

2019 SMP/SHIP NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Operation Deadly Drugs: The Opioid Crisis

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July 22–25, 2019 • San Diego, CA

THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC

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What are Opioids?

- A class of drugs that work by binding to specific receptors in the brain, spinal cord, and gastrointestinal tract to diminish the body's perception of pain.
- Opioids can also have an impact on other systems of the body, such as altering mood, slowing breathing, and causing constipation.
- Include medications such as: codeine, fentanyl, hydrocodone, morphine, oxycodone, and more.

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Major Public Health Concern

- From 1999 to 2017, more than 700,000 people have died from a drug overdose.
- U.S. overdose deaths involving opioids (i.e., unintentional, intentional, homicide, and undetermined) increased to more than 42,000 deaths in 2016.

Risk Factors for Prescription Abuse and Overdose



Risk Factors for Prescription Opioid Pain Reliever Abuse and Overdose



Obtaining overlapping prescriptions from multiple providers and pharmacies.



Taking high daily dosages of prescription opioid pain relievers.



Having mental illness or a history of alcohol or other substance abuse.



Living in rural areas and having low income.

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ADMINISTRATION RESPONSES

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President Obama's Opioid Response

- October 2015 Presidential Memorandum
 - *Prescriber Training*
 - *Improving Access to Treatment*
- FY 2017 Budget
 - *Medication-assisted Treatment grants to states*
 - *Expanded access to substance use treatment providers*
 - *Evaluation of the effectiveness of treatment programs employing medication-assisted treatment*

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Presidential Initiative

“We will work to strengthen vulnerable families and communities, and we will help to build and grow a stronger, healthier, and drug-free society.”

President Donald J. Trump

- Reduce drug demand through education, awareness, and preventing over-prescription.
- Cut off the flow of illicit drugs across our borders and within communities.
- Save lives now by expanding opportunities for proven treatments for opioid and other drug addictions.

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WHAT IS THE OIG SEEING?

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OIG and Opioids

- Drug diversion not new for us
- Began at formation of OIG in 1970's in Medicaid
- Then expanded with MMA in 2003 (2006)
- High dose; longer acting opioids in 1990's

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OIG Medicare Concerns

- Medicine cabinet diversion
- Over prescribing to elderly for pain syndromes
- Potential interaction with other medications
- Seeing multiple prescribers for various illnesses who don't know what each other is prescribing
- Younger population on disability

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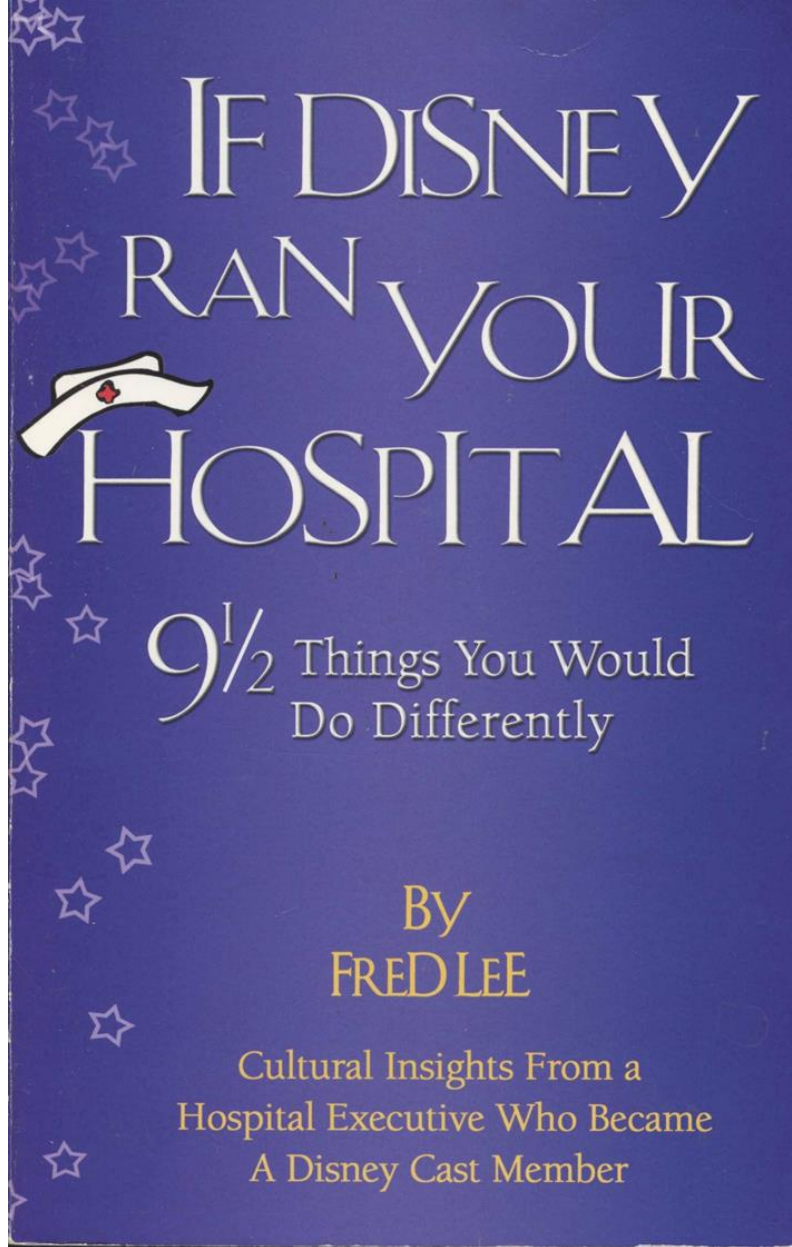
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The Perfect Storm

