immediate consequences of the work done by the system. A reduction in "doctor shopping" is one such outcome.



A Model for Evaluation: Impact

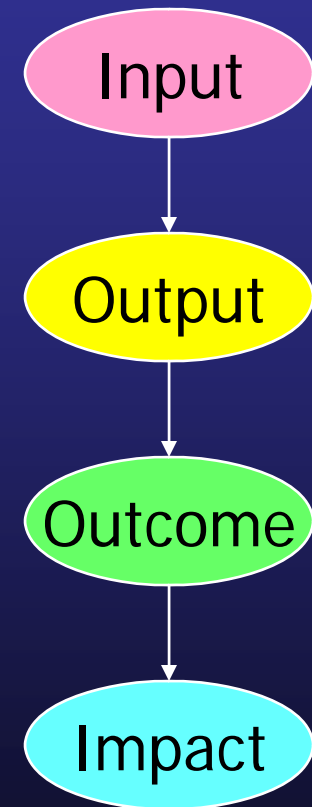
- Impacts are the ultimate results. One impact is a reduction in the prevalence of “non-medical prescription drug use”.



Performance Measures

The approach assumes:

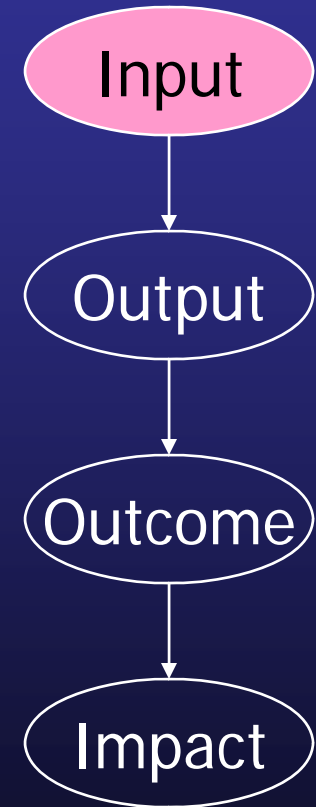
- That each component has one or more measures
- That these measures are valid indicators of program performance
- That grant recipients report on the measures regularly



Performance Measures: Input

Separately for “prescribers”,
“dispensars”, and “individuals
authorized to conduct investigations”:

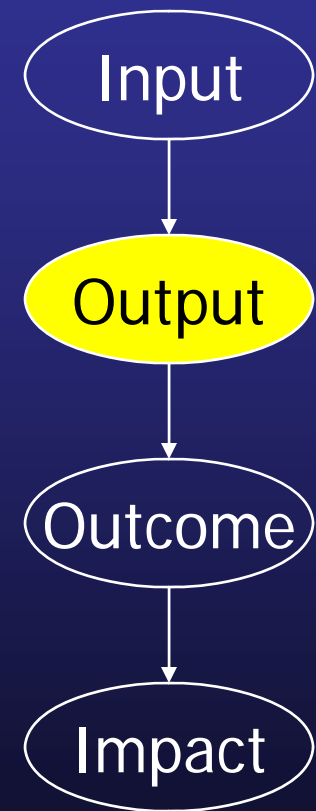
- The proportion trained formally during the current reporting period
- The proportion trained informally during the current reporting period



Performance Measures: Output

Separately for “prescribers”,
“dispensers”, and “individuals authorized
to conduct investigations”:

- The rate of solicited reporting based on all cases
- The rate of unsolicited reporting based on all cases
- The rate of solicited reporting based on suspect cases
- The rate of unsolicited reporting based on suspect cases

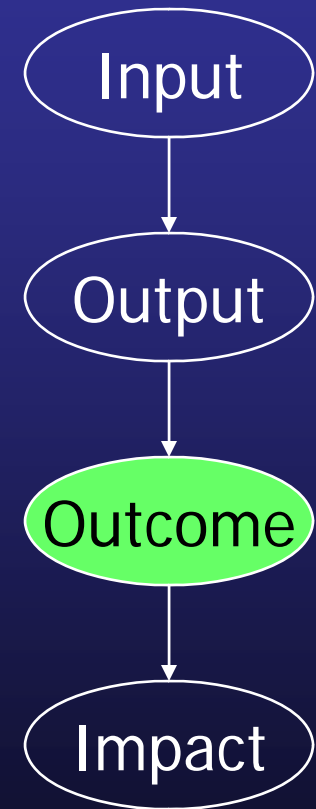


Performance Measures: Outcome

Suspect cases include measures for three cumulative schedule categories:

- Schedule II
- Schedule II or III
- Schedule II, III or IV

This scheme is necessary because coverage varies across states.

