# SAMHSA/HHS: An Update on the Opioid Crisis

Elinore F. McCance-Katz, MD, PhD Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration U.S. Department of Health and Human Services



### **Opioid Crisis**

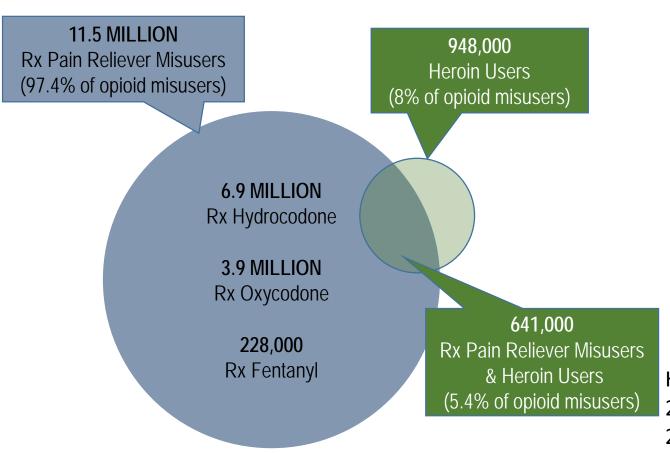
- 2.1 million Americans with Opioid Use Disorder (OUD)
- Only 20% with OUD received specialty addiction treatment
- Over 63,632 drug overdose deaths in 2016 of which 42,249 66% from opioids

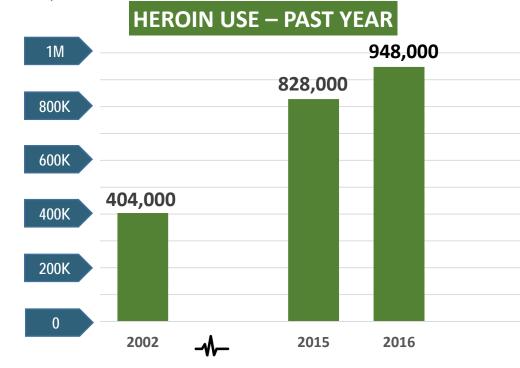


# MILLIONS CONTINUE TO MISUSE RX PAIN RELIEVERS WHILE HEROIN USE CLIMBED THEN STABILIZED

PAST YEAR, 2016, 12+

11.8 MILLION PEOPLE WITH OPIOID MISUSE (4.4% OF TOTAL POPULATION)





Heroin Deaths:

2002: 2,013 (est)

2015: 13,101

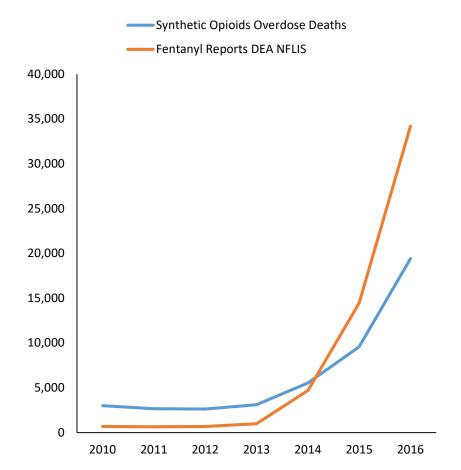
2016: 15,469

1.4 fold increase in heroin users

6.7 fold increase in heroin deaths



### Synthetic opioid deaths closely linked to illicit fentanyl supply



Known or suspected exposure to fentanyl in past year (n = 121)Behavior or experience APR

Regular heroin use

4.07

95% CI

1.24-13.3

p 0.020

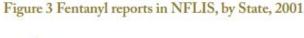
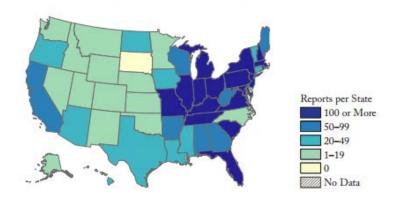


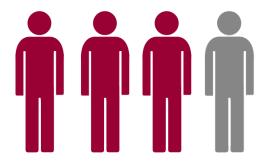


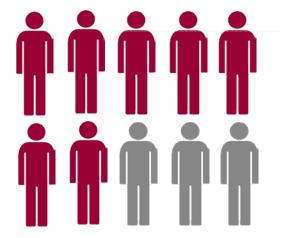
Figure 4 Fentanyl reports in NFLIS, by State, 2015





# Nonmedical use of Rx opioids significant risk factor for heroin use





3 out of 4 people who used heroin in the past year misused Rx opioids first

7 out of 10 people

who used heroin in the past year also misused Rx opioids in the past year

2.1 million with opioid use disorder



## Approach of the Federal Government

# HHS FIVE-POINT OPIOID STRATEGY

- Strengthening public health surveillance
  - Advancing the practice of pain management
    - Improving access to treatment and recovery services
  - Targeting availability and distribution of overdose-reversing drugs
- **Supporting cutting-edge research**



