

Agenda Comparison Grid and Fact Sheet

Name of Student

Institutional Affiliation

1-2 Agenda Comparison Grid and Fact Sheet

**Part 1: Agenda Comparison Grid**

<b>Identify the Population Health Concern You Selected</b>	Opioid Addiction
<b>Describe the Population Health Concern You Selected and the Factors That Contribute to It</b>	Opioid addiction has become a critical public health issue in the U.S., characterized by a sharp increase in opioid-related overdoses and deaths. Contributing factors include over-prescription of painkillers, lack of sufficient addiction treatment resources, economic distress, and inadequate public awareness about the risks of opioid use.

<b>Administration (President Name)</b>	<b>President Trump</b>	<b>President Obama</b>
<b>Describe the Administrative Agenda Focus Related to This Issue for the Current and Two Previous Presidents</b>	The Trump administration declared the opioid crisis a public health emergency, focusing on tightening border controls to stop the flow of illegal drugs, supporting law enforcement measures, and promoting public awareness campaigns.	Obama's administration focused on expanding access to treatment, increasing the availability of medication-assisted treatment (MAT), and reducing the stigma associated with drug dependence. Efforts included policy reforms that aimed to expand Medicaid coverage for addiction services.
<b>Identify the Allocations of Financial and Other Resources That the Current and Two Previous Presidents Dedicated to This Issue</b>	Trump's administration allocated significant funding towards combating the opioid crisis, including a \$1 billion grant for states to enhance opioid addiction treatment services and support programs.	The Obama administration supported the allocation of increased federal funds to expand treatment facilities and services, including a notable push for Medicaid expansion to cover more individuals needing addiction treatment.
<b>Explain How Each of the Presidential Administrations Approached the Issue</b>	Trump's approach was multifaceted, with a strong emphasis on enforcement and prevention. This included increasing funds for law enforcement to tackle the supply chain of illicit drugs and initiating high-profile advertising campaigns to educate the public about the dangers of opioid misuse.	Obama's strategy was heavily focused on healthcare integration and public health responses, advocating for broader healthcare access to address addiction as a public health issue rather than a criminal issue. His policies promoted the integration of addiction treatment into primary healthcare settings, aiming to normalize and destigmatize treatment.

**Part 2: Agenda Comparison Grid Analysis**

<b>Administration (President Name)</b>	<b>President Trump</b>	<b>President Obama</b>
<b>Which Administrative Agency Would Most Likely Be Responsible for Helping You Address the Healthcare Issue You Selected?</b>	The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), specifically through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), would be pivotal. SAMHSA has a direct mandate to reduce the impact of substance abuse and mental illness in America, making it highly relevant for addressing the opioid crisis.	Under President Obama, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) would be instrumental. The CDC has a strong focus on public health prevention measures, which aligns well with Obama's approach to increasing access to prevention and treatment services for opioid addiction.
<b>How do you think your selected healthcare issue might get on the agenda for President Trump? How does it stay there?</b>	The opioid crisis gained national prominence due to the dramatic increase in overdose deaths. Under President Trump, it remained on the agenda through continuous media coverage and public outcry, necessitating federal action. Persistent advocacy by public health officials and affected communities kept the momentum.	The issue made it to the agenda primarily through the escalating public health data showing increased opioid misuse and deaths. It stayed there due to ongoing advocacy by health professionals and bipartisan support for addressing this growing epidemic.
<b>Who would you choose to be the entrepreneur/champion/sponsor of the healthcare issue you selected for President Trump?</b>	To effectively champion the opioid crisis under President Trump, someone like Dr. Jerome Adams, who served as the U.S. Surgeon General, would be ideal. His medical expertise and focus on substance misuse and community health initiatives make him a credible and authoritative figure in this domain.	A prominent figure like Patrick Kennedy, former U.S. Representative and lead sponsor of the Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act, would be a powerful advocate. His personal experience with addiction and his advocacy work make him a passionate and effective spokesperson for comprehensive addiction treatment reforms.

**Part 3: Fact Sheet**

**Overview and Importance of the Issue**

Opioid addiction is a critical public health crisis that claims thousands of lives each year through overdose. Beyond mortality, it burdens the healthcare system, impacts public safety, and disrupts communities and economic productivity. Effective legislative action is

crucial to curb this epidemic by enhancing access to treatment, expanding education on drug misuse, and supporting recovery initiatives.

### **Presidential Approaches**

- **President Obama:** Launched initiatives to increase access to medication-assisted treatment and broaden Medicaid coverage, emphasizing healthcare system integration to tackle opioid addiction.
- **President Trump:** Declared it a public health emergency, increased state funding, and focused on strict enforcement and prevention efforts.

### **Resource Allocation**

Both administrations allocated substantial federal resources, yet continuous adaptation and increased funding are essential to respond effectively to evolving challenges related to opioid addiction.

### **Role of Nurses in Agenda Setting**

Nurses are pivotal in the opioid crisis from prevention to recovery:

- **Expertise in Care:** Nurses offer firsthand insights into the effectiveness of treatment programs and patient needs, crucial for shaping responsive health policies.
- **Patient Advocacy:** As advocates, nurses ensure health policies prioritize patient well-being and accessibility of care, particularly in underserved populations.
- **Education Leaders:** Nurses lead in educating communities and patients about opioid risks, significantly contributing to prevention efforts.

### **Justification for Legislative Inclusion**

Incorporating this issue into legislative agendas is essential for a coordinated national response. Nurses, witnessing the front-line impact of opioid addiction, should be integral to policy discussions to ensure comprehensive, effective, and humane solutions are implemented.

**Call to Action**

Legislators must prioritize opioid addiction in their agendas and collaborate with nursing professionals who provide critical insights into effective policy-making. This partnership is vital to develop policies that address both the symptoms and root causes of opioid addiction, ultimately leading to improved national health outcomes and reduced healthcare costs.

## References

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