

SUD and
Adolescents:

How to Screen,
Treat, and Save
Lives in the Era of
Fentanyl



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Harbor-UCLA
FAMILY MEDICINE

Disclosure Statement

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Learning Objectives

1. **Screen Adolescents** for substance use disorders (SUD) in the “Era of Fentanyl”
2. **Treat SUD** with pharmacology of medications addiction treatment (MAT)
3. **Engage** adolescents in harm reduction strategies
4. **Review** other substances of abuse among adolescent
5. **Prevention strategies** for SUD

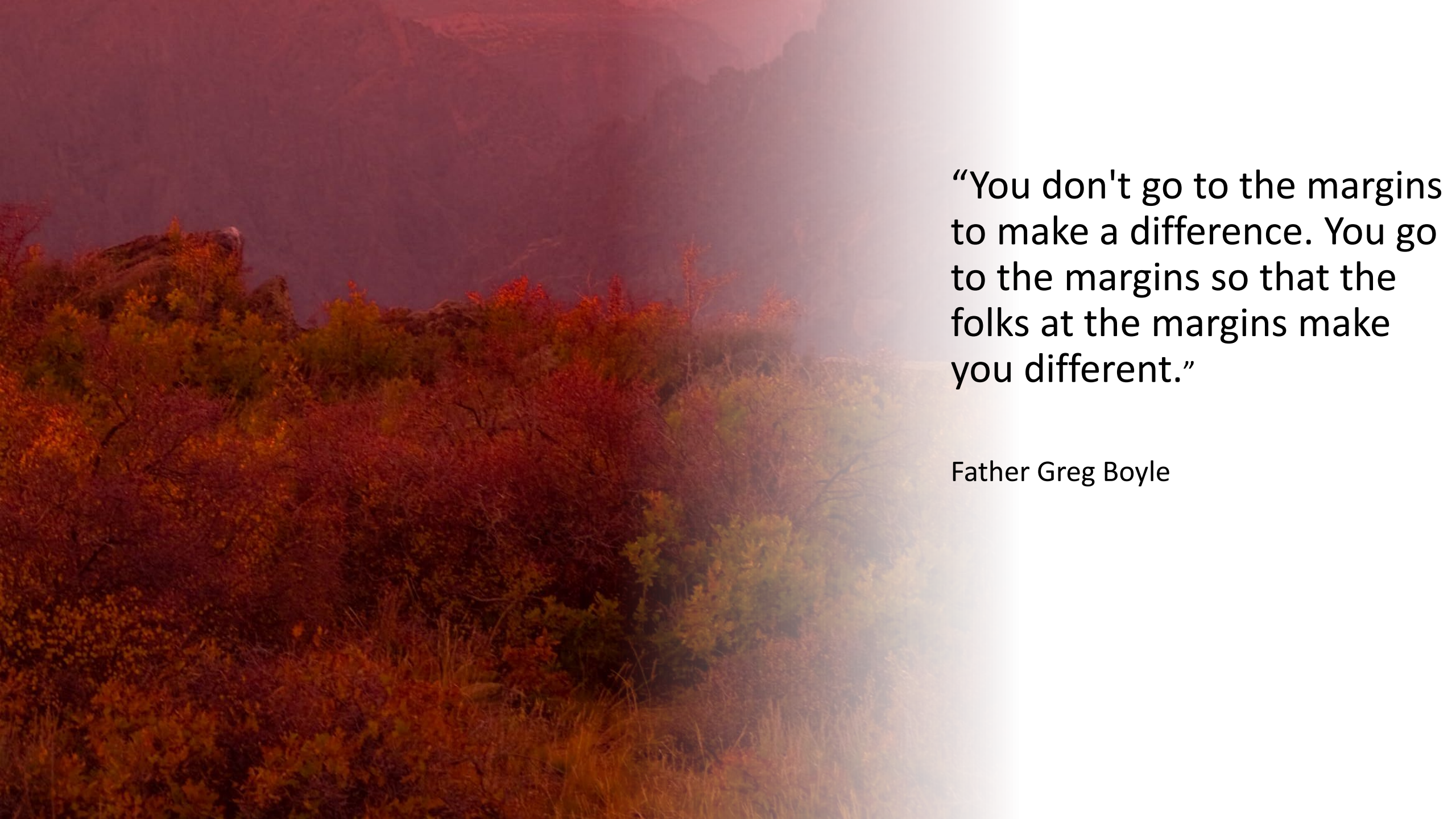


Patient X

"You don't go to the margins to make a difference. You go to the margins so that the folks at the margins make you different."

Father Greg Boyle



A photograph of a mountain landscape. The foreground is filled with dense, low-lying vegetation in shades of orange, red, and brown, suggesting autumn. In the background, a steep, rocky mountain rises, its upper slopes shrouded in a thick, white mist or fog. The sky is a pale, hazy blue. The overall mood is serene and contemplative.

“You don't go to the margins
to make a difference. You go
to the margins so that the
folks at the margins make
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Father Greg Boyle

Substance Use Disorder

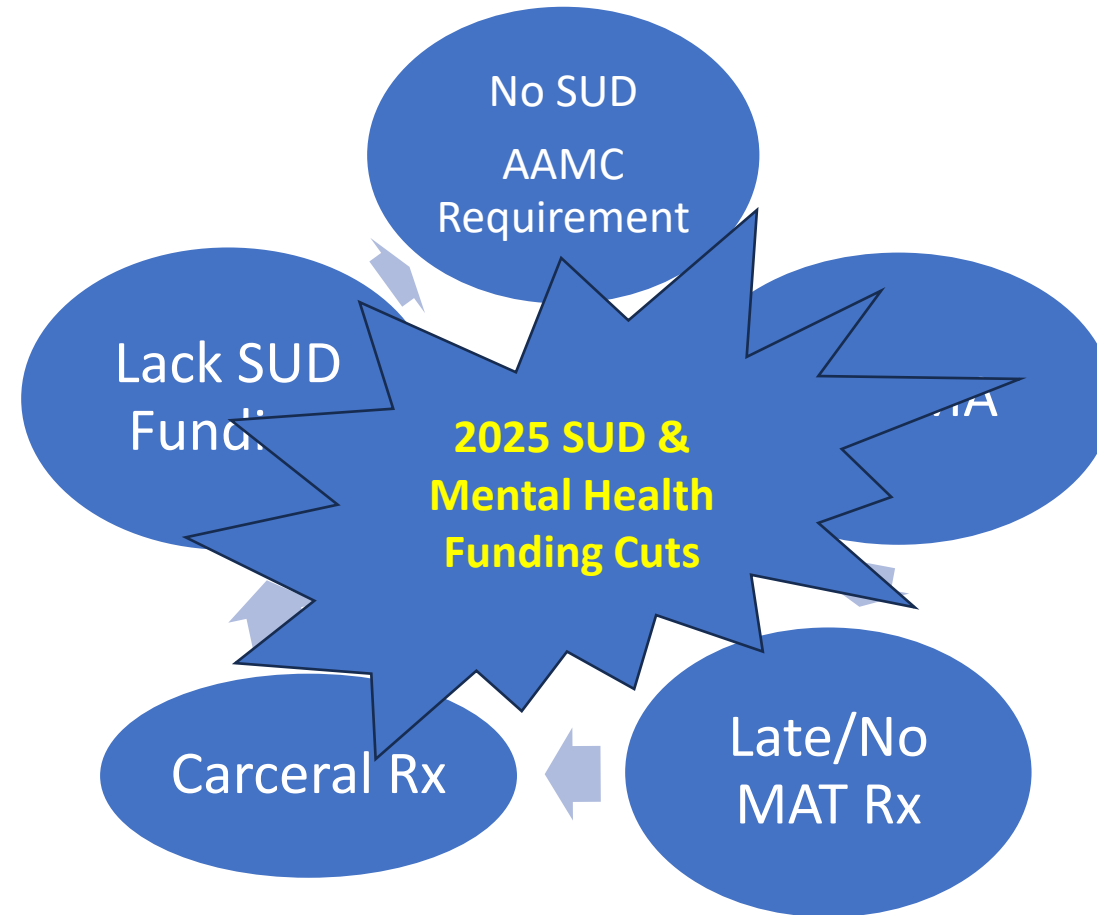
TREATMENT

Less than 10% patients
with SUD
receive treatment

Most referrals to treatment from
Criminal Justice System (44%)
versus
Health Care Providers (5.7%)

CASA Columbia analysis of *The Treatment Episode Data Set (TEDS)*, 2009
Foundation Opioid Response Efforts (FORE) 2020

Lethal Education and Treatment Gaps

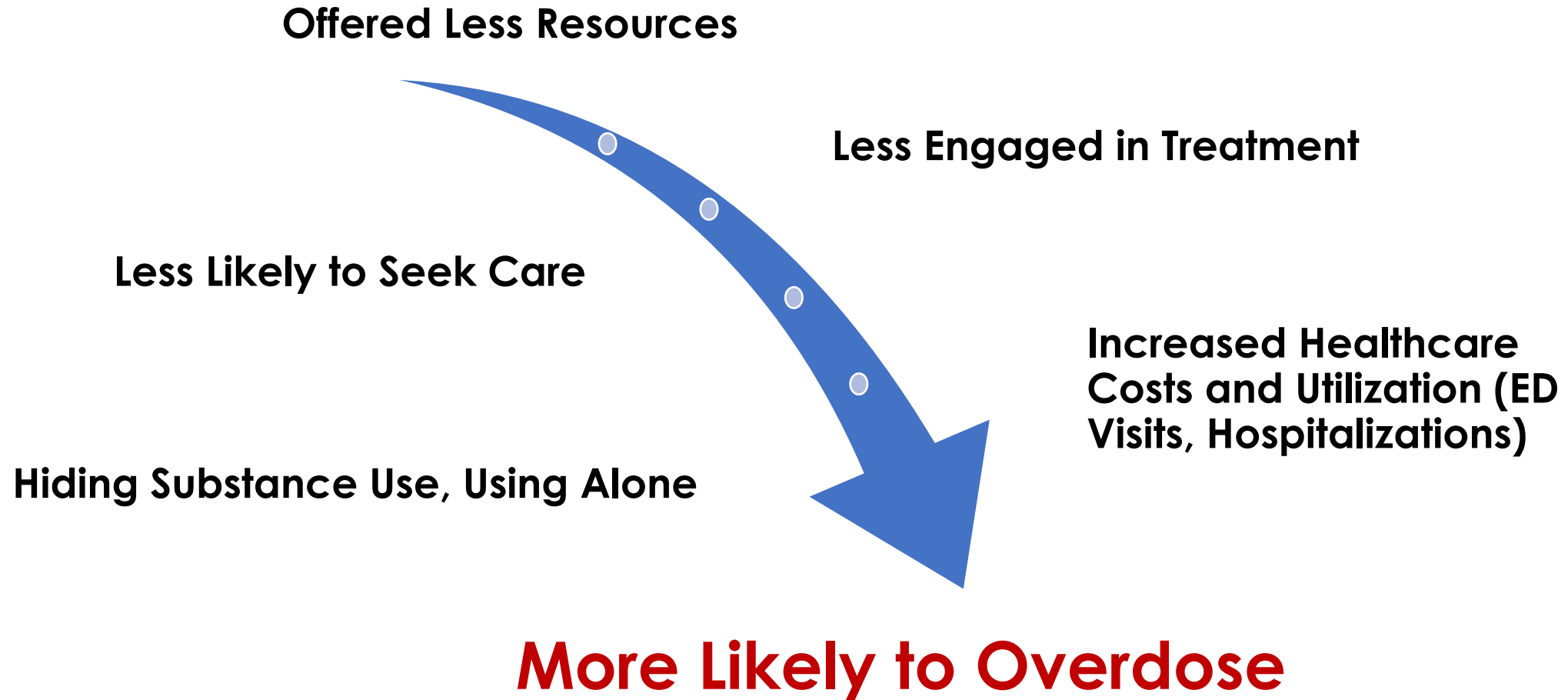


Stigma in Healthcare

- Studies show that healthcare professionals harbor negative attitudes towards patients with substance use disorders
 - "Addiction is a choice"
 - Assume lack of motivation
 - Tendency to blame the individual
 - Resistance to medication model of addiction: "replacing one drug for another"



The Deadly Effects of Stigma



Monitoring the Future: A Continuing Study of American Youth

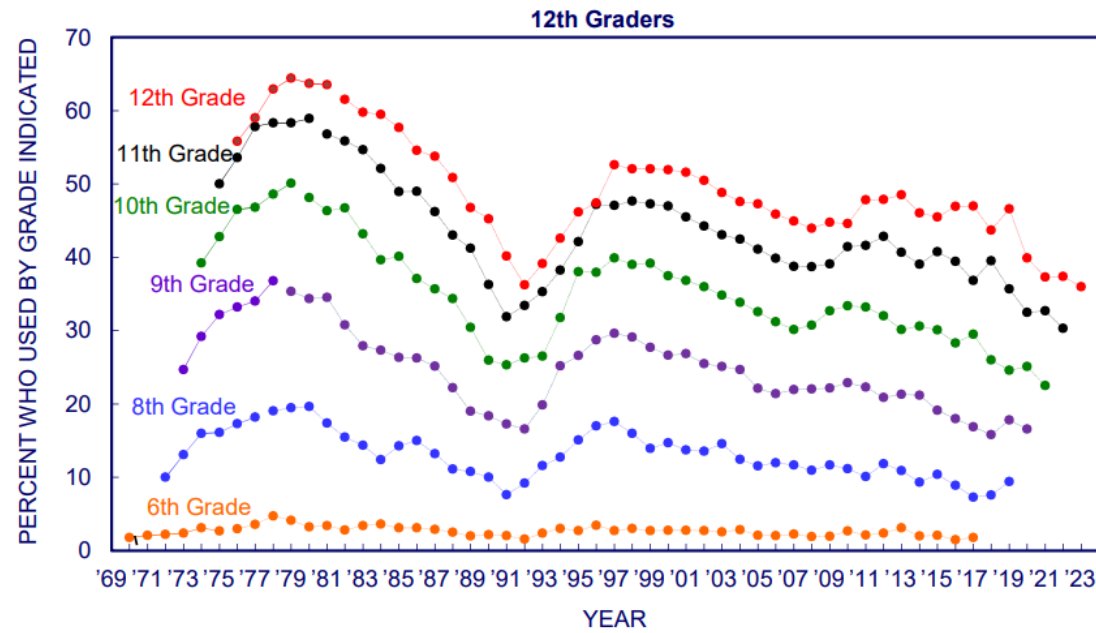


On April 4, 2025, as a sponsor of this project, NIH requested that the following language be added to this website: This repository is under review for potential modification in compliance with Administration directives.

