California Made Progress Toward Achieving Program Goals for Enhancing Its Prescription Drug Monitoring Program

What OIG Found
We identified actions that California has taken, using Federal funds for improving PDMPs, to achieve program goals toward improving safe prescribing practices and preventing prescription drug abuse and misuse. As of November 2018, California had completed most of the activities it proposed for the CDC grant to enhance and maximize its PDMP.

Specifically, of the 10 activities proposed for our audit period, California had completed 8 activities, such as notifying eligible providers of the new law requiring registration of the PDMP and promoting the PDMP's registration and use; providing technical assistance to selected county health departments, health insurers, and health systems serving high-burden regions and counties; conducting outreach to promote registration and use of the PMDP; providing training and support for using the PDMP database; and exploring the feasibility of law and policy changes to expand who can access PDMP data.

California had partially completed the remaining two activities, such as monitoring PDMP registration and usage patterns for continuous quality improvement. According to California, it completed these activities by the end of the project period (August 31, 2019).

California complied with Federal requirements for submitting its Federal Financial Report and Annual Performance Report and publicly reporting the five CDC-directed indicators (required for awardees using PDMPs for public health surveillance).

What OIG Recommends
This report contains no recommendations.