# Plan to Address the Opioid Crisis

- STR grants to states: 500 million/yr through Cures FY 17 and 18; *President's budget proposes to increase to 1 billion in FY 19*
- Includes public outreach: prevention/education; MAT/psychosocial treatment resources/recovery services
- Naloxone access/First Responders/Peers: increase from 25 to 75 million FY 19
- MAT-PDOA
- Block grants to states
- Pregnant/post partum women/NAS: increase from 20 to 40 million in FY 19
- CJ programs with MAT; increase from 60 to 80 million in FY 19
- Recovery Coaches
- HIPAA/42 CFR: Family inclusion in medical emergencies: overdose
- Reinstatement of Drug Abuse Warning Network (DAWN)
- New Injection Drug Use/HIV Program at \$150M
- Consistent with President's Opioid Commission Report recommendations



# Medication Assisted Treatment: Effective and the Standard of Care

MAT treatment of Opioid Use Disorders in criminal justice population

Methadone (59%)

Buprenorphine/naloxone (39%)

Injectable naltrexone (1%)

Medication treatment while in DOC; referral to ongoing care for OUD on release

Comparison of opioid overdose deaths first 6 months of 2016 vs. 2017:

61% reduction in opioid-associated overdose deaths upon release from incarceration

Overall 12% reduction in opioid overdose deaths in Rhode Island (2016-2017)

Importance of MAT and warm handoff to outpatient providers



#### Programs that Match to the President's Opioid Commission Recommendations

**Recommendation 9.** "Training program to be disseminated to all levels of medical education (including all prescribers) on screening for substance use and mental health status to identify at risk patients" SAMHSA is expanding its programs that provide direct technical assistance and training to healthcare professionals:

Providers' Clinical Support System for Medication Assisted Treatment and Safe Opioid Prescribing

DATA waiver training

Mentoring program

Online training/CME and CEU

Webinars

Addiction Technology Transfer Centers: Direct technical assistance to communities; placed in each of the 10 HHS regions; renewed funding for Tribal and Hispanic/Latino ATTCs

**State Targeted Response Technical Assistance/Training grant**: Team-based training offered in each state according to identified needs; requirement to work with state officials on determination of needs related to establishment of EBP

NP/PA 24 hr DATA waiver training according to CARA Sec 303

**TIP 63** (according to CARA Sec 303)

SBIRT approaches will be available on the SAMHSA NMHSUPL (Recommendation 31)

USPSTF endorses SBIRT for tobacco and alcohol; indeterminate for illicit drugs

Working with AHRQ/USPSTF

Will continue to advise clinically appropriate models



# SAMHSA: A New Approach to Technical Assistance and Training EVIDENCE-BASED, LOCAL TRAINING, NATION-WIDE SCOPE

#### **Evidence-based Practice Repository in NMHSUPL**

#### **Grants and National TA/T Centers:**

STR, Block Grant, PCSS, CSS-SMI Specialty TA Centers:

E.g.: National Child Traumatic Stress Network, Block Grants, National Center on Substance Abuse and Child Welfare

Rec. 40

Combined Efforts at the Regional, State, and Local Level oriented to all Health Professionals

Prevention, Addiction, SMI, collaborating Technology Transfer Centers

SAMHSA

# Workforce Development

- DATA waiver training in pre-graduate settings: medical school, advance practice nursing, physician assistant programs
- Encourage national certification program for peer workforce
- Establish training on recognition and treatment of substance misuse/abuse/use disorders in healthcare professional training programs
  - Encourage entry to the field through incentives: e.g.: loan forgiveness programs: NHSC/HRSA; SAMHSA advocates for establishing addiction residency training increases (CMS)
  - Integration of BH including OUD treatment into primary care/FQHCs
  - Use of Telehealth/HIT to increase ability of practitioners to provide needed care



## Public Health Surveillance

- National Survey on Drug Use and Health: addition of questions on use of MAT
- Treatment Episode Data Set
- National Survey of Substance Abuse Treatment Services
- Collaboration with CDC on PDMP implementation and data evaluation
- DAWN (Funding requested in President's budget to reinstitute this program that was stopped in 2011) (Recommendation 22)



### Barriers to Care: Payment Issues

#### SAMHSA advocates for:

- Removal of prior authorizations for MAT and other treatment modalities:
  - Inpatient/outpatient (with parameters for appropriate placement)
  - Counseling
  - Payment for other psychosocial supports including psychotherapeutic needs, case management, peer recovery coaching
- Parity in substance use disorder treatment
  - Provision of reimbursement rates that approximate true costs
- HHS has established a portal for parity issues directing consumers to the appropriate agency to assist in resolving insurance questions

https://www.hhs.gov/programs/topic-sites/mental-health-parity/mental-health-and-addiction-insurance-help/index.html