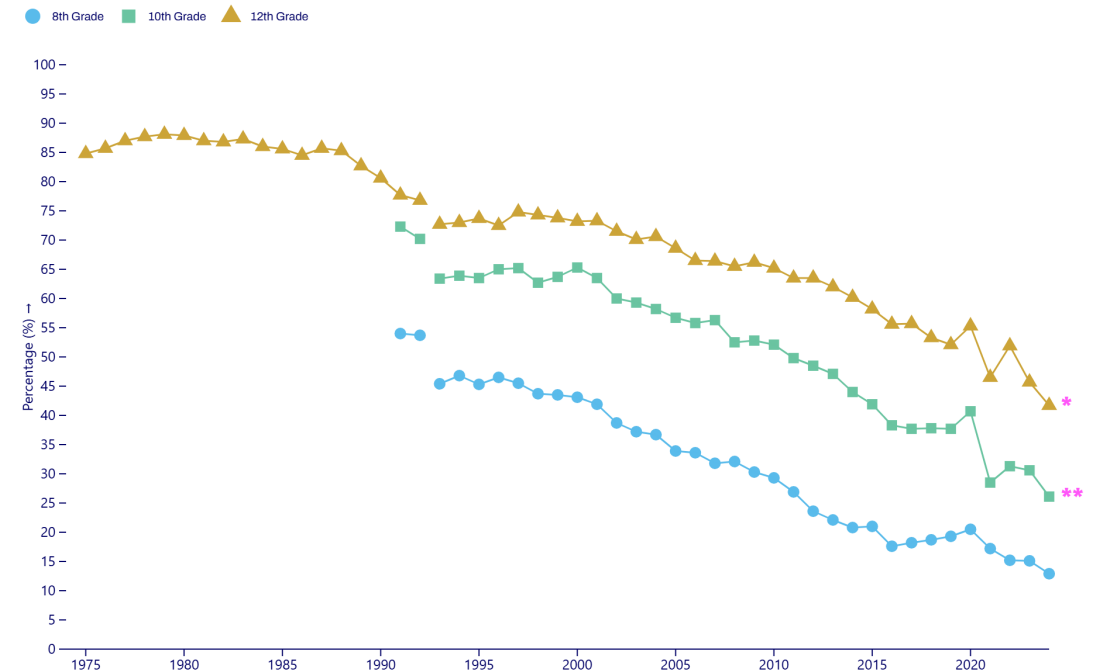
Version Date: Oct 01, 2024 [View the study](#) | [Share this page](#)

Any Illicit Drug

Trends in Lifetime Prevalence for Earlier Grade Levels* based on Retrospective Reports from 12th Graders

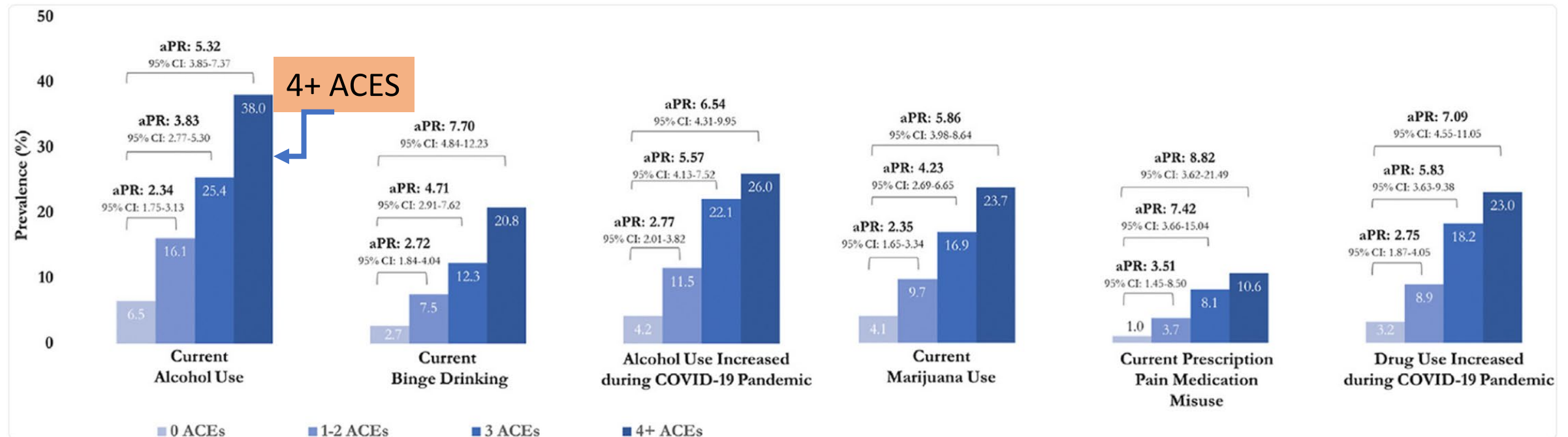


ALCOHOL: Trends in 12 Month Prevalence of Use in 8th, 10th, and 12th Grade



Adolescents: SUD on The Rise for High ACEs

Figure 1. Prevalence of substance use and adjusted associations among U.S. adolescents exposed to cumulative adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) during the COVID-19 pandemic, Adolescent Behavior and Experiences Survey, January–June 2021.



Which substance accounts for the majority of overdose deaths among adolescents?

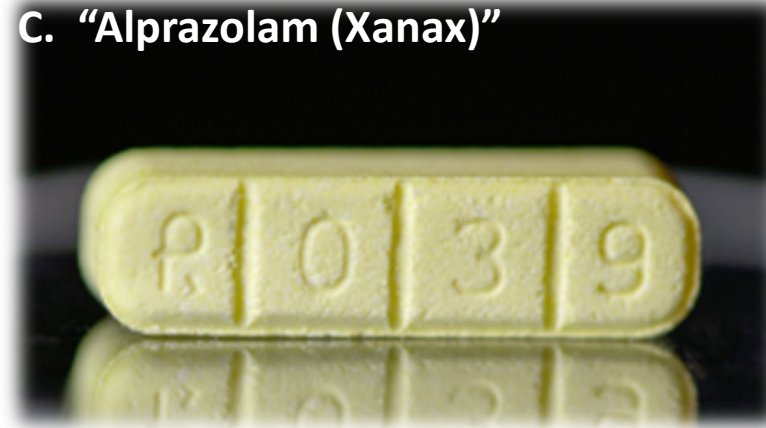
A. Fentanyl



B. "Oxycodone"



C. "Alprazolam (Xanax)"



The short answer is A. Must assume that any med bought off the streets has fentanyl.

B. and C. are counterfeit prescription meds

HEALTH

NPR Exclusive: U.S. overdose deaths plummet, saving thousands of lives

SEPTEMBER 18, 2024 · 5:00 AM ET

HEARD ON [MORNING EDITION](#)



Brian Mann

Los Angeles Times

CALIFORNIA

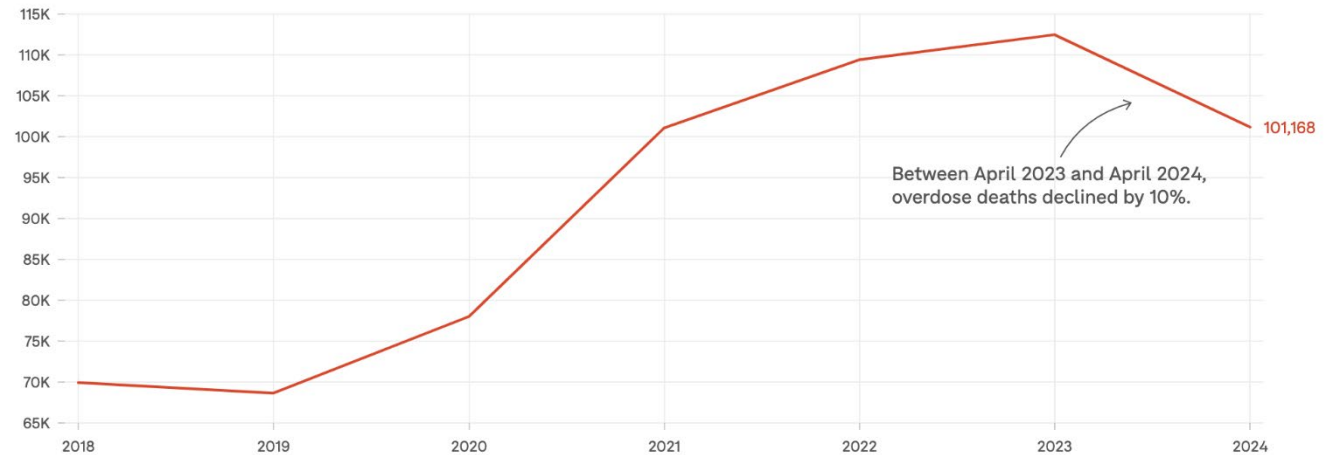
‘Now is not the time’: Trump cuts to L.A. overdose prevention efforts alarm experts



Paramedics with Los Angeles Fire Station No. 11 tend to a man they revived from an overdose in Los Angeles.

U.S. overdose deaths fell for the first time since 2020

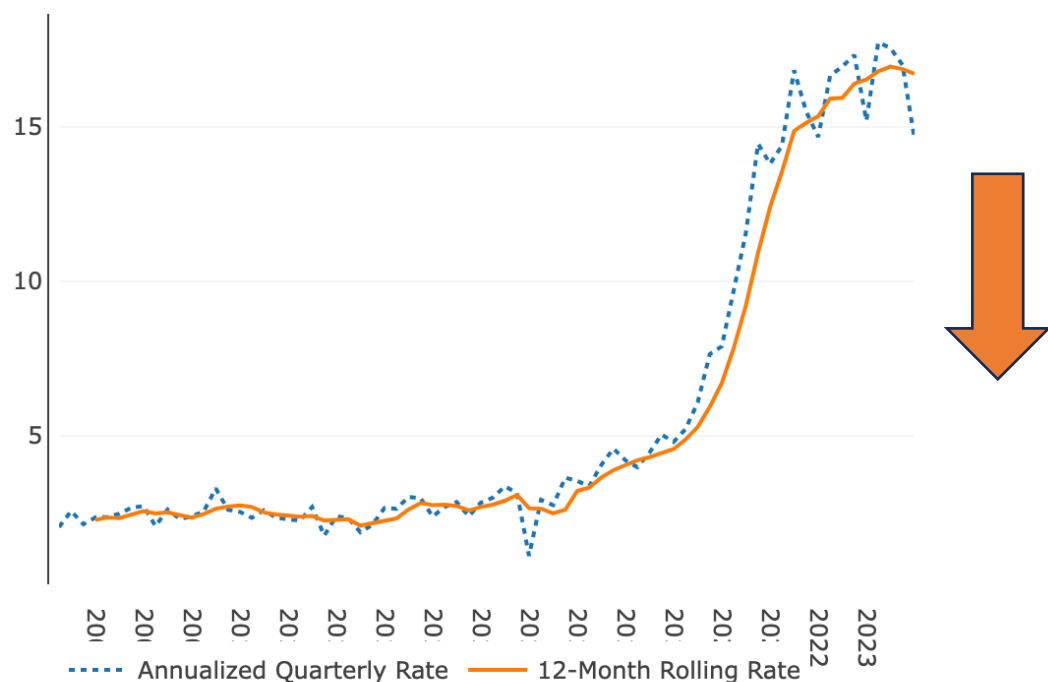
Deaths for the 12 months ending in April of each year



Any Opioid-Related Overdose Deaths - Los Angeles County Total

Population

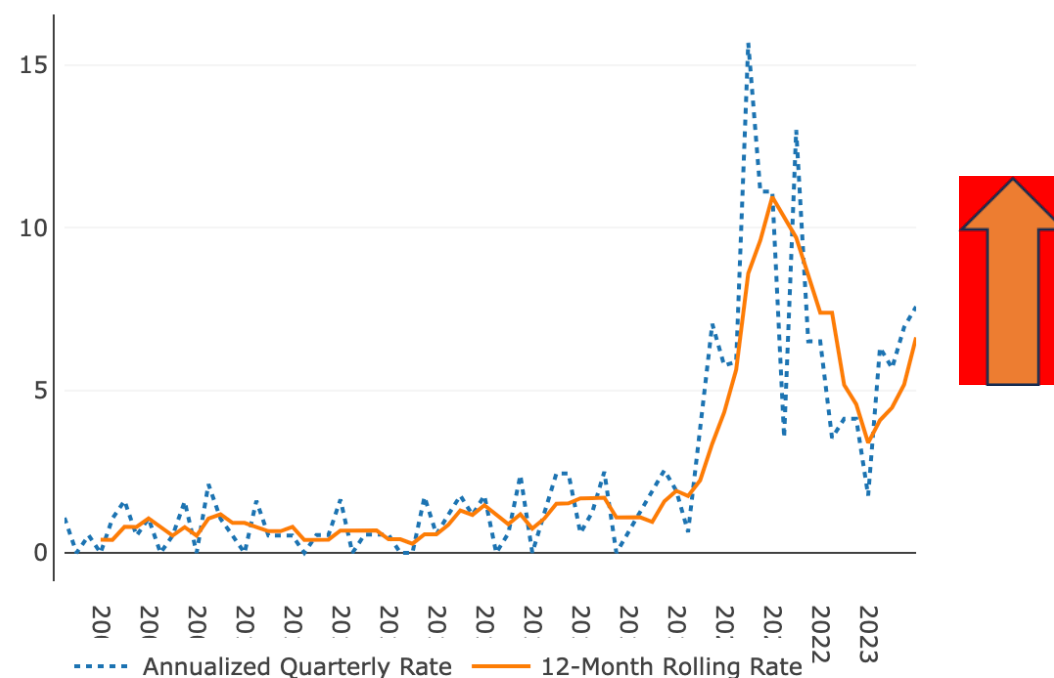
Age-Adjusted Rate per 100,000 Residents - **2023 data are preliminary**



Any Opioid-Related Overdose Deaths - Los Angeles County 15 to 19

yr olds

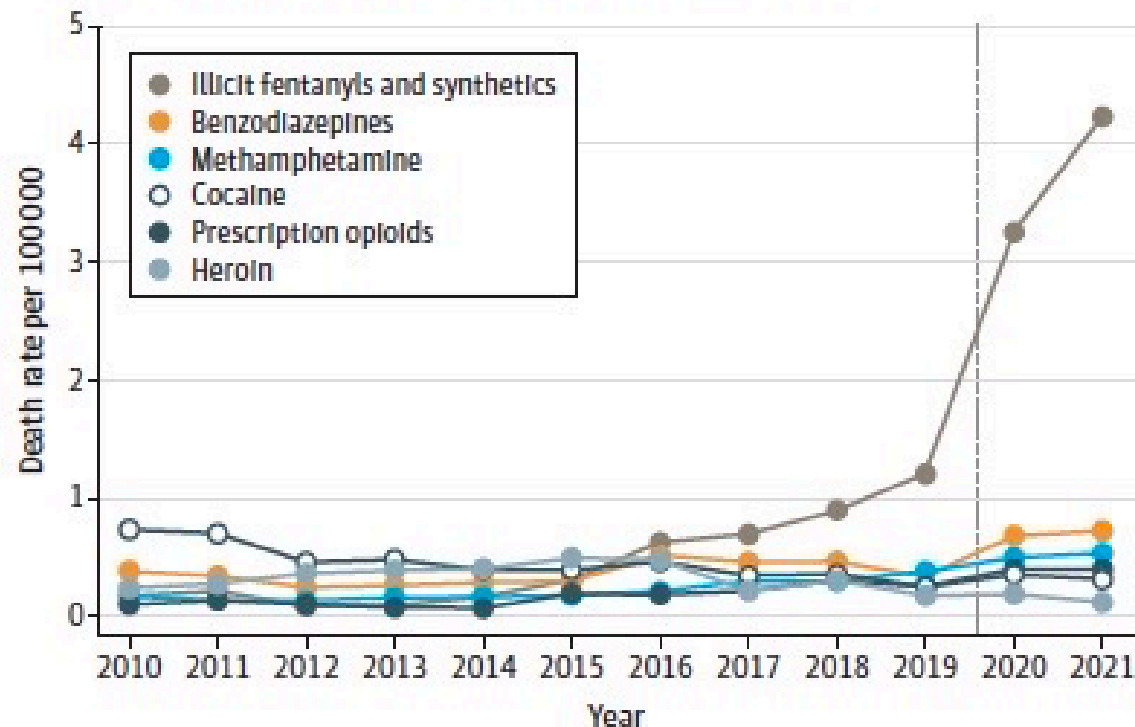
Crude Rate per 100,000 Residents - **2023 data are preliminary**