- Use of Medicare/Medicaid/Insurance to fund drug habit
- Internet information
- Cultural norms
- Unreasonable quantities being prescribed
- The “5th vital sign” (BP, pulse, RR, temp objectively measured)
- Industry producing wider variety of CS; until last year providers prescribing more more. Why?

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Starting Young

- 1 in 4 teens report misuse/abuse of at least one prescription drug in their lifetime
- 1 in 5 abused before age 14
- 27% believe prescription drugs are “safer” than illicit drugs
- 33% believe it’s okay to use a prescription drug not prescribed to them

Partnership Attitude Tracking Study Report, 2013

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Parental Sources of Concern

- 20% report giving their child prescription drug not prescribed to them
- 17% do not throw away expired medication
- 49% say anyone can access their medicine cabinet
- 56% of teens say it's easy to get medication from parent's medicine cabinet
- 42% teens obtained meds from parents medicine cabinet; 49% obtained it from a friends.

Order of Most Commonly Prescribed (Medicare)

- Tramadol
- Oxycodone
- Hydrocodone
- Fentanyl

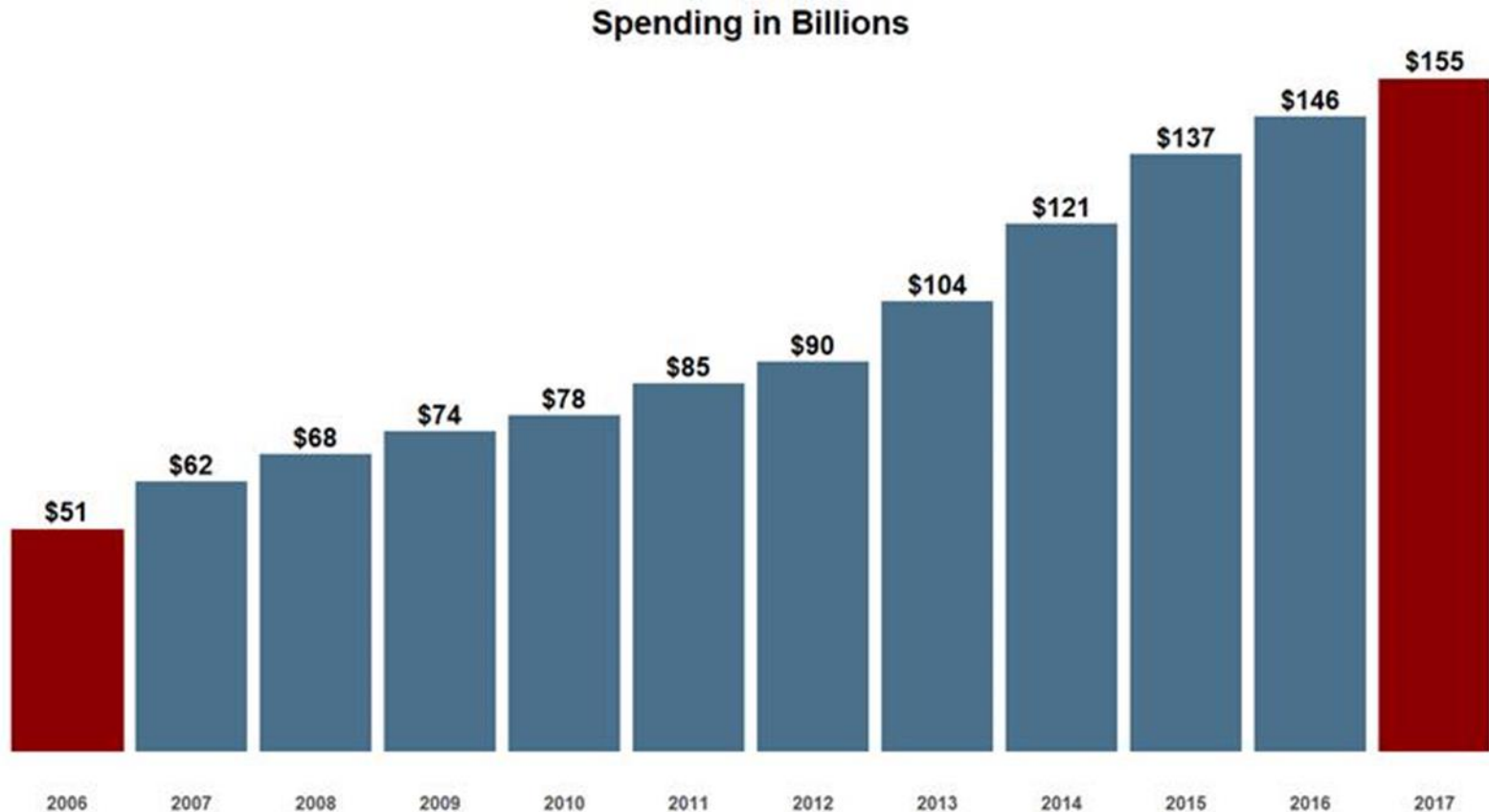
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Fentanyl Danger



Spending for Part D Drugs 2006-2017



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Percentages

- What percent of Part D drugs are controlled drugs?

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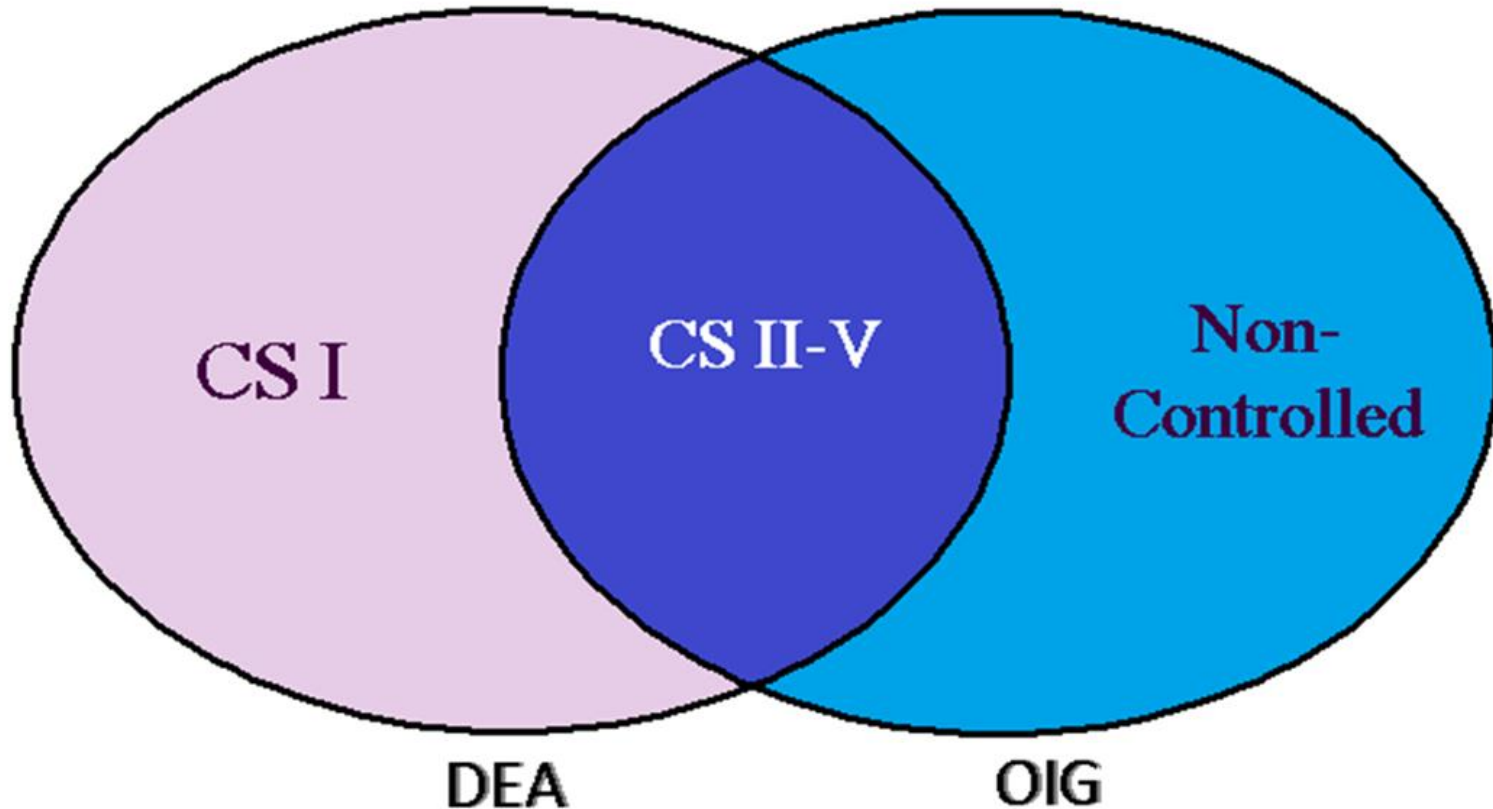
Controlled vs. Non-Controlled