## **SAMHSA: Criminal Justice Programs**

- Jail Diversion Program grants
  - The 21<sup>st</sup> Century Cures Act has authorized Grants for Jail Diversion Programs
    - Pre-booking diversion
    - Veterans programs
- Drug Treatment Courts
- Adult drug courts, juvenile drug courts, family treatment drug courts
- Drug court grantees may use up to 20 percent of their award for Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT)
- From FY15-FY16, nearly 16,000 individuals were diverted into SAMHSAsupported drug court programs
- Offender Reentry Program Expand access to substance use treatment services for individuals reintegrating into communities
- Grantees may now begin process of linkage to services prior to release



#### **Treatment Issues**

#### Payment for Prevention, Treatment and Recovery Services

- STR funds to states
- Block grants to states

#### Recovery Coaching Programs:

 Establishment of a national training program to provide recovery coaches to assist those living with OUD to maintain recovery through supporting an individual in ongoing treatment and making use of community services

#### Telemedicine to reach underserved areas:

- Priority for HHS
- Work with DEA to establish practice standards
- Advocacy with CMS around reimbursement issues
- Will provide guidance to healthcare community



### Addressing Opioids Issues in Youth and Families

- Programs to Help Youth and Families:
  - National Center on Substance Abuse and Child Welfare
  - https://ncsacw.samhsa.gov

**National Child Traumatic Stress Initiative (NCTSI)** 

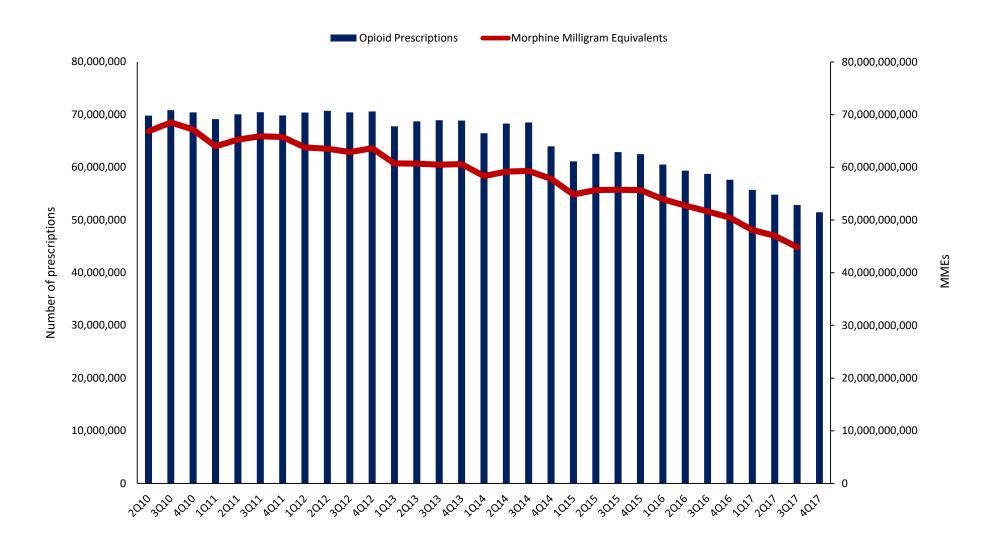
**Examples of Products Developed by the NCTSN** 

- Children and Domestic Violence: How Does Domestic Violence Affect Children?
- Age-Related Reactions to a Traumatic Event
- After a Crisis: Helping Young Children Heal
- http://www.nctsn.org
- Pregnant-Post Partum Parenting Women with Substance Use Disorders
  - Residential and Outpatient Treatment Programs; Treating NAS
  - Release of PPW Factsheets (2/18)
  - Family factsheets in development



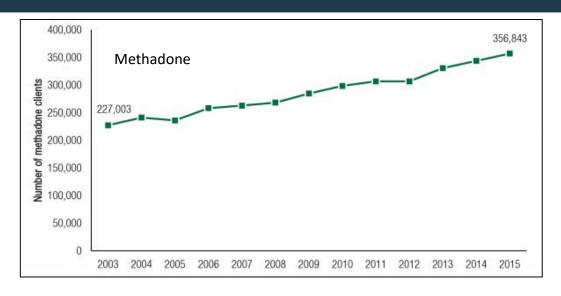


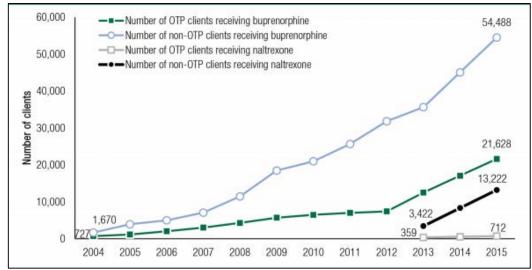
#### Signs of Progress: Opioid prescribing declining since 2011