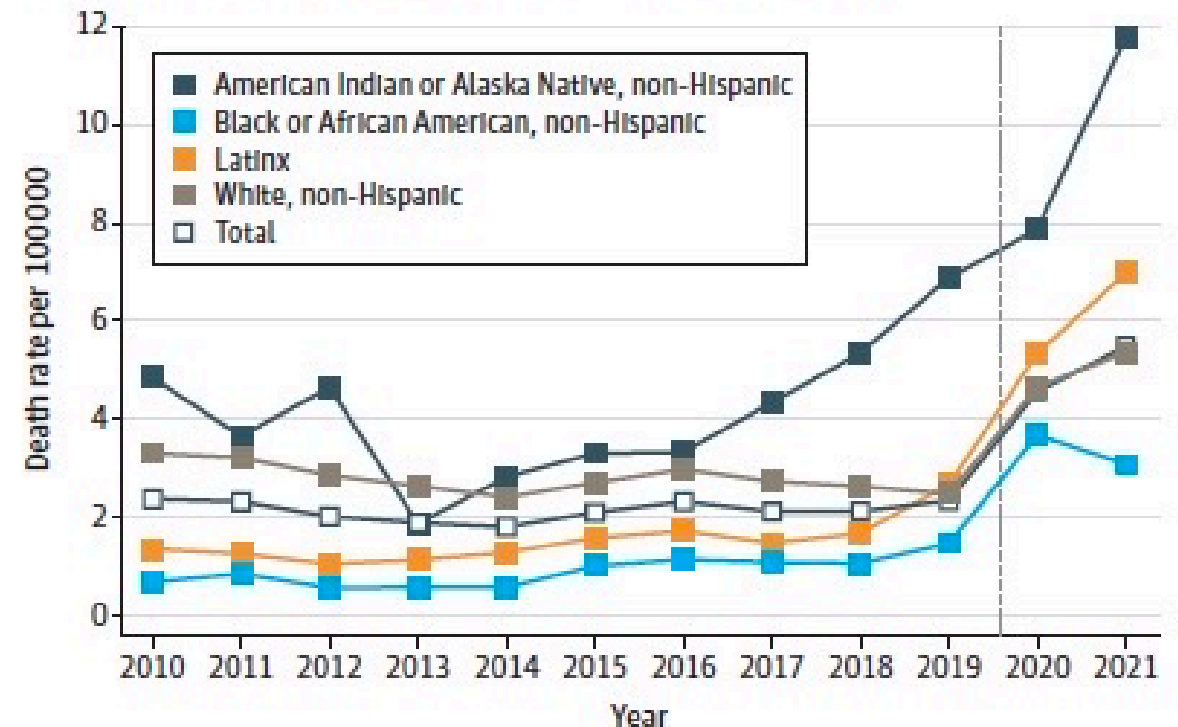
Overdose deaths significantly increasing among adolescents: 370% since 2017

Figure. Adolescent Overdose Deaths, 2010-2021

A Overdose mortality among adolescents by substance type

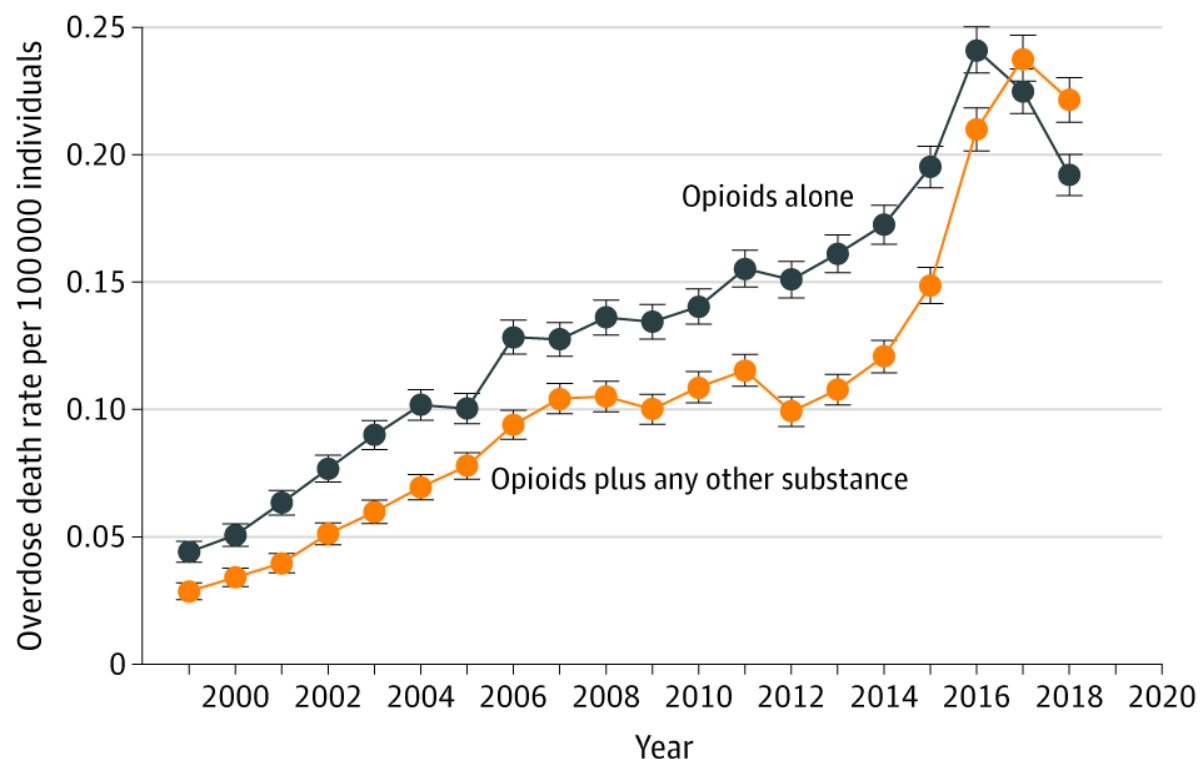


B Overdose mortality among adolescents by race and ethnicity

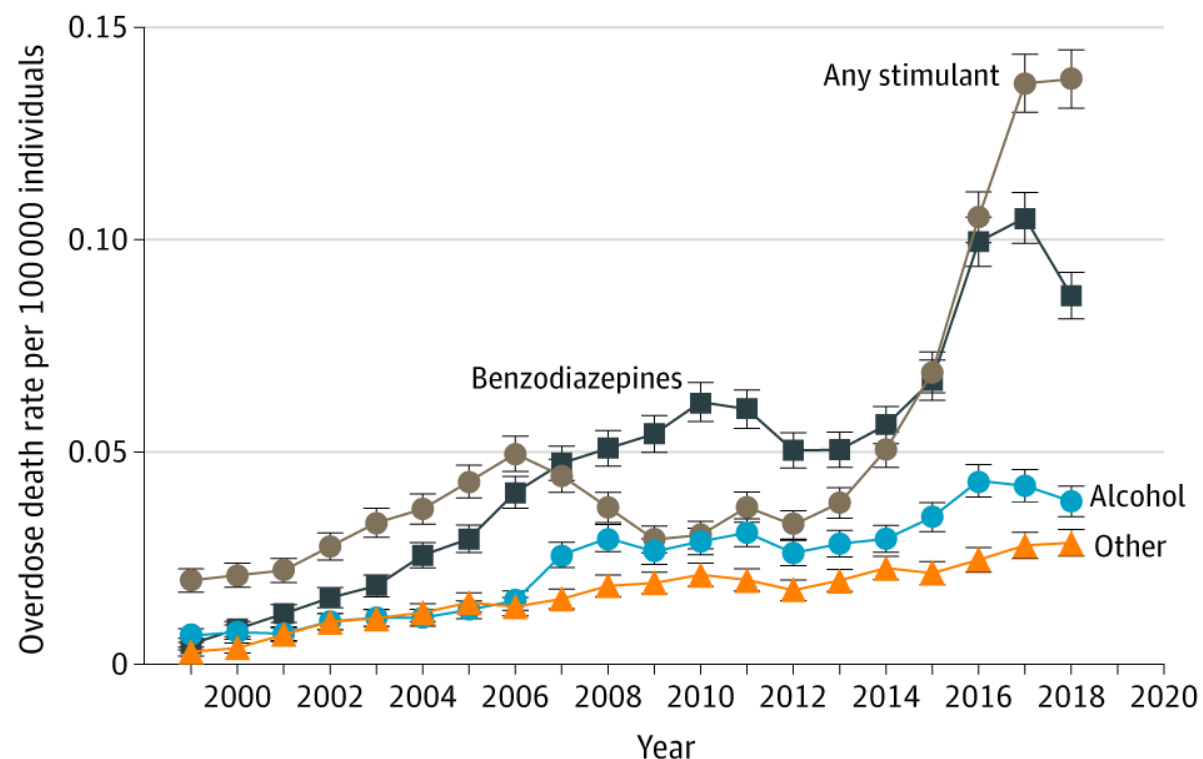


Stimulant-involved deaths increasing among youth

A Opioid overdose mortality with and without other substances



B Trends in substance involvement among opioid overdose deaths



Lim et al., 2020 *JAMA Pediatr.*

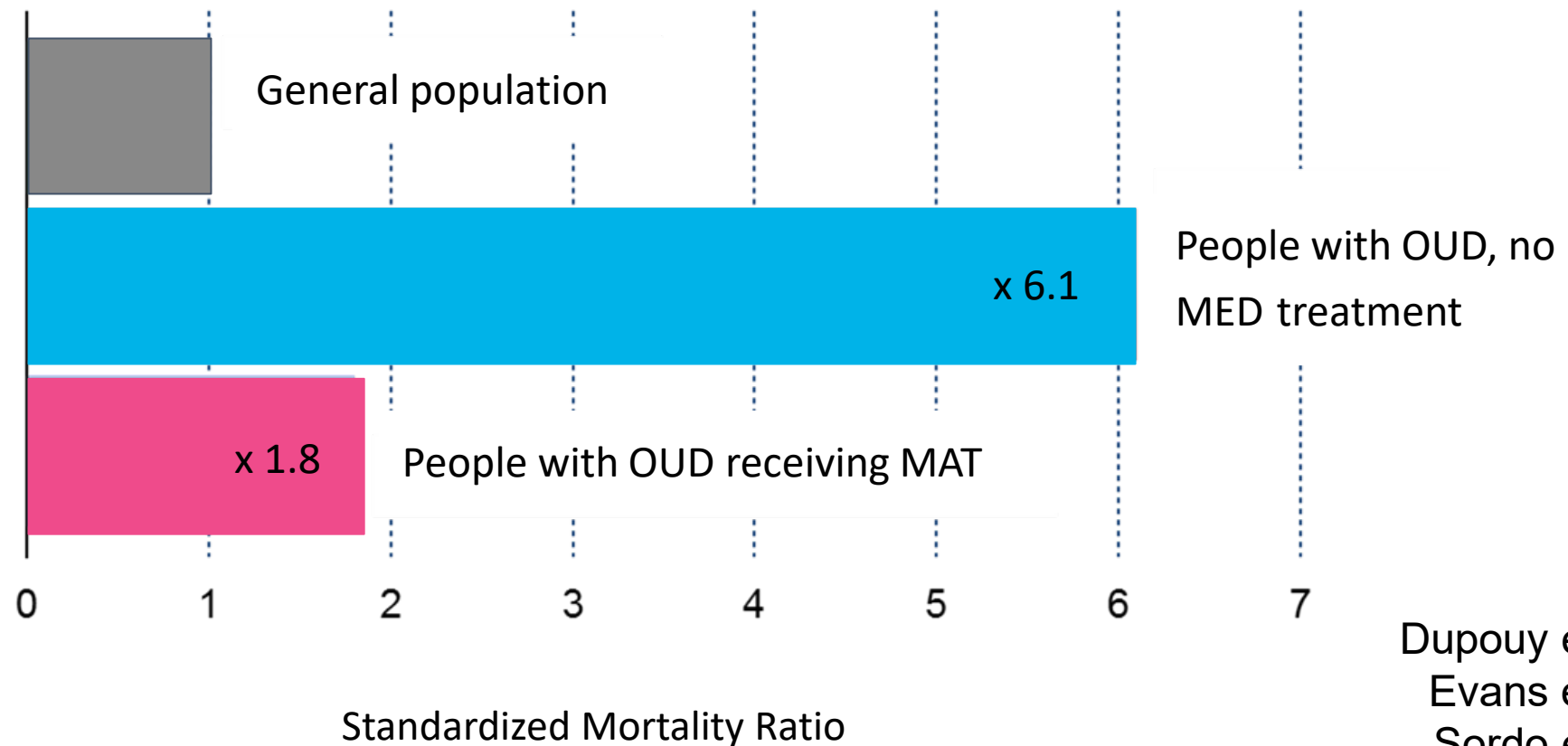
Slide courtesy of The Immersion Training in Addiction Medicine Program

True or False?

Medication Addiction Treatment (MAT)
decreases mortality from OUD by half

MOUD (Bup) Saves Lives

5-year Mortality Risk Compared to the General Population



Dupouy et al., 2017
Evans et al., 2015
Sordo et al., 2017

True or False?

<5%

About ~~25%~~ of adolescents
with OUD receive treatment.

True or False?

White adolescents are **42% and 17%** more likely than Black and Hispanic patients to receive MAT for OUD.

Overdoses Increasing with Dirth of MAT

Fentanyl predominates overdoses,
national peak?

**Adolescent overdose deaths
are still rising locally**

**MAT Saves
Lives**

**Few adolescents receive treatment, especially if
Black, Latinx**



Overview of Substance Use in Adolescents

ASAM Definition of Addiction

“Addiction is a **treatable, chronic medical disease** involving complex interactions among brain circuits, genetics, the environment, and an individual’s life experiences.

Prevention efforts and treatment approaches for addiction are generally as successful as those for other chronic diseases.”