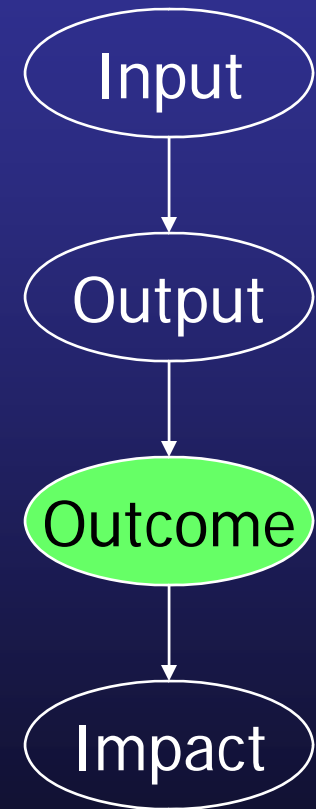


Performance Measures: Outcome

There are three thresholds associated with each cumulative schedule category:

- 5 doctors and 5 pharmacies
- 10 doctors and 10 pharmacies
- 15 doctors and 15 pharmacies

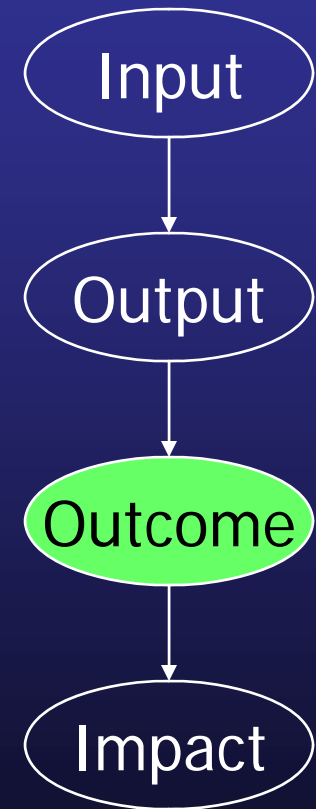
The thresholds are arbitrary.
Only a case investigation can offer confirmation.



Performance Measures: Outcome

For each cumulative schedule category and threshold:

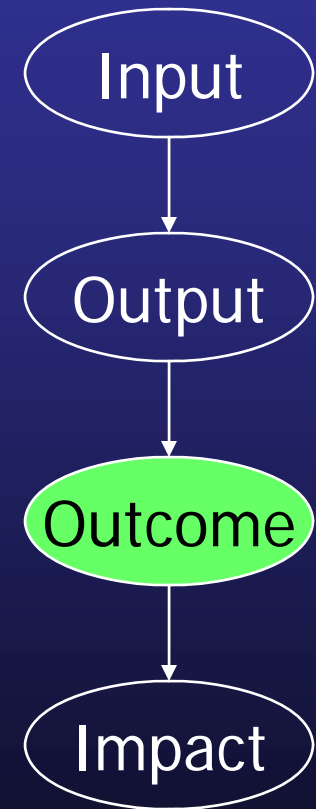
- The rate at which suspect cases occur
- The rate at which suspect doses are dispensed by drug class



Performance Measures: Outcome

Drug classes include:

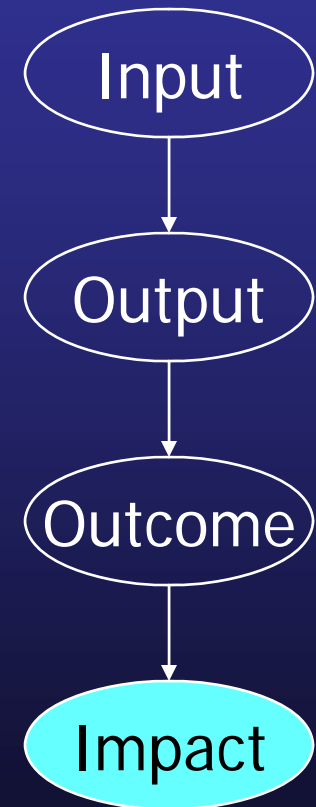
- Pain relievers
- Tranquilizers
- Stimulants
- Sedatives



Performance Measures: Impact

For each drug class:

- The population prevalence of prescription drug abuse
- The treatment prevalence of prescription drug abuse

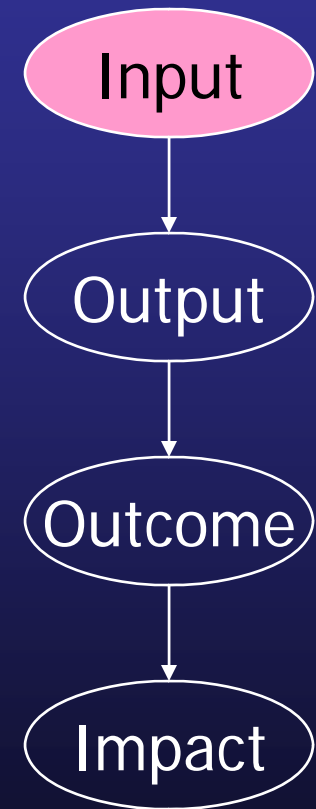


Status

In December 2008 BJA consultants conducted an assessment of grantees ability to report on the performance measures that had been selected. Seventeen states participated in the exercise.

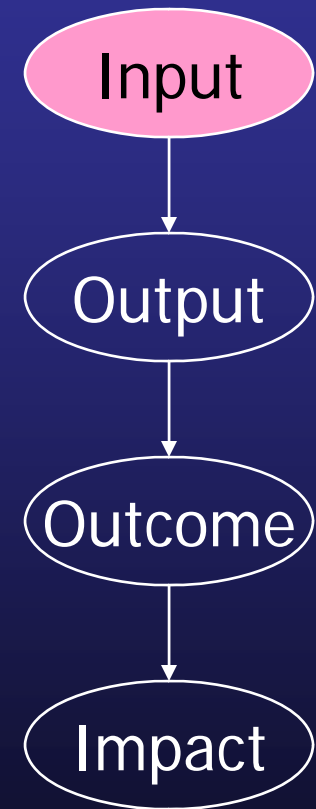
A Model for Evaluation: Input

- 17 of 17 states were able to differentiate between formal and informal training
- 16 of 17 states were able to differentiate among "prescribers", "dispensers", and "individuals authorized to conduct investigations"
- States sometimes relied upon external sources of information
- Definition of "individuals authorized to conduct investigations" required clarification



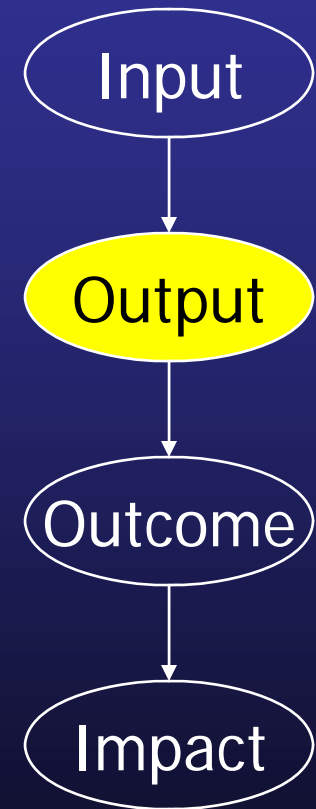
A Model for Evaluation: Input

- 4 of 4 NORTH states were able to differentiate between formal and informal training
- 4 of 4 NORTH states were able to differentiate among "prescribers", "dispensers", and "individuals authorized to conduct investigations"
- States sometimes relied upon external sources of information
- Definition of "individuals authorized to conduct investigations" required clarification



