

Joe Lombardo
Governor



Richard Whitley, MS
Director

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

DIVISION OF CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES
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Marla McDade
Williams MPA
Administrator

Date: <Date>

To: Washoe County Child Death Review Team

From: Nevada Executive Committee to Review the Death of Children

Re: 2021 Q2 Recommendation

The Nevada Executive Committee to Review the Death of Children (Executive Committee) was established in 1994 with the primary goal of preventing child maltreatment and child deaths in Nevada by making recommendations for law, policy and practice changes, staff training, and public education. Recommendations are submitted to the Executive Committee by state regional multidisciplinary child death review teams for consideration to prevent future deaths of children.

The following recommendation was submitted by the Washoe County Child Death Review Team in Quarter 2 of 2021. This recommendation was reviewed by the Executive Committee during the quarterly meeting held on February 14, 2024, and determined the below recommendation is now closed.

- **Hospitals and drug testing facilities begin testing for fentanyl as part of their standard drug testing panels.**

The Executive Committee collaborated with the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public and Behavioral Health and the Nevada Hospital Association to discuss including testing for fentanyl as part of standard drug testing panels in Nevada hospitals resulting in the following efforts:

- Educational materials were provided to medical staff:
 - [Training/Education - Nevada State Opioid Response \(nvopioidresponse.org\)](https://nvopioidresponse.org)
 - [Resources - Nevada State Opioid Response \(nvopioidresponse.org\)](https://nvopioidresponse.org)
 - [THE FACTS ABOUT FENTANYL \(cdc.gov\)](https://www.cdc.gov)
 - [Drug Fact Sheet: Fentanyl \(dea.gov\)](https://www.dea.gov)
 - [Heroin, Fentanyl & Other Opioids: A Comprehensive Resources for Families with a Teen or Young Adult Struggling with Opioid Use](https://www.dea.gov)
- Currently, 11 hospitals across the state are currently screening or working towards implementing fentanyl testing to their standard drug screening and the Department of Public Health is continuing to peruse these efforts for all hospitals to consider.

The Executive Committee appreciates your recommendation and continued efforts to prevent future child deaths in Nevada. If you have any questions, please contact April Stahl at astahl@dcfs.nv.gov.

Respectfully,

The Executive Committee to Review the Death of Children