“Addiction is a **treatable, chronic medical disease...**”

Table 3. Multivariate Logistic Regression Results: Adult (Ages 35-50 Years) Prescription Drug Use, Misuse, and Substance Use Disorder Symptoms Adjusting for Covariates^a (continued)

Variable	AOR (95% CI)		
	Prescription drug use	Past-year PDM	≥2 AUD symptoms
SUD	Prescription drug use	Past-year PDM	≥2 SUD symptoms
Participants, No.	2867	2866	2867
SUD at age 18 y, symptoms			
No symptoms	1 [Reference]	1 [Reference]	1 [Reference]
1	1.10 (0.71-1.70)	1.01 (.671-1.52)	1.24 (0.93-1.67)
2-3	1.24 (0.94-1.65)	1.31 (.959-1.80)	1.89 (1.51-2.38)
4-5	1.56 (1.06-2.32)	2.08 (1.41-3.06)	2.16 (1.63-2.87)
≥6	1.55 (1.11-2.16)	1.97 (1.39-2.80)	2.62 (2.00-3.43)
Age, y			
35	1 [Reference]	1 [Reference]	1 [Reference]
40	1.20 (0.98-1.47)	1.18 (.945-1.48)	0.73 (0.66-0.81)
45	1.52 (1.24-1.85)	1.53 (1.24-1.90)	0.71 (0.63-0.79)
50	1.77 (1.45-2.17)	1.57 (1.23-2.01)	0.59 (0.51-0.67)
SUD at age 18 ^a			
Linear trend (SUD)	1.06 (1.02-1.10)	1.09 (1.05-1.13)	1.12 (1.09-1.16)
Linear trend (age)	1.21 (1.14-1.29)	1.17 (1.09-1.26)	0.85 (0.81-0.89)

- **SUD symptoms <18yo** were significantly associated with prescription drug misuse and AUD in adults
- Most adults using prescribed opioids, sedatives, or tranquilizers had **multiple SUD symptoms during adolescence**

...Of Pediatric Onset

Risk Factor for Substance Use (Disorder)

Family History:

- 50-70% more likely to develop a substance use disorder

Environment:

- Growing up in a household where there is substance use

Mental health conditions:

- Depression or anxiety, PTSD, ADHD, Bipolar, Schizophrenia

Trauma:

- Abuse or neglect → substances used to cope with the emotional pain.

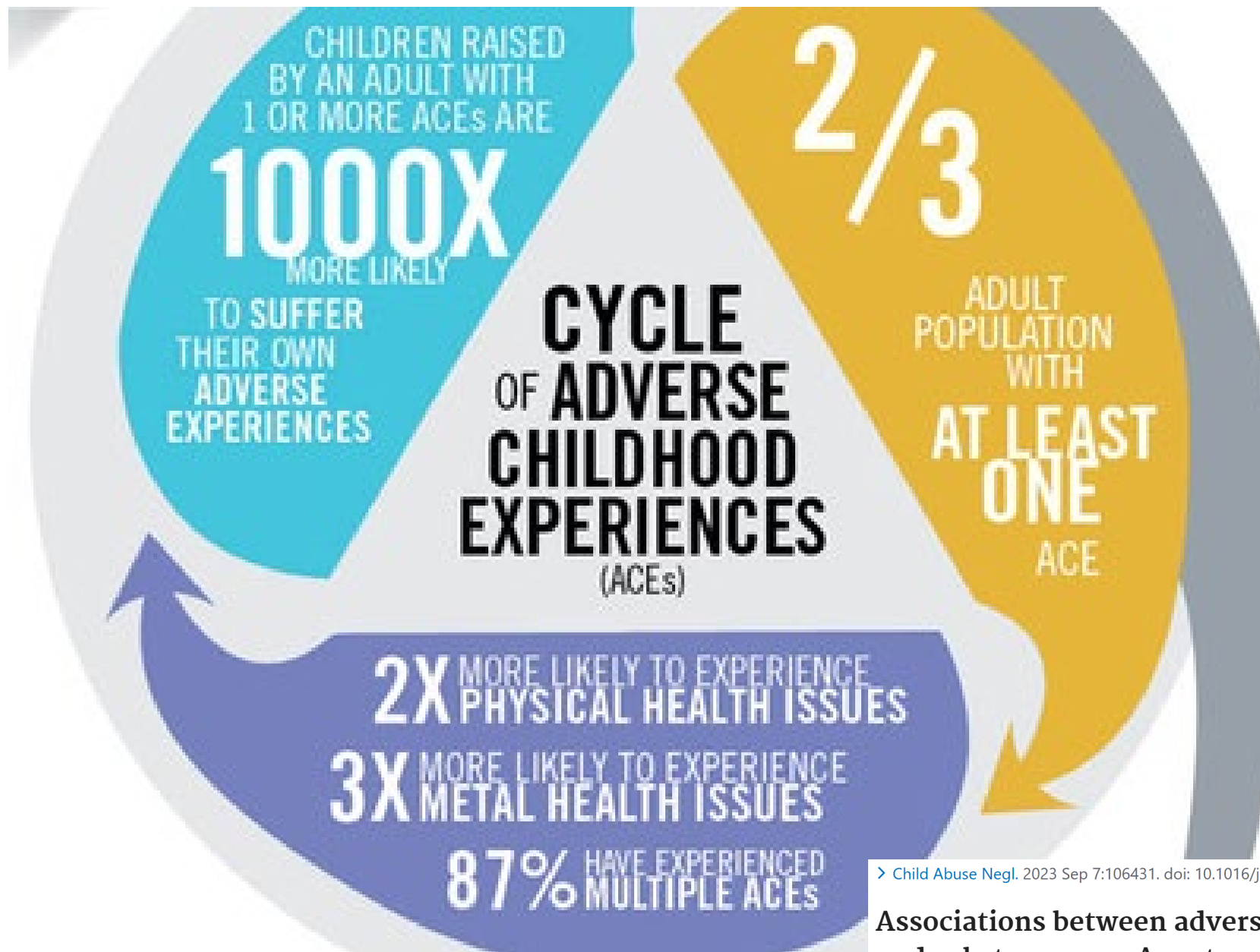
Peer pressure:

- Being around people who use substances

Availability of substances:

- Living in an area where substances are easily available



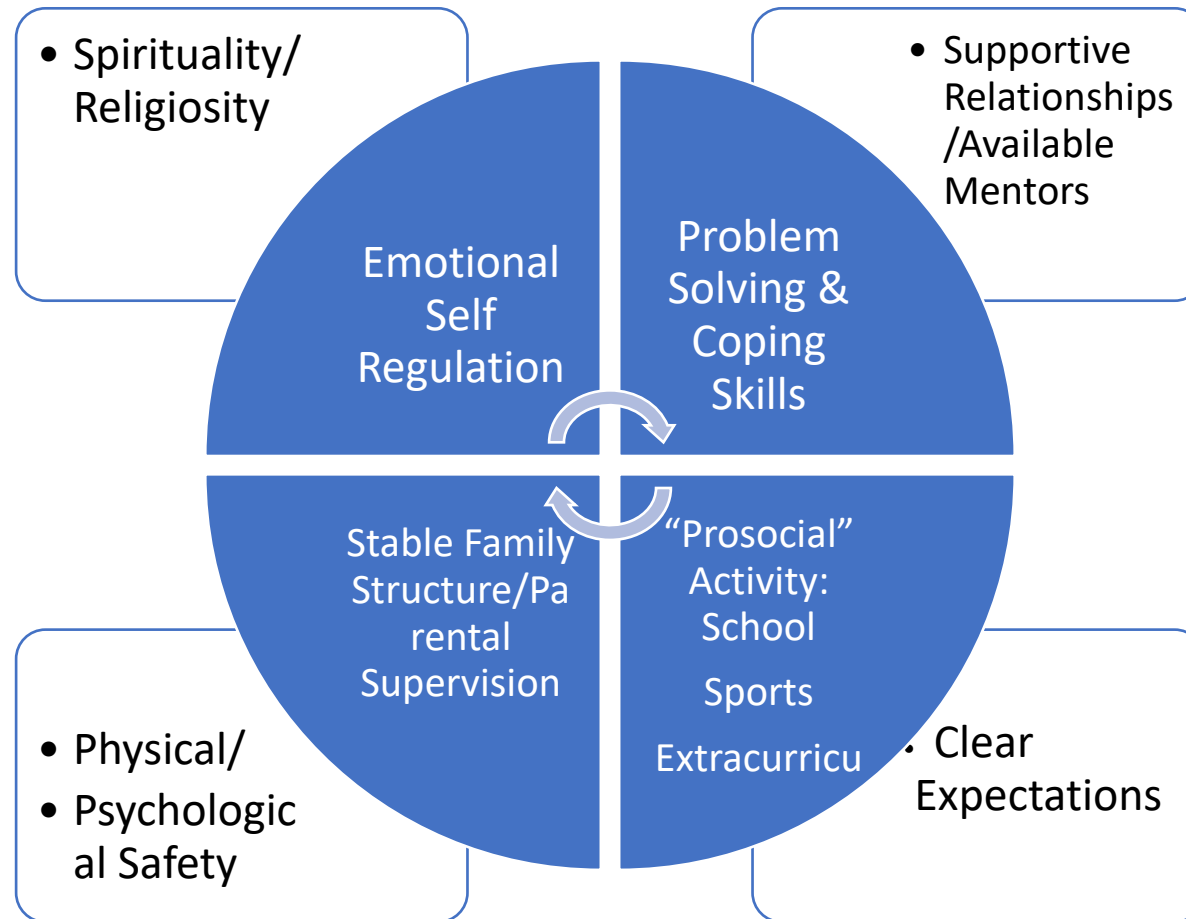


> Child Abuse Negl. 2023 Sep 7;106431. doi: 10.1016/j.chiabu.2023.106431. Online ahead of print.

Associations between adverse childhood experiences and substance use: A meta-analysis

Jenney Zhu ¹, Nicole Racine ², Chloe Devereux ³, David C Hodgins ³, Sheri Madigan ⁴

Protective Factors for Substance Use (Disorder)





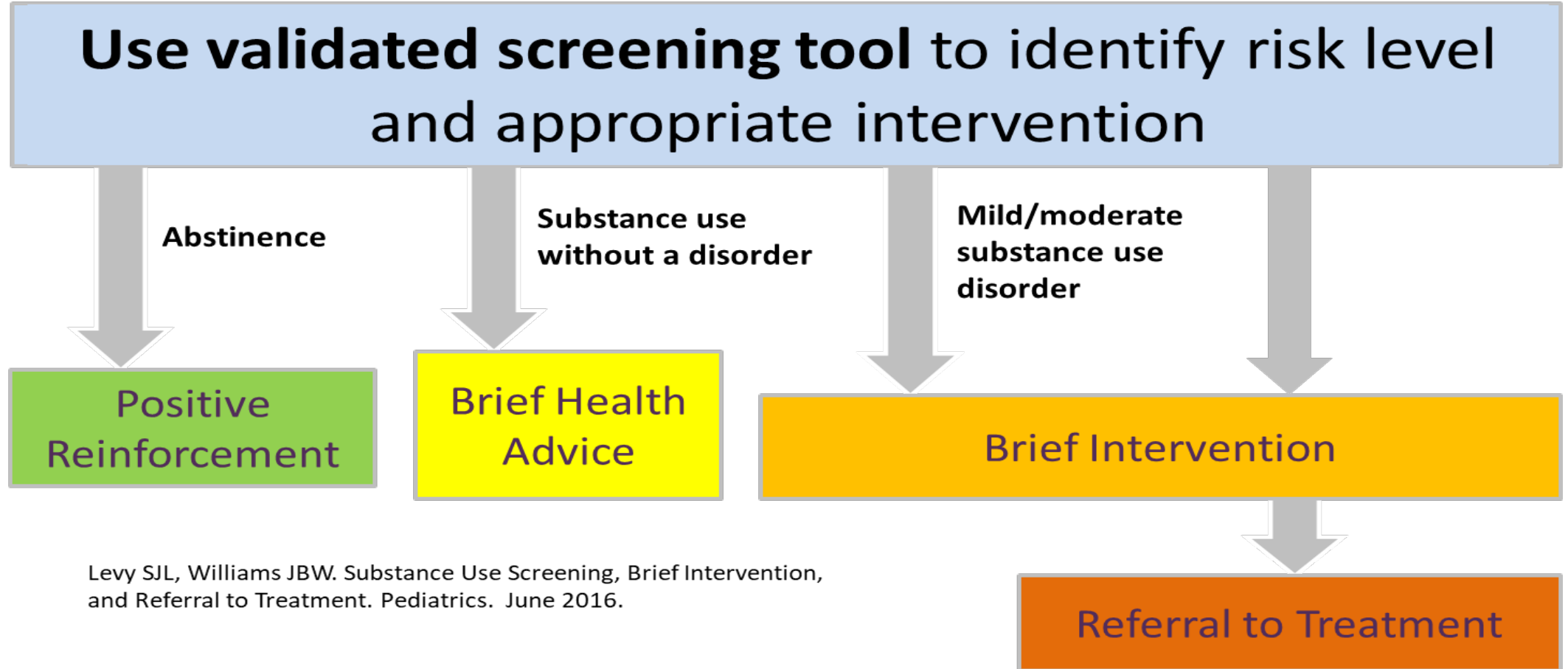
Adolescent SUD Screening



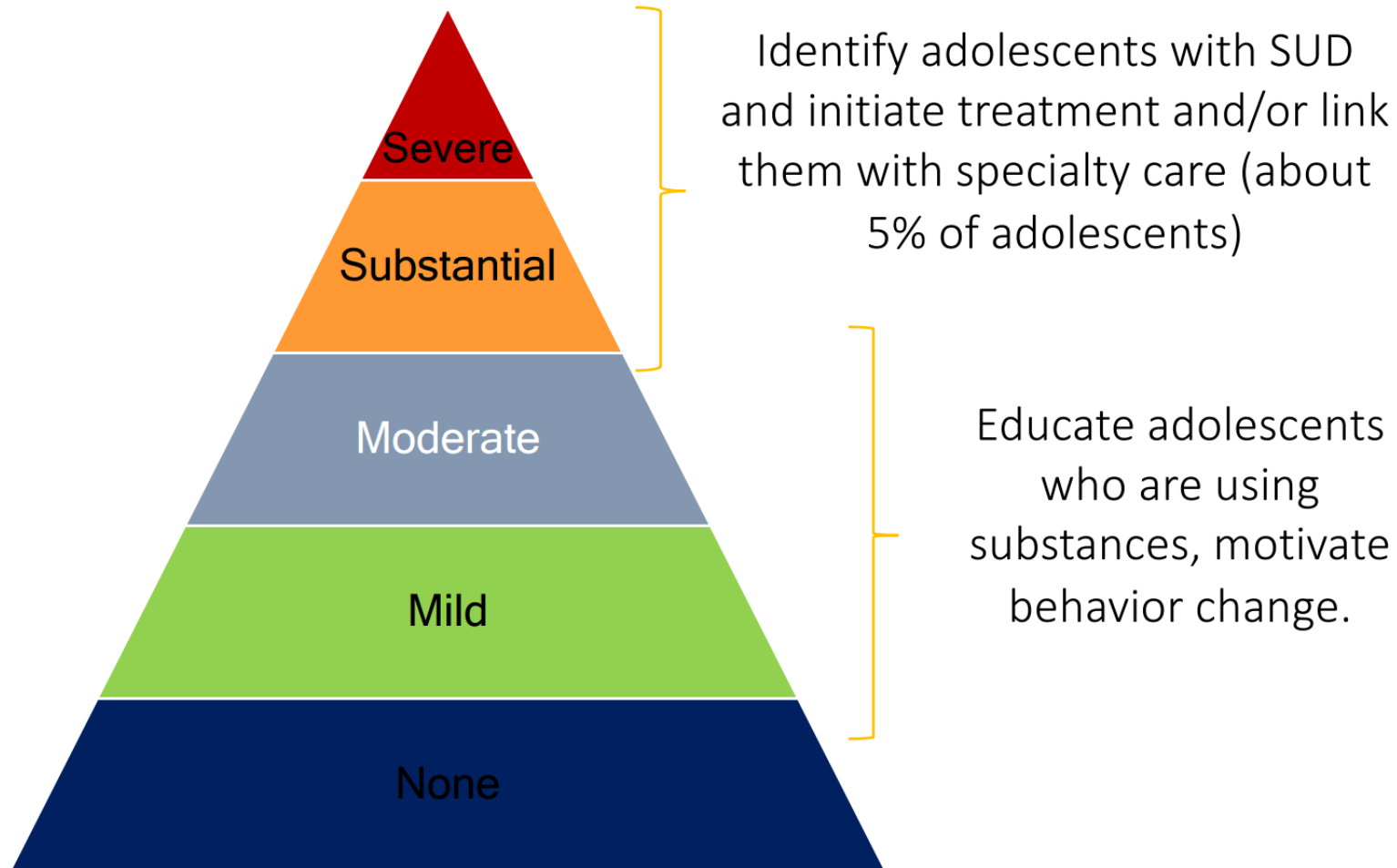
Considerations: Adolescent Care

- Discuss confidentiality and clarify limits
 - Consider who has access to patient's chart
- Risk taking is developmentally appropriate
- Concern that identity defined by substance use or recovery
- **Treat co-occurring mental health disorders**
- Family involvement is key

Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT)



What SBIRT Can Accomplish



Validated Screening Tools

S2BI: Screening to
Brief Intervention
(Levy, 2014)

CRAFT: Car-Relax-
Alone-Forget-
Friend-Trouble
(Knight, 2002)

S2BI: Screening to Brief Intervention Algorithm

In the past year, how many times have you used:
Tobacco? Alcohol? Marijuana?