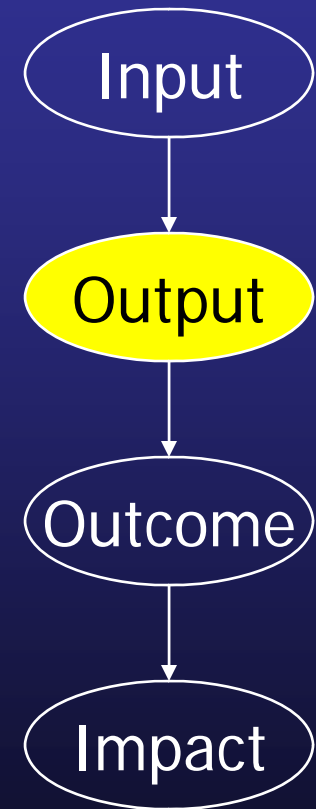
A Model for Evaluation: Output

- 17 of 17 states were able to distinguish between solicited and unsolicited reporting
- 16 of 17 states provided solicited reports
- 9 of 17 states provided unsolicited reports
- 8 of 17 states provided both



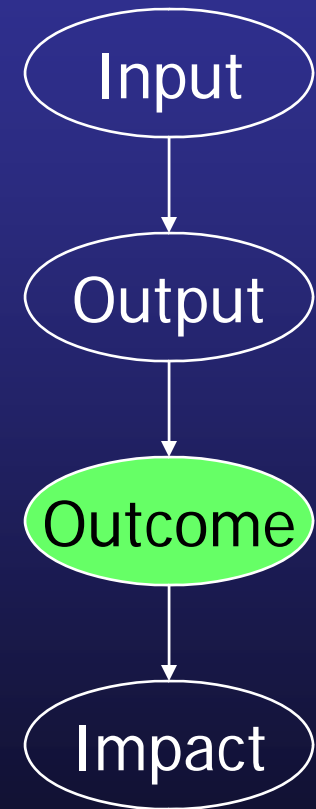
A Model for Evaluation: Output

- 4 of 4 NORTH states were able to distinguish between solicited and unsolicited reporting
- 4 of 4 NORTH states provided solicited reports
- 1 of 4 NORTH states provided unsolicited reports
- 1 of 4 NORTH states provided both



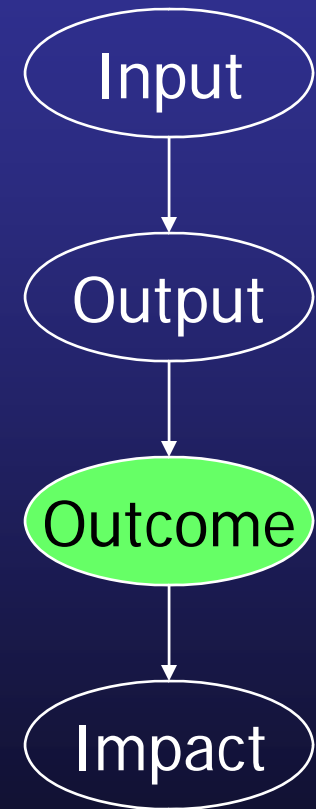
A Model for Evaluation: Outcome

- 12 of 17 states made use of some kind of “grouping” procedure to identify individuals
- 11 of 17 states were able to report on doses associated with individuals in a manner consistent with BJA specifications
- 11 of 17 states made use of a grouping procedure, were able to associate doses with individuals in a manner consistent with BJA specifications, and do this separately for Schedule II, II-III, and II-IV drugs



A Model for Evaluation: Outcome

- 4 of 4 NORTH states made use of some kind of "grouping" procedure to identify individuals
- 2 of 4 NORTH states were able to report on doses associated with individuals in a manner consistent with BJA specifications
- 2 of 4 NORTH states made use of a grouping procedure, were able to associate doses with individuals in a manner consistent with BJA specifications, and do this separately for Schedule II, II-III, and II-IV drugs



