

New Mexico Drug/DWI Courts Peer Review Process

Team Member Interview Protocol

- Peer review team members should briefly introduce themselves to each interviewee and explain the purpose of the visit (unless this already occurred previously, such as during the staffing session).
- Designated interviewer (and others as needed) should provide a brief background on peer review process to all interviewees (unless this already occurred previously, such as during the staffing session).
- The primary role of the designated interviewer should be to obtain information from team members regarding best practices of the court (particularly those practices that were marked “no” in the best practices table), priority areas that are identified by the peer review team (based on the program’s survey responses, other interviews, etc.).
- Avoid asking leading questions:
 - **Do** ask “How often to you perform drug testing? What is your procedure?”
 - Do **not** ask “Do you think that 1 drug test per week is enough?”

 - **Do** ask “Do you have any suggestions to improve treatment services in your program?”
 - Do **not** ask “Do you think you need MAT services/resources, etc.?”
- Ensure all best practices information and priority areas (according to their best practices results) are addressed before interview is finished.
- Exchange of information between peer review team and interviewees can be beneficial, as learning from one another gives insight to each other’s programs. However, be careful of getting sidetracked with conversations that compare your program with their program, particularly during focus groups. Discussions around specific program practices (such as admission procedures, issuing warrants, etc.) are encouraged, but designated interviewer should ensure that all priority questions and best practices are addressed before the interview concludes.