Adolescent Validated SUD Screening Tool

**CRAFFT-M: Car-
Relax A - Forget-
Frie - Double**
(Knight, 2020)

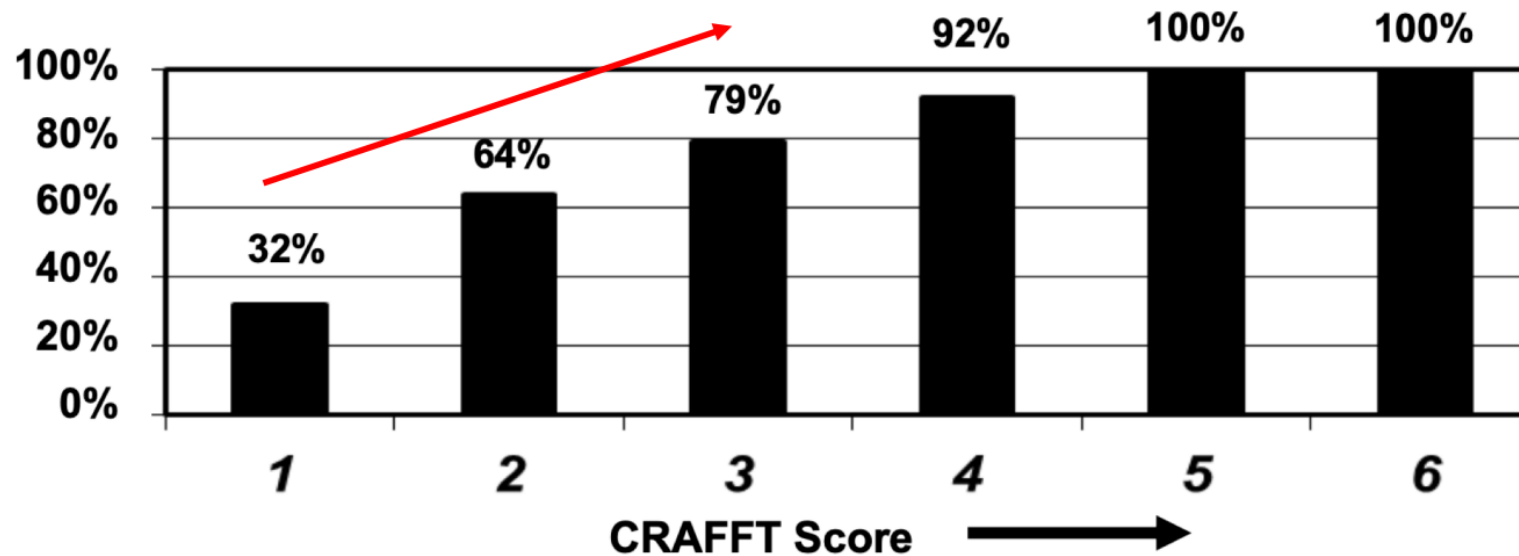


LA CARE
Recommends

Interpreting Results:

CRAFFT Score Interpretation

Probability of a DSM-5 Substance Use Disorder by CRAFFT score*



SUD Screening: CRAFFT 2.1 + N

The CRAFFT Questionnaire (version 2.1)

To be completed by patient

Please answer all questions **honestly**; your answers will be kept **confidential**.

During the PAST 12 MONTHS, on how many days did you:

1. Drink more than a few sips of beer, wine, or any drink containing **alcohol**? Put "0" if none.

of days

2. Use any **marijuana** (weed, oil, or hash, by smoking, vaping, or in food) or "**synthetic marijuana**" (like "K2," "Spice") or "vaping" **THC oil**? Put "0" if none.

of days

3. Use **anything else to get high** (like other illegal drugs, prescription or over-the-counter medications, and things that you sniff, huff, or vape)? Put "0" if none.

of days

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE CONTINUING:

- If you put "0" in **ALL** of the boxes above, **ANSWER QUESTION 4, THEN STOP.**
- If you put "1" or higher in **ANY** of the boxes above, **ANSWER QUESTIONS 4-9.**

- | | No | Yes |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 4. Have you ever ridden in a CAR driven by someone (including yourself) who was "high" or had been using alcohol or drugs? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Do you ever use alcohol or drugs to RELAX , feel better about yourself, or fit in? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. Do you ever use alcohol or drugs while you are by yourself, or ALONE ? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. Do you ever FORGET things you did while using alcohol or drugs? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8. Do your FAMILY or FRIENDS ever tell you that you should cut down on your drinking or drug use? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9. Have you ever gotten into TROUBLE while you were using alcohol or drugs? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

* Concerning:
> Or = 2 YES

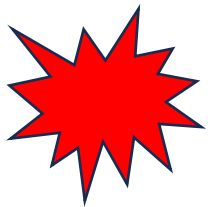
The following questions ask about your use of any **vaping devices containing nicotine and/or flavors**, or use of any **tobacco products***. Circle your answer for each question.

- | | Circle one | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| | Yes | No |
| 1. Have you ever tried to quit using, but couldn't? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Do you vape or use tobacco now because it is really hard to quit? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Have you ever felt like you were addicted to vaping or tobacco? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Do you ever have strong cravings to vape or use tobacco? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Have you ever felt like you really needed to vape or use tobacco? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. Is it hard to keep from vaping or using tobacco in places where you are not supposed to, like school? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. When you haven't vaped or used tobacco in a while (or when you tried to stop using)... | | |
| a. did you find it hard to concentrate because you couldn't vape or use tobacco? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b. did you feel more irritable because you couldn't vape or use tobacco? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c. did you feel a strong need or urge to vape or use tobacco? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d. did you feel nervous, restless, or anxious because you couldn't vape or use tobacco? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

* Concerning:
> Or = 1 YES

CRAFFT 2.1 + N Score Interpretation

Score/Risk Level	Intervention	Examples – Use Motivational Interviewing (MI)
No to first 4 Qs Low	Positive reinforcement & open communication:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You're making good choices by avoiding use and those who use. If you're curious about using, let's talk to ensure your safety, and align with your goals.
1 Moderate	Brief Intervention: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discuss specifics—frequency, duration, when, how, with whom, and positive & negative effects. Explore motivation for use & educate on risks. Offer harm reduction tools (naloxone, test strips) & Never Use Alone (877) 696-1996. Consider prescribing MAT 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What do you enjoy about [x]? How does [x] make you feel or think? What are some down sides of using [x]? Tell me what you've heard about fentanyl. What are things that trigger you to use [x]? How do you manage having cravings to use [x]? What things make you want to avoid using [x]?
≥ 2 HIGH RISK of having SUD SUD dx is 64-100% likely	Confirm SUD diagnosis and, as indicated: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prescribe MAT to decrease cravings, withdrawal, and overdose risks for dangerous or binge use. Explain that this approach supports their survival and goal achievement. Include wellness & harm reduction supplies. Discuss reproductive health concerns. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provisional Start: Even if don't want to start now, I will still prescribe MAT. Pick it up and keep it as a back-up for cravings when you can't get X. Medication is safe, effective, and reduces cravings to use, withdrawal symptoms and can prevent an overdose. What are your goals with using? Do you want to reduce, quit, or not change your use patterns? Plan together, align realistic goal & 3 steps.



Adolescent Interviewing Techniques

- Open Ended Questions, Encourage Questions
- Start with neutral topics
- Respect privacy/confidentiality
- Avoid lecturing and being judgmental
- Be aware of nonverbal cues, tone
- Utilize active listening
- Approach with honest, straightforward, and clear explanations
- “Close the loop”, Affirm Goals/Harm Reduction

How do we ask about substance use?

- **General Well-Being and Daily Life:**

- "How have you been taking care of yourself?"
- "What do you like to do when you're feeling stressed or overwhelmed?"
- "What kinds of things make you feel stressed, and how do you usually cope with stress?"



- **Discussing Coping and Relaxation:"**

- "When you're feeling down or anxious, what kinds of things help you relax? Do you ever find that substances like alcohol or drugs come into play?"

- **Linking Stress or Coping Mechanisms:**

- "You mentioned feeling stressed lately. Some people find it hard to cope and may turn to things like alcohol, smoking, or other substances. Is that something you've tried or thought about?"

How do we ask about substance use?

- **Open-Ended and Non-Judgmental:**

- "Can you tell me about your experiences with alcohol or drugs?"
- "What was happening in your life when you first started using [specific substance]?"
- "Are there certain situations or feelings that make you more likely to use?"
- "Can you share how using [substance] affects your day-to-day life?"
- "Do you ever use [substance] alone, or is it always with friends?"
- "Are there any concerns you have about your use of [substance]?"

- **Encouraging Reflection and Self-Assessment:**

- "What do you like or dislike about using [substance]?"
- "How do you feel when you don't use [substance]?"
- "Have you experienced any negative effects from using [substance]?"
- "How do you think your use of [substance] affects your relationships with friends and family?"
- "What do you think would happen if you stopped using [substance]?"

- **Normalizing and Creating a Safe Space:**

- "A lot of people your age try different substances. I'm here to listen and not judge."
- "It's okay to be honest here. My goal is to understand and help, not to get you in trouble."

What to avoid when discussing substances:

- **Questions That Assume or Presume:**

- "You've been using because your friends make you, right?"
- "I bet you only use it because you're trying to look cool."
- "You started using because of problems at home, didn't you?"

- **Closed-Ended Questions That Limit Disclosure:**

- "You're not using drugs, are you?" (This may discourage honesty due to the leading nature of the question.)
- "You're just using it occasionally, right?"
- "You haven't tried anything else, have you?"

- **Questions That Imply Blame or Shame:**

- "Don't you care about what this is doing to your family?"
- "What's wrong with you that you feel the need to use [substance]?"
- "Why can't you just stop?"
- "Are you trying to mess up your life?"

- **Judgmental or Accusatory:**

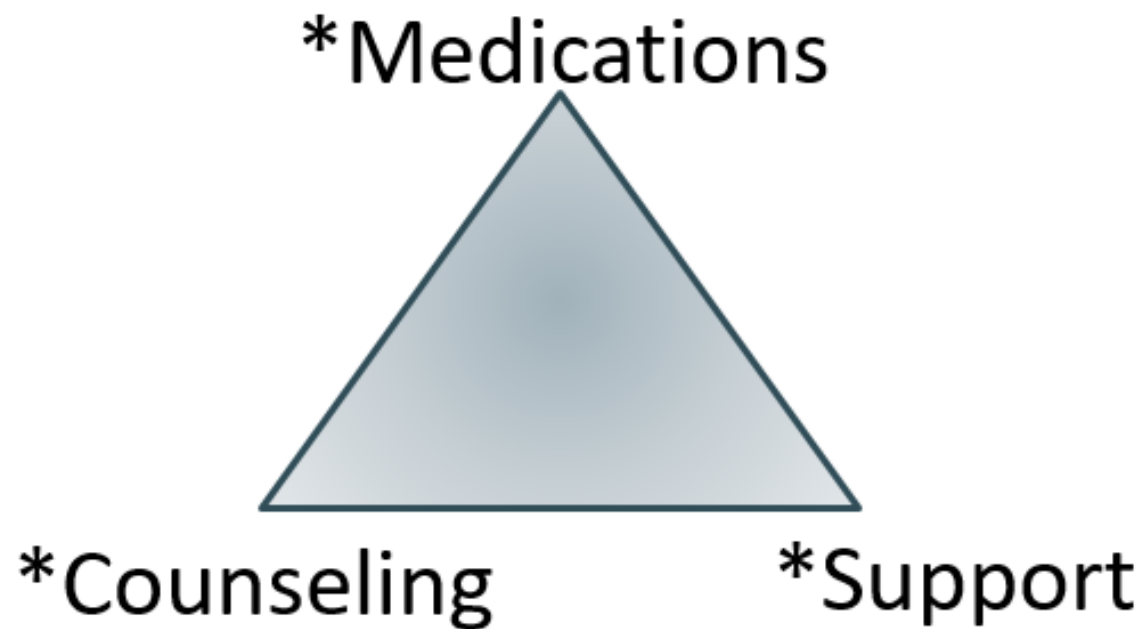
- "Why are you using drugs? Don't you know that it's bad for you?"
- "Do you realize how stupid it is to be drinking or using [substance]?"
- "You're not one of those drug addicts, right?"
- "Why would you ever want to use something like that?"
- "Aren't you worried that this will ruin your future?"



SUD Treatment



Components of Addiction Treatment



*When appropriate

Source: <https://www.samhsa.gov/treatment>

Consent & Confidentiality: CA Family Code 6929

- For “Drug- or Alcohol-related problem,” **12-17 yrs** may consent to:
 - Intake, Evaluation, Work-up, **Counseling**
 - Application for services
 - Development of treatment *plan....what about the MEDS?*
- **Medical and hospital care**
 - Naloxone - universally OK
 - Buprenorphine for 16+ (<16 needs guardian/parent)
 - NOT methadone
 - Not other psychotropic medication (i.e MAT for AUD, Tobacco)



MAT Consent Considerations

- ***Pregnancy related care: Age >12, Yes to PNC, Other tx?***
- ***Emancipated*** self-sufficiency based on age (15yrs+), living apart from parents, & managing their own finances, regardless of income source.
- *When in doubt, treat pain & suffering now*, use resources to help you.
- Start life saving treatment for deadly condition



Opiate Use: Use Disorder (OUD)?