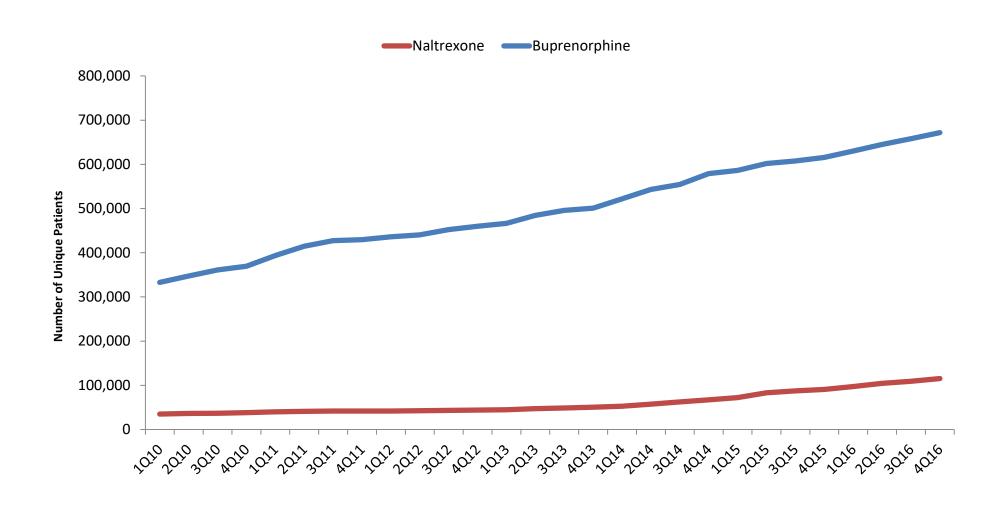
#### Signs of Progress: Receipt of MAT from treatment facilities





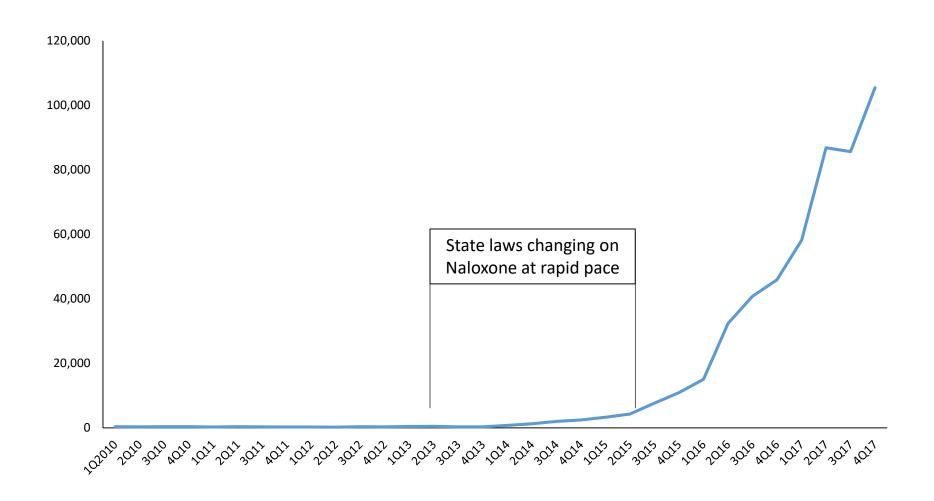


# Signs of Progress: Consistent increases in number of patients receiving buprenorphine and naltrexone from retail pharmacies





# Signs of Progress: Dramatic increases in naloxone dispensing from U.S. pharmacies





### Signs of progress

- Youth prescription opioid misuse declining over past decade; heroin use stable among youth
- Prescription opioid misuse initiation and overall misuse declining
- Plateauing of overdose deaths involving commonly prescribed opioids
- Some states seeing a leveling off of overdose deaths



### Conclusions

- The opioid epidemic continues to evolve
- Some emerging signs of progress
- Actions must focus on addressing underlying contributors to the crisis: prevention/public awareness/education, inappropriate prescribing, lack of evidence-based treatment/MAT
- Substantial efforts underway to combat the opioid epidemic, but gaps in the evidence base remain
- Work continues to aggressively address the epidemic



# SAMHSA's mission is to reduce the impact of substance abuse and mental illness on America's communities

www.samhsa.gov

877-SAMHSA-7 (877-726-4727) 800-487-4889 (TDD)