What Are The Findings

The Rate of Doctor Shopping

(Schedule II 5 prescribers 5 dispensers - individuals)

State	Individuals	Shoppers	Percent
Alabama	319,735	1,350	0.422225
Hawaii	41,938	43	0.102532
Kentucky	257,650	468	0.181642
Maine	119,936	7	0.005836
Massachusetts	741,413	1,515	0.204340
North Carolina	714,304	2,341	0.327732
North Dakota	33,825	204	0.603104
Ohio	712,092	2,087	0.293080
Virginia	525,505	1,118	0.212748

The Rate of Doctor Shopping

(Schedule II pain relievers 5 prescribers 5 dispensers – doses)

State	Total Doses	Shoppers Doses	Percent
Alabama	33,662,478	291,440	0.865771
Hawaii	971,796	47,600	4.898147
Kentucky	35,639,612	548,581	1.539245
Maine	19,627,136	7,277	0.037076
Massachusetts	65,780,889	619,554	0.941845
North Carolina	85,219,206	99,543	0.116808
North Dakota	794,824	84,360	10.613670
Ohio	115,700,603	1,724,320	1.490329
Virginia	901,066	16,747	1.858576

The Rate of Doctor Shopping

(Schedule II 10 prescribers 10 dispensers - individuals)

State	Individuals	Shoppers	Percent
Alabama	319,735	83	0.0259590
Hawaii	41,938	6	0.0143068
Kentucky	257,650	27	0.0104793
Maine	119,936	0	0.0000000
Massachusetts	741,413	94	0.0126785
North Carolina	714,304	148	0.0207195
North Dakota	33,825	9	0.0266075
Ohio	712,092	82	0.0115154
Virginia	525,505	88	0.0167458

The Rate of Doctor Shopping

(Schedule II pain relievers 10 prescribers 10 dispensers – doses)

State	Total Doses	Shoppers Doses	Percent
Alabama	33,662,478	17,107	0.0508192
Hawaii	971,796	7,486	0.7703263
Kentucky	35,639,612	176,872	0.4962793
Maine	19,627,136	0	0.0000000
Massachusetts	65,780,889	47,428	0.0721000
North Carolina	85,219,206	66,487	0.0780188
North Dakota	794,824	3,406	0.4285225
Ohio	115,700,603	94,883	0.0820074
Virginia	901,066	2,513	0.2788919

The Rate of Doctor Shopping

(Schedule II 15 prescribers 15 dispensers - individuals)

State	Individuals	Shoppers	Percent
Alabama	319,735	18	0.0056297
Hawaii	41,938	0	0.0000000
Kentucky	257,650	9	0.0034931
Maine	119,936	0	0.0000000
Massachusetts	741,413	28	0.0037766
North Carolina	714,304	33	0.0046199
North Dakota	33,825	1	0.0029564
Ohio	712,092	11	0.0015447
Virginia	525,505	21	0.0039962

The Rate of Doctor Shopping

(Schedule II pain relievers 15 prescribers 15 dispensers – doses)

State	Total Doses	Shoppers Doses	Percent
Alabama	33,662,478	6,608	0.0196302
Hawaii	971,796	0	0.0000000
Kentucky	35,639,612	149,461	0.4193676
Maine	19,627,136	0	0.0000000
Massachusetts	65,780,889	15,893	0.0241605
North Carolina	85,219,206	16,172	0.0189769
North Dakota	794,824	5	0.0006291
Ohio	115,700,603	13,197	0.0114062
Virginia	901,066	817	0.0906704

What Do The Findings Tell Us

Doctor Shopping Measures

- As defined here doctor shopping is a relatively uncommon practice
- Our measures should be viewed as *indicators* of the problem rather than as estimates of the actual number of people engaged in such behavior
- We may want to explore the use of alternative (lower) thresholds as measures of performance
- Comparisons across states must be made with caution; considering variability in population risk factors and in the ability of PDMP systems to detect suspicious behavior

Next Steps

Continued Refinement

- Increased standardization of measures
- Development of vendor-based user groups
- Increased sharing of data definitions and code
- Simplification of reporting procedures