Use, High Risk Use, Use Disorder?

Recall that addiction is a clinical syndrome presenting as...

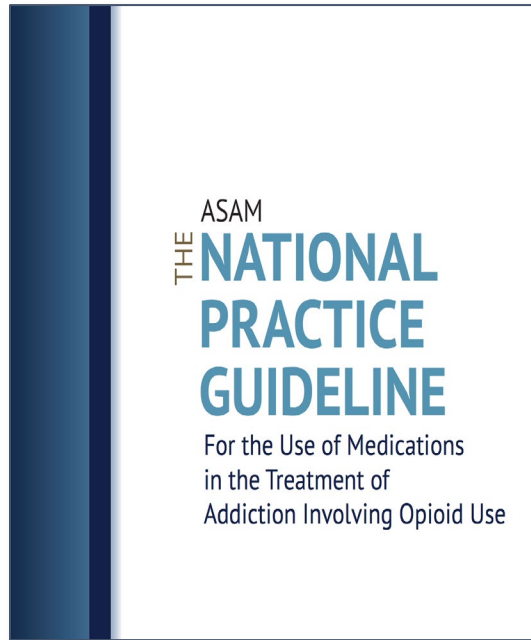
- Loss of Control
- Compulsive use
- Continued use despite harm
- CONSEQUENCES

} **Worrisome
Medication
Taking
Behaviors**

Savage SR et al. *J Pain Symptom Manage* 2003

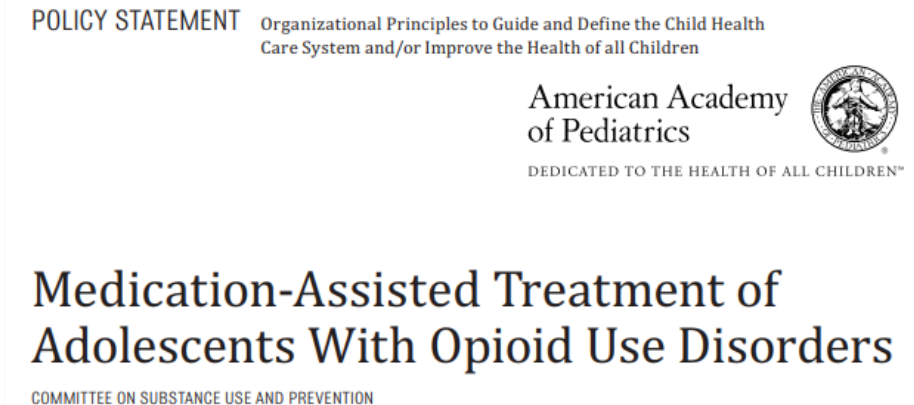
- **Addiction** is a chronic relapsing brain disorder
- **Physical Dependence** is a physiologic adaptation

When is Pharmacotherapy Indicated?



American Society of Addiction Medicine (2015): Clinicians should consider treating adolescents using the full range of treatment options, including pharmacotherapy

American Academy of Pediatrics (2016): Encourage pediatricians to consider offering medication treatment or discuss referrals to other providers for this service



Medications for Opioid Use Disorder

Methadone

Full mu (opioid) receptor agonist



Oral (often solution)

Buprenorphine ± Naloxone

Partial mu receptor agonist



Sublingual (tab, film), IV, IM, subcutaneous injection, transdermal patch

Naltrexone

Mu receptor antagonist (blocker)

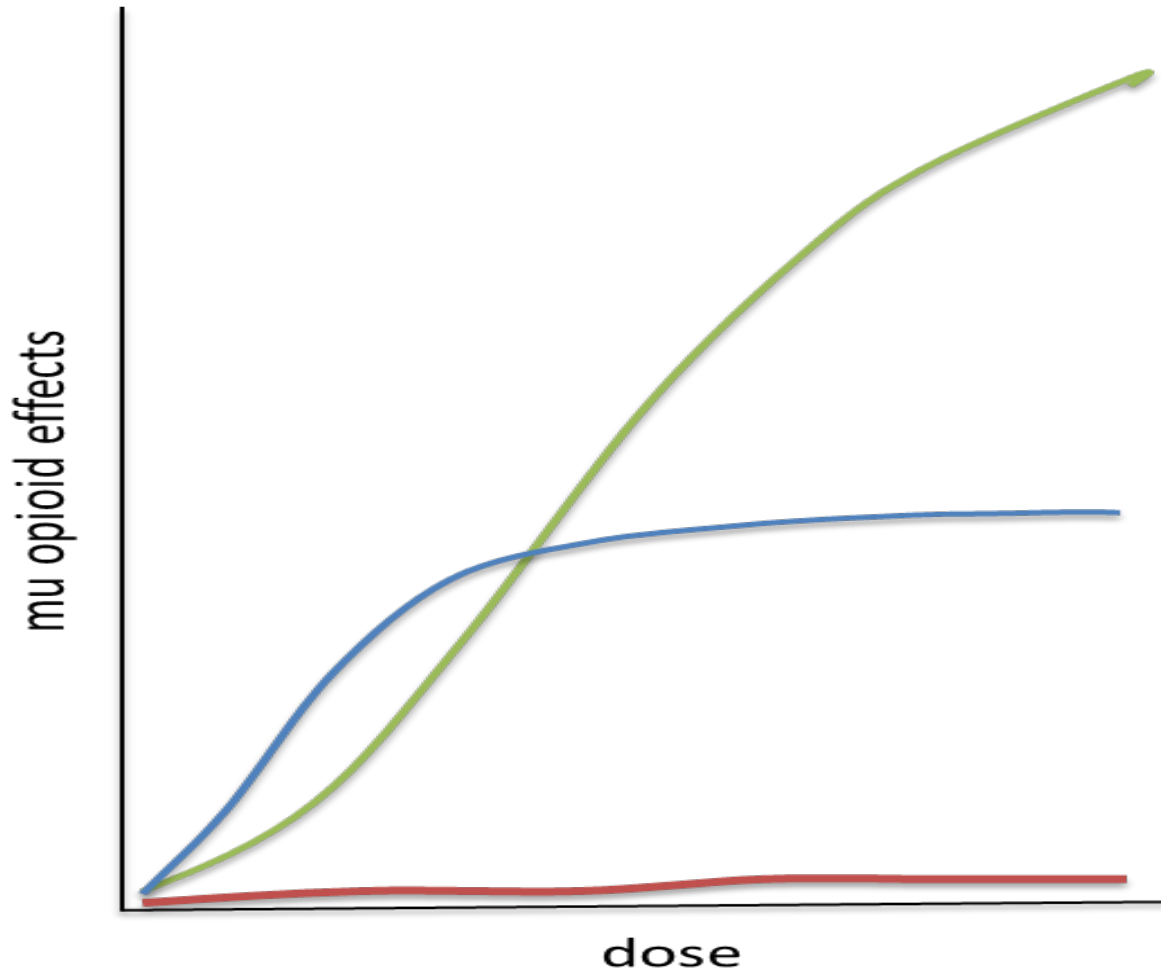


Intramuscular injection (extended release) or oral
Ex: "Vivitrol," "ReVia"

Dispensed at designated clinics

Option once abstinent

OUD Medications Mechanisms of Action



Full agonists

Methadone,
oxycodone, fentanyl

Partial
agonists

Buprenorphine

Antagonists

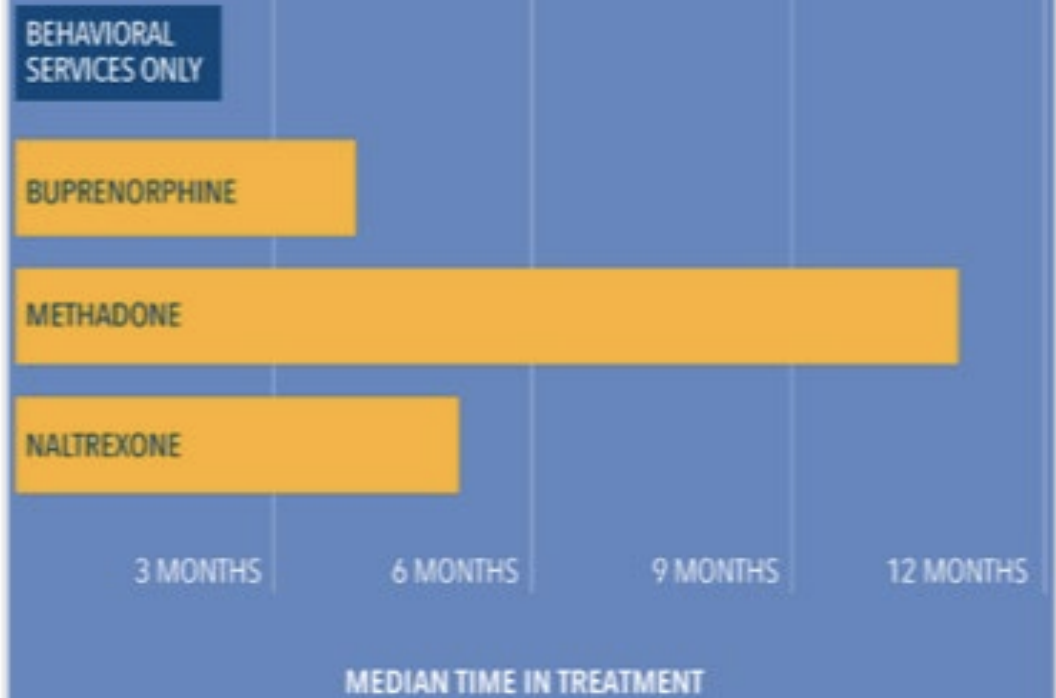
Naltrexone and
Naloxone (Narcan)

EARLY Interventions: Lack of Timely Medication for Adolescents



Only **1** in 4 youths received treatment within 3 months of OUD diagnosis

Those who did receive a medication were less likely to drop out of treatment and stayed in treatment longer, on average.

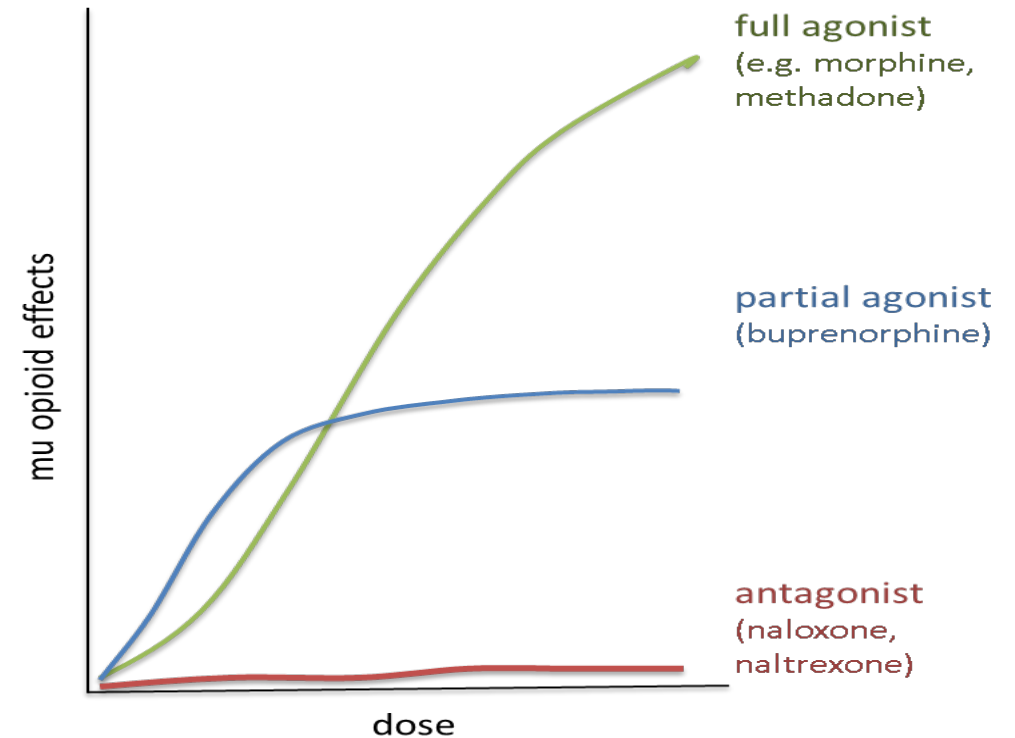


Hadland et al. (2018) *JAMA Pediatr.*

https://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2018-09/bmc-bsa091018.php

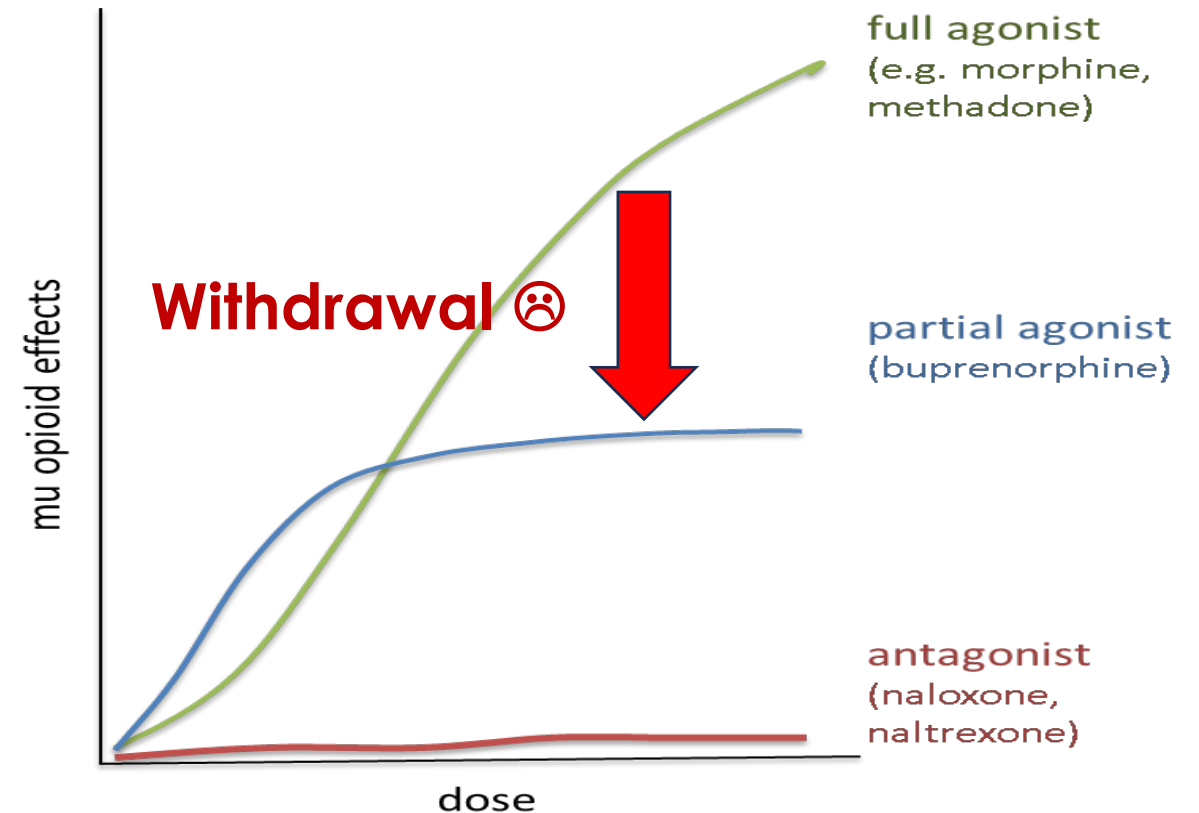
What's Special about Buprenorphine?