- Controlled Drugs
 - Around \$9.3 Billion (6%)
- Non-Controlled Drugs
 - Around \$145 Billion

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DEA & HHS/OIG Authority



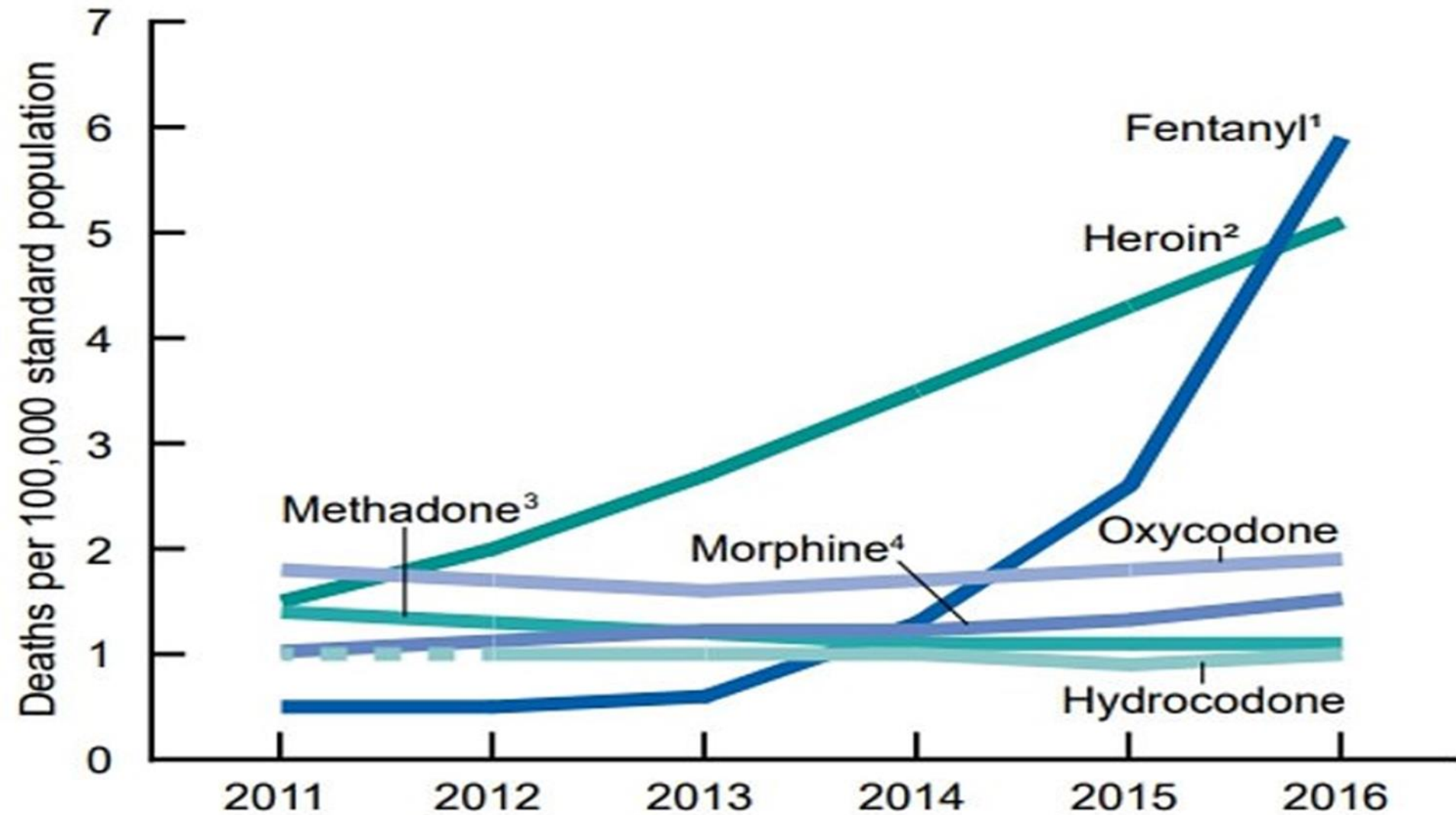
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Polysubstance Use and Potentiators

