KASPER Tips: Identifying Patients Who May Have Experienced a Drug Overdose

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KASPER now includes the capability for users to request information from the Kentucky Health Information Exchange (KHIE) to determine if a patient has been seen in the emergency department of a licensed acute care hospital or critical access hospital for a non-fatal or suspected non-fatal drug overdose.

After entering the required patient demographic data in the KASPER Request Report screen, the user may place a check in the box preceding the text, “Check the Kentucky Health Information Exchange for suspected drug overdose information for the patient”. KASPER transmits a request containing the patient information entered by the user. When KHIE receives the request, a search is performed to determine if an ICD-10 code indicating a suspected drug overdose and/or a toxicology screen with a positive result has been reported from Admissions, Discharge and Transfer data. Based on the request to KHIE, KASPER will display one of the following responses:

- "KHIE contains suspected drug overdose information for this patient. You may wish to confirm with your patient.” - This means that a match was found for at least one of the conditions above.
- "This patient was not found in KHIE.” - KHIE has no information matching the patient information provided in your request.
- “KHIE contains no suspected drug overdose information for this patient.” - KHIE has information on this patient. But does not have any information on a suspected drug overdose.
- “KHIE contains information for multiple patients meeting the search criteria. You may wish to confirm with your patient.” - KHIE has multiple patients that could match your request. Because it cannot be determined which patient matches, they did not return any results.
- "Unable to connect to KHIE to obtain drug overdose information.” - An Error occurred in processing and no results are currently available.

“Suspected drug overdose” means an acute condition that:

- May include physical illness, coma, mania, or hysteria that is the result of consumption or use of a controlled substance, or another substance with which a controlled substance was combined; and
- Relates to injury, poisoning by, or other adverse effect of any substance corresponding to the following International Classification of Disease (ICD) version 10 (ICD-10) codes, or equivalent codes in the most recent version of the International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems:
  1. T40;
  2. T42; or
  3. T43.

If the KHIE box was not checked for the report request, the KHIE message line will be blank.

For more information about KHIE visit their web site: https://khie.ky.gov.

For KASPER questions or information, please send an email to eKASPER.Admin@ky.gov, or contact the Drug Enforcement and Professional Practices Branch at (502) 564-7985.