- **Partial agonist** at mu opioid receptor, antagonist at kappa receptor (**antidepressant**)
- **Ceiling Effect:** Minimal respiratory suppression with plateau effect in adults and **no respiratory arrest** when used as prescribed
- **High affinity** to and slow dissociation from receptors
 - Can receive other opioids while on bup
- **Long-acting:** Half-life 24-36 hours

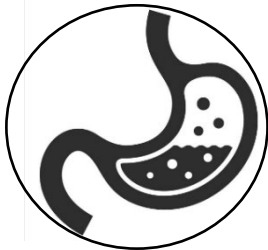


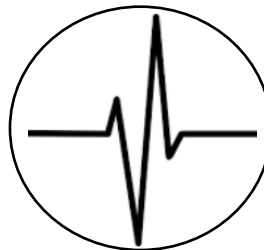

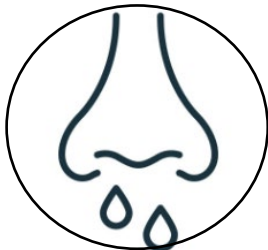



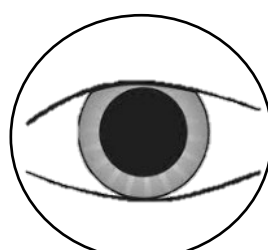


What's "Tricky" about Buprenorphine?

- Blocks and displaces other opioids
- Can precipitate withdrawal
- Most start protocols require patient in withdrawal

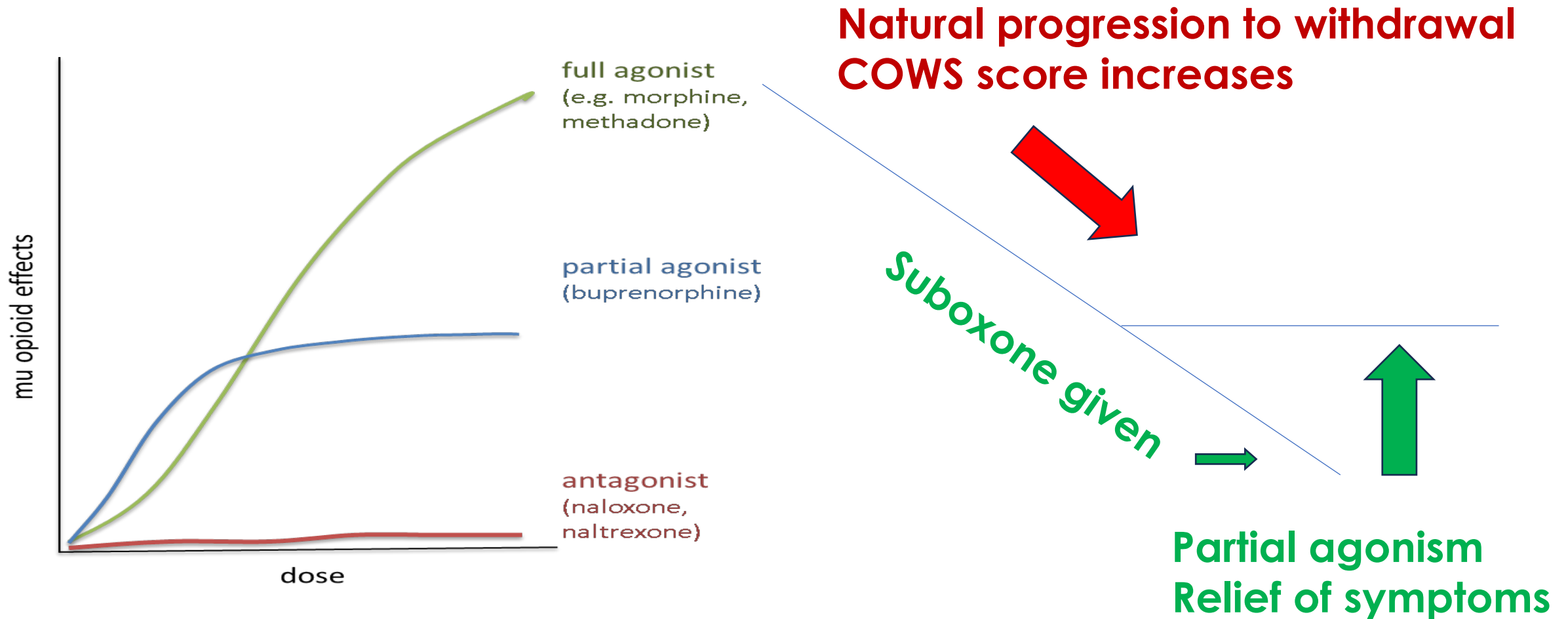


Signs of Opioid Withdrawal?

GI Upset 0-5	Muscle Aches 0-4	Tremors 0-4	Pulse 0-4	Goosebumps 0-5	
					
					
Tears & Runny Nose 0-4	Sweating 0-4	Anxiety 0-4	Restlessness 0-5	Yawning 0-4	Pupil Size 0-5

Clinical Opiate Withdrawal Scale (COWS): score 5-12 mild, 13-24 mod, 25-36 mod severe, 36-48 severe

Pharmacology of Starting Buprenorphine



"Comfort Meds" for Opioid Withdrawal Are Essential!

Anxiety

Gabapentin 300-600mg TID OR hydroxyzine 50mg q6h

Insomnia

Trazodone 50mg QHS, Melatonin

Nausea/Vomiting

Ondansetron q4h (check QTC)

Diarrhea

Loperamide 4mg


Myalgias


Tylenol 500mg q6h
Cyclobenzaprine 5-10mg OR Tizanidine 2-4mg TID

Starting Buprenorphine:

Many Different Approaches


"Standard:" Gradual, often used for short-acting opioids

- 
- Wait for withdrawal
 - (COWS >8)

- 
- Give 2-4mg q2h x6
 - 12mg day 1

- 
- 16mg on day 2

"Macro:" Rapid, often used for fentanyl

- 
- Wait for withdrawal (COWS >8)

- 
- Give 8-16mg and re-evaluate in 1 hour

- 
- 16-32mg per day

Starting Bup Outpatient?

- Shared decision-making: **START ASAP**, Inpatient can help?
- Set expectations. Provide guidance and **encouragement**
- **Arrange close follow-up, use 24/7 MAT MD supports**
- **No lab tests are necessary**
- Comfort meds are essential
- Risks/benefits: **Safer than overdose from fentanyl**

Bridge to Treatment: Great Resources

We encourage shared decision making with patient for dosing.

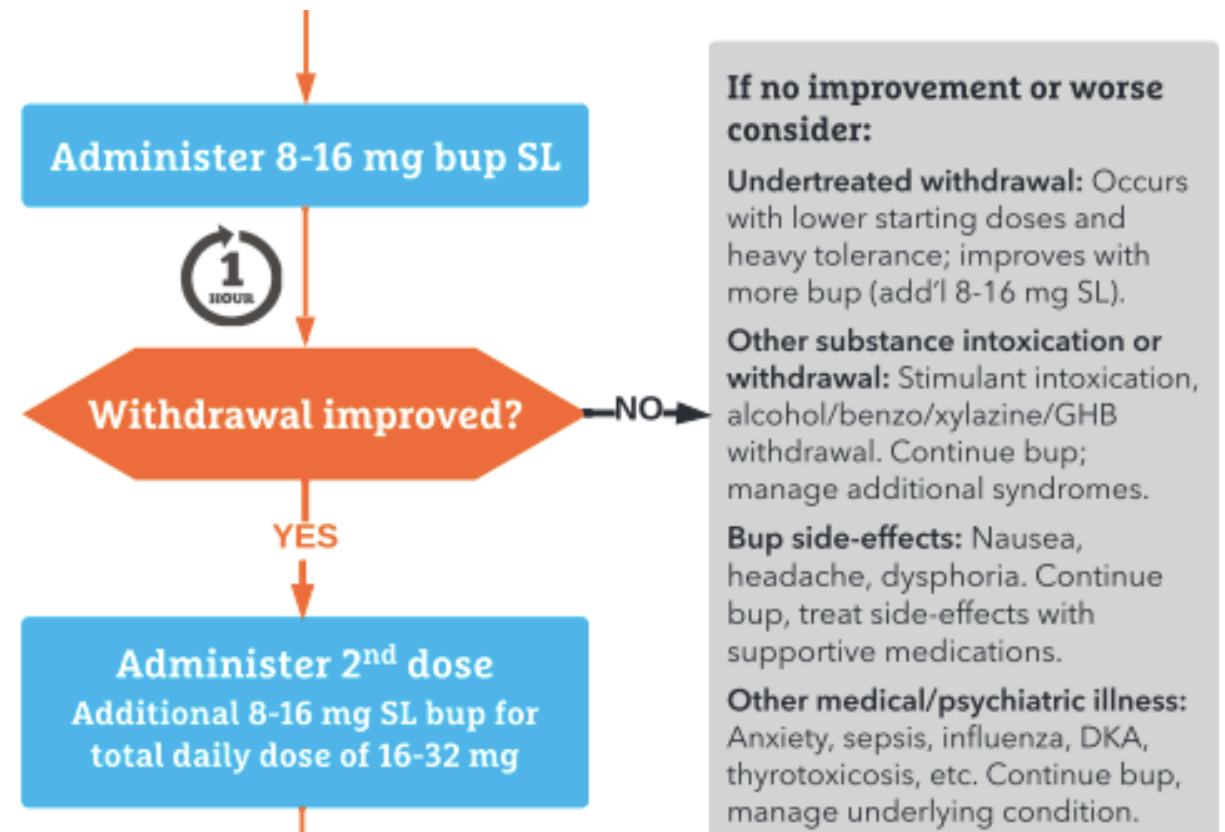
* Opioid Withdrawal:

At least one clear objective sign (prefer ≥ 2):

Tachycardia, mydriasis, yawning, rhinorrhea, vomiting, diarrhea, piloerection. **Ask the patient if they are in bad withdrawal** and if they feel ready to start bup. If they feel their withdrawal is mild, it is too soon.

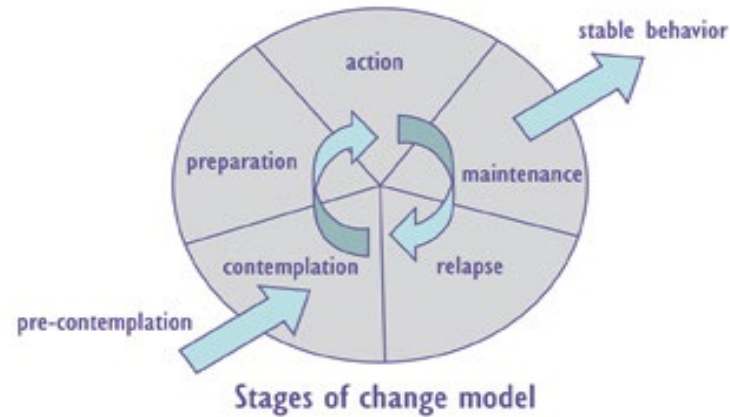
If unsure, use **COWS** (clinical opioid withdrawal scale). Start if COWS ≥ 8 AND objective signs.

Typical withdrawal onset >12 hours after last short acting opioid use (excluding fentanyl); variable after last use of fentanyl or methadone (may be >72 hours).

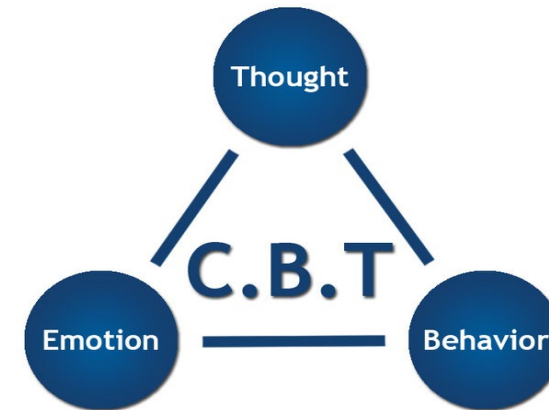


Behavioral Approaches for Adolescents with SUD

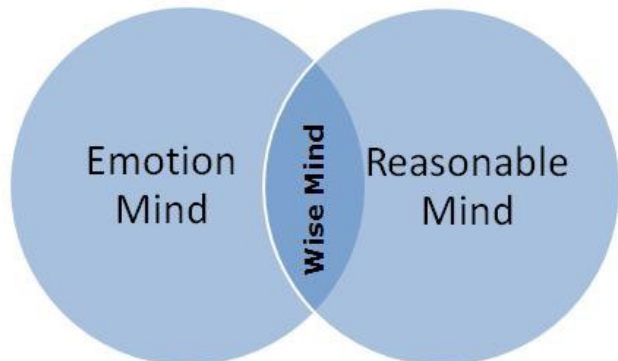
Motivational Interviewing



Cognitive Behavioral Therapy



Dialectical Behavior Therapy



Contingency Management



Contingency Management

Incentive-based programs
can improve
patient outcomes on
retention & substance use
behaviors when
implemented with a
community treatment
program