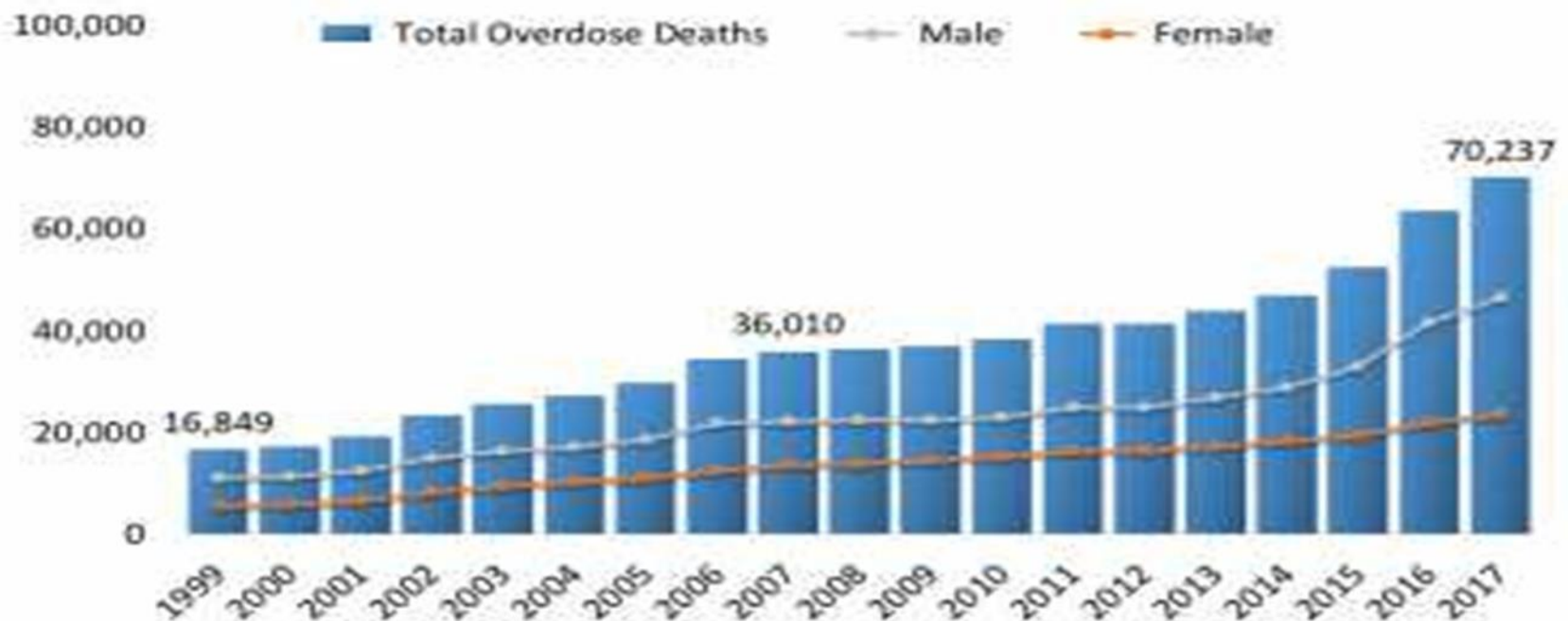
- Nearly all people who used heroin in 2013 also used one other drug, and most used at least three other drugs
- Use of potentiator medications
- E.g. muscle relaxants, HIV meds, ADHD, gabapentin

