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Opioid Abuse in Construction

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Tiffany Ellefson, DISA

Jason Miller, Indiana State Police

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Substance Abuse Disorder Impact

14.8

number of work days missed on average each
year by an employee suffering from a
substance abuse disorder

*4 days more than most employees

Source: CDC



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Substance Abuse Disorder Impact

52%

of Americans misused their
prescription drugs in 2017

Source: Quest Diagnostics Health Trends



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Substance Abuse Disorder Impact

700,000

number of people that have died from
a drug overdose
between 1999 and 2017

Source: CDC



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Opioid Epidemic

68%

of the 70,200 drug overdose deaths in 2017 that involved an opioid

Source: CDC



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Opioid Epidemic

70%

of employers reported being affected by the opioid epidemic in 2017

Source: National Safety Council



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Opioid Epidemic

6X

the number of overdose deaths in 2017 involving opioids (including prescription opioids and illegal opioids like heroin and illicitly manufactured fentanyl) higher than in 1999

Source: CDC



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Opioid Epidemic

130

the number of Americans on average that die every day from an opioid overdose

Source: CDC



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Panel Discussion

Sean Devenney, Attorney
Tiffany Ellefson, DISA
Jason Miller, Indiana State Police



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What Should Employers Do?

Write a clear, current and
comprehensive substance abuse
policy



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What Should Employers Do?

Educate employees about the risks of opioids using programs focused on health and well-being



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What Should Employers Do?

Train supervisors on how to recognize warning signs of someone abusing opioids and how to intervene early



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What Should Employers Do?

Evaluate and define fitness-for-duty by role



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What Should Employers Do?

Refine your return-to-work policies for employees taking impairing medications



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What Should Employers Do?

Add opioids to your workplace drug testing program



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What Should Employers Do?

Outline guidelines for responding to a non-negative drug test result



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