Misleading Graphs



Deaths Increasing

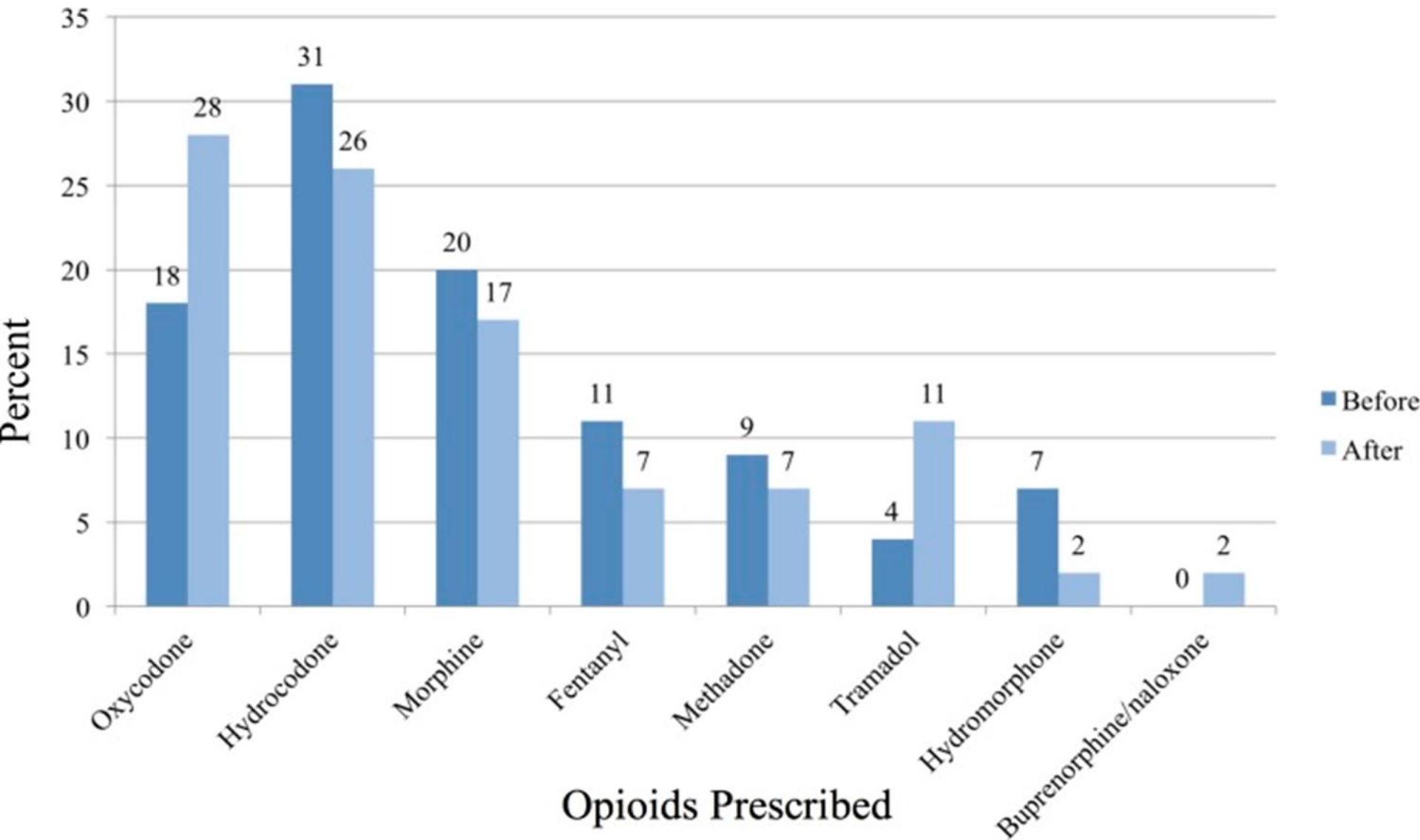
Figure 1. National Drug Overdose Deaths Number Among All Ages, by Gender, 1999-2017



Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, Multiple Causes of Death 1999-2017 on CDC WONDER Online Database, released December 2018.



Opioid Prescribing Before and After Non-fatal Overdoses at VA



WHAT CAN WE DO?

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Educate

- Train counselors and partners on opioid misuse/abuse
- Utilize the CMS Part D Prescribing Mapping Tool to target outreach
- Include information on the opioid epidemic in outreach to the public
- Connect partners and beneficiaries to resources

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RESOURCES

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CMS Prescriber Roadmap

- 1) prevention** of new cases of opioid use disorder (OUD);
- 2) treatment** of patients who have already become dependent on or addicted to opioids; and
- 3) utilization of **data** from across the country to better target prevention and treatment activities.

<https://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNMattersArticles/Downloads/SE18016.pdf>

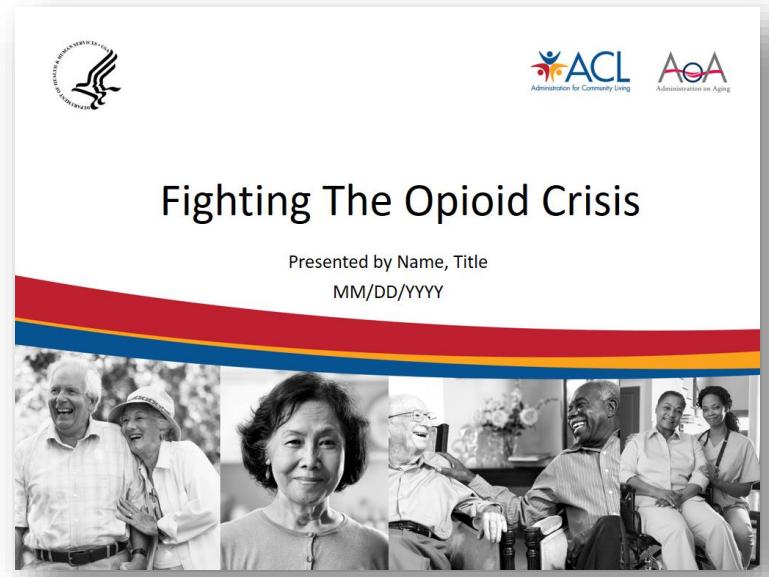
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ACL & HHS Created Resources

- SHIP/SMP PPT for the public
- Fact Sheets:
 - Opioids and Older Adults
 - Combating the Opioid Crisis
- Toolkits:
 - Several developed by SAMHSA
- ACL Opioid Page:

<https://acl.gov/programs/addressing-opioid-crisis>



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Additional Resources Located on Center Sites

- Will be available on the password protected side of both <https://www.shiptacenter.org/> and <https://www.smpresource.org/>.
- Includes:
 - A PPT that can be used for counselor training and/or beneficiary outreach;
 - Information from HHS, CMS, SAMSHA, and other agencies;
 - Access to toolkits, drop-in articles, a commonly prescribed drug list, and other resources.

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REPORTING

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Reporting in SIRS

- Added “Opioid Fraud and Abuse” to the Topic(s) Discussed Field

Topic(s) Discussed

- Consumer Protection
- Durable Medical Equipment (DME)
- Employer Health Plan
- General Fraud, Errors, and Abuse
- Genetic/DNA Testing
- Home Health Care
- Hospice
- Medicaid
- Medical Identity Theft
- Medicare Advantage
- Medicare Part A and B
- Medicare Part D
- Medigap or Supplemental Insurance
- New Medicare Cards (without SSNs)
- Opioid Fraud and Abuse
- SMP Program Information
- SMP Volunteer Recruitment
- Social Security
- TRICARE

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Reporting in STARS

- Use Special Use Fields - Field 3

Special Use Fields	
Original PDP/MA-PD Cost	<input type="text"/>
New PDP/MA-PD Cost	<input type="text"/>
Field 3	<input type="text"/>
Field 4	<input type="text"/>
Field 5	<input type="text"/>



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Reporting in STARS

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QUESTIONS?

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