Behavior



Consequence

Family Based Therapies

Risk Reduction Family Therapy

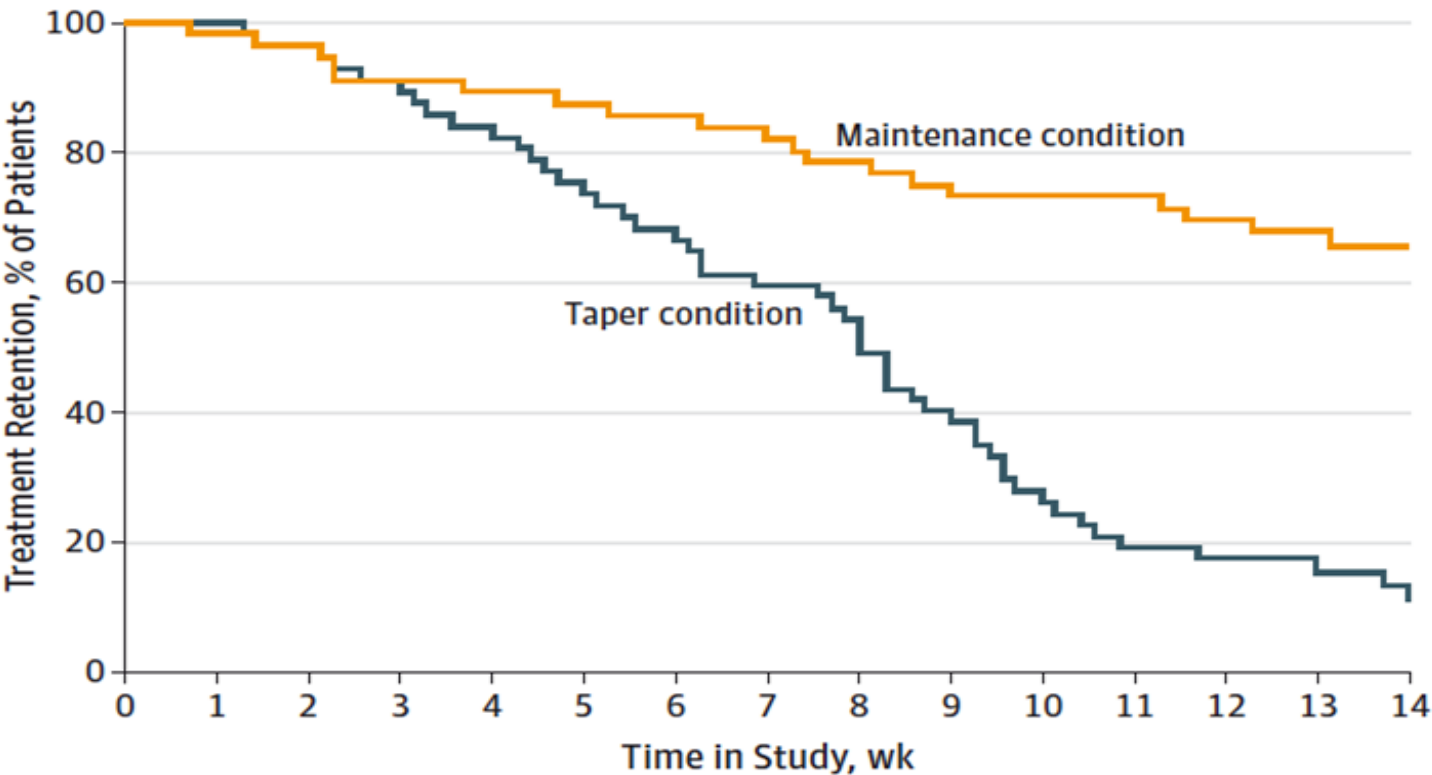
Multidimensional Family Therapy

Brief Strategic Family Therapy

Functional Family Therapy



Bup Taper = Relapse; MOUD = Recovery



Mean buprenorphine dosage, mg/d															
Maintenance condition	14.9	15.1	15.2	15.3	15.3	16.0	15.9	16.2	16.2	16.6	16.8	16.2	16.1	15.8	14.6
Taper condition	15.6	15.6	15.4	15.3	14.2	9.7	5.7	3.1	0.6	0.2	0	0	0	0	0

Increased Bup Access = Decrease ODs

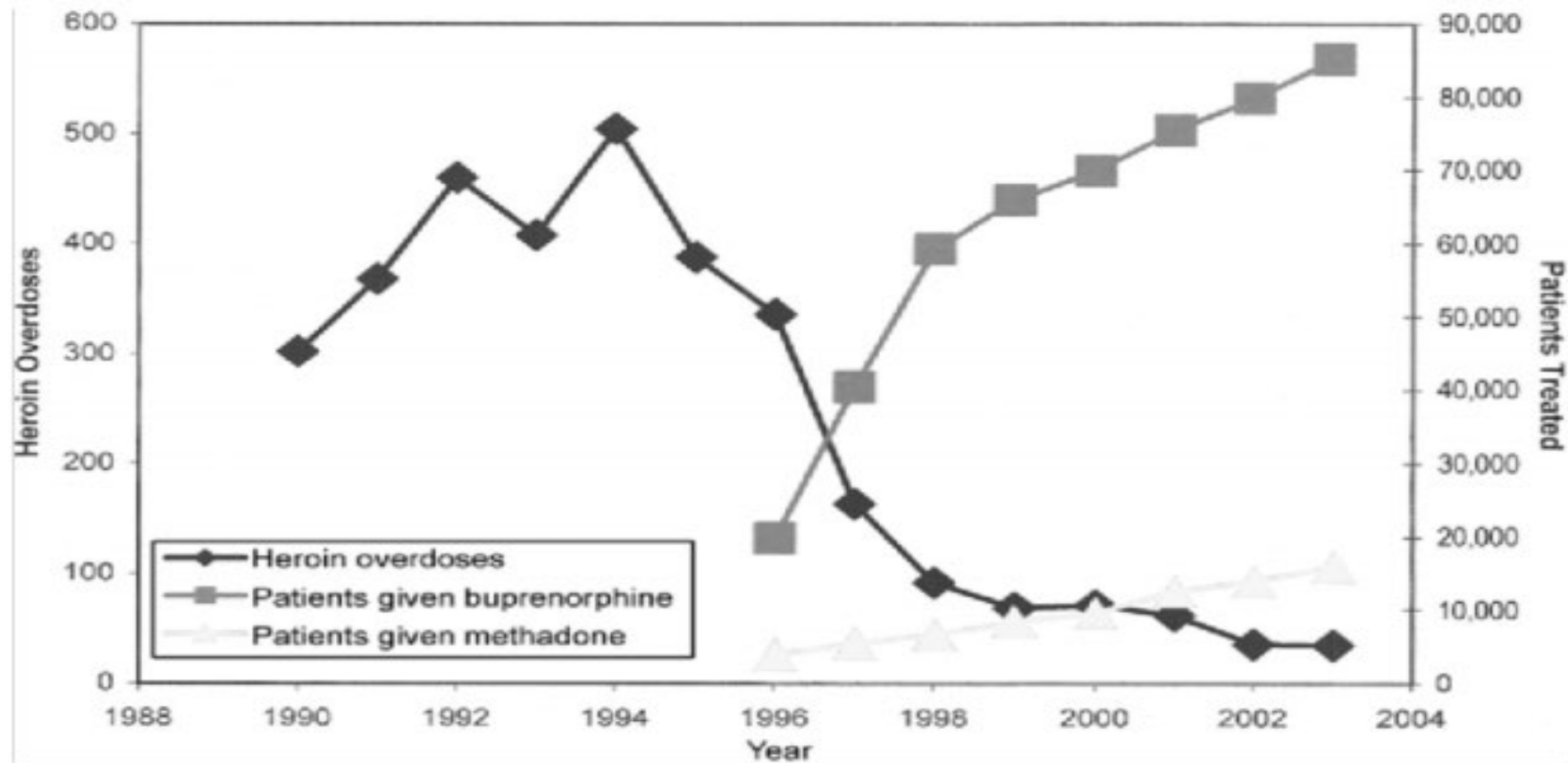


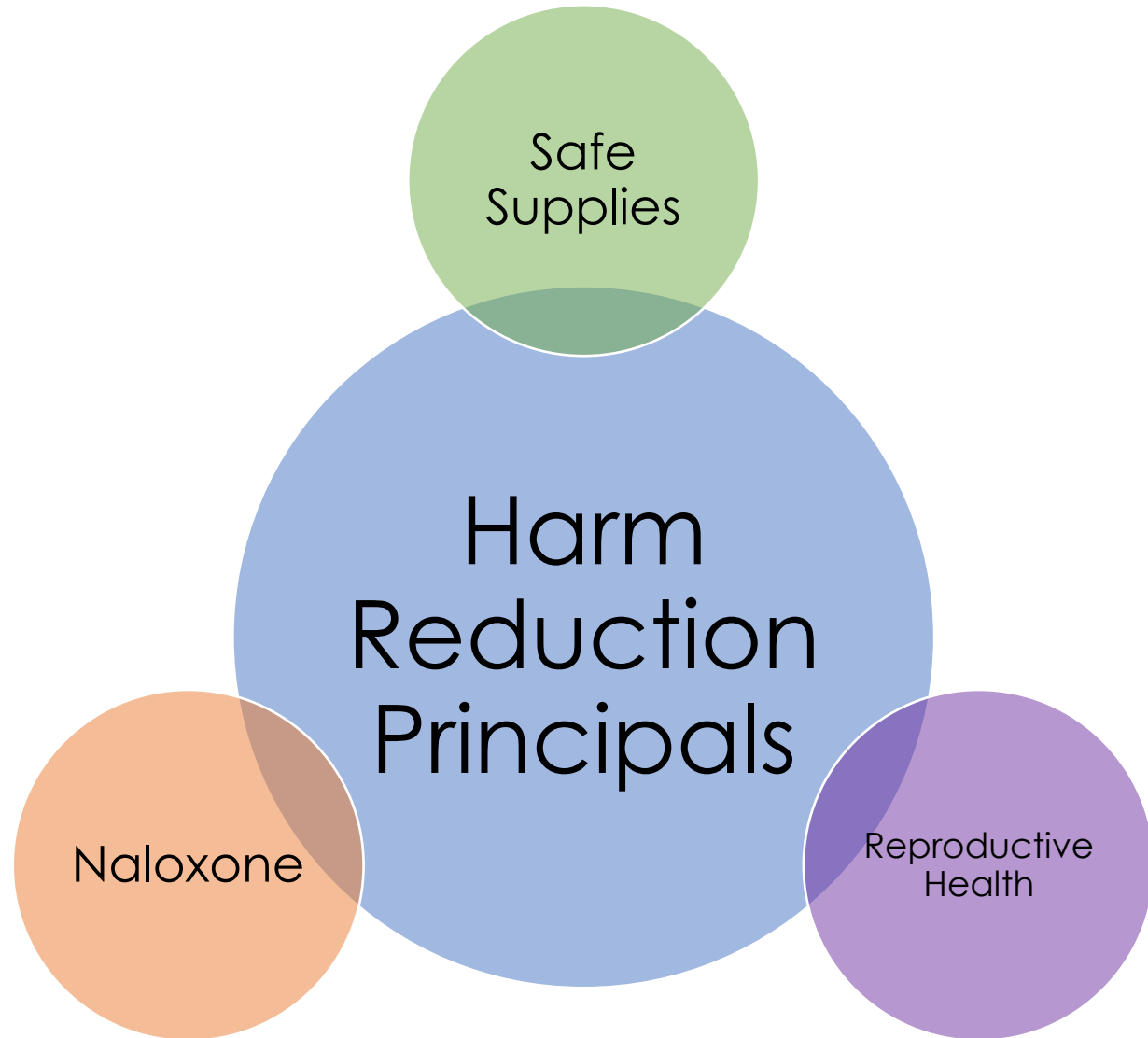
Figure 2. From: Carrieri, Maria Patrizia, et al. "Buprenorphine use: the international experience." *Clinical Infectious Diseases* 43.Supplement 4 (2006): S197-S215.



Engaging Adolescents in Harm Reduction

NATIONAL
HARM REDUCTION
COALITION

Harm reduction is a set of practical strategies and ideas aimed at reducing negative consequences associated with drug use. Harm Reduction is also a movement for social justice built on a belief in, and respect for, the rights of people who use drugs.

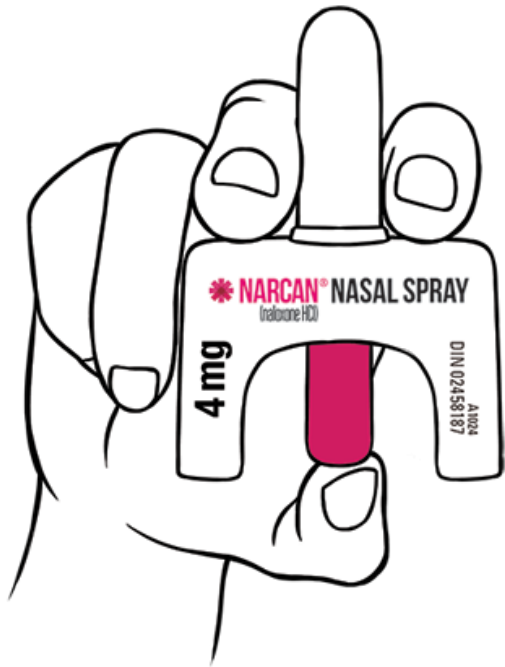


DECREASE:

**Overdose Deaths
Transmission of HIV,
Hepatitis B and C
Skin Infections
Endocarditis
Pregnancy**

Naloxone (Narcan):

What patients should know

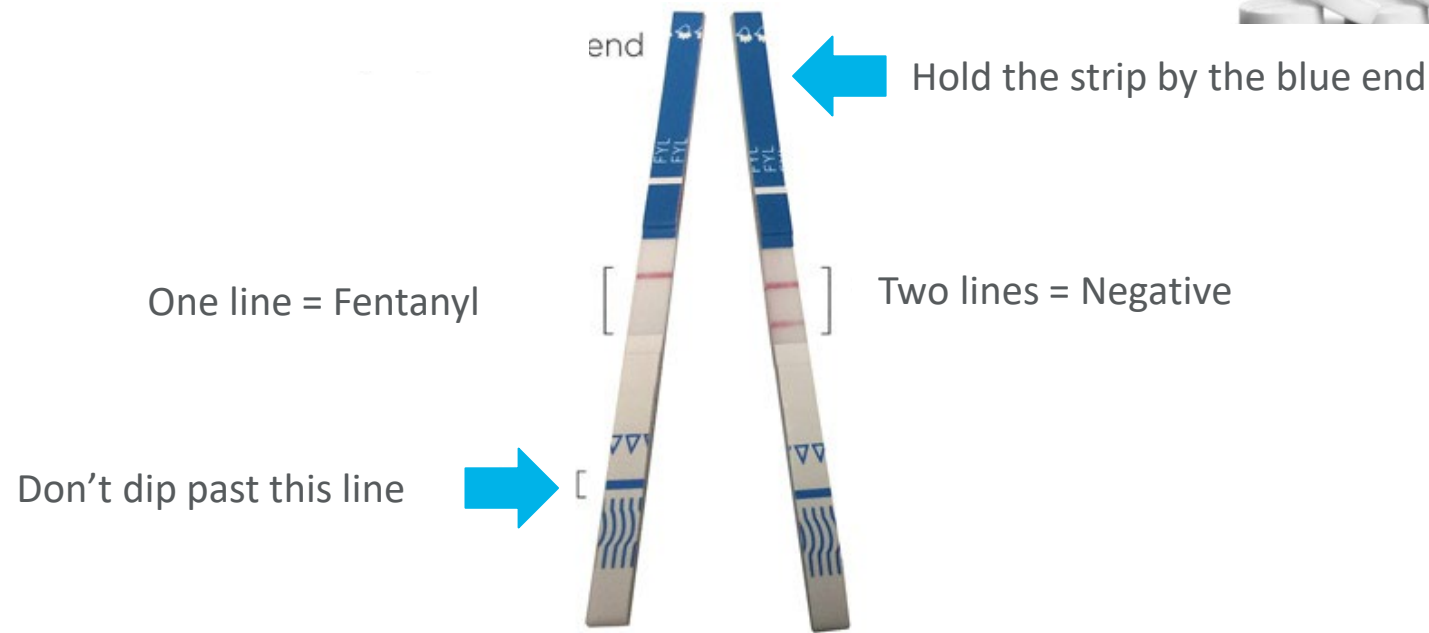


- Reverses opioid overdose
- Never use alone: Use Narcan on others, not on yourself
- One-time use only
- Continue giving doses if needed
- Always call 911 and go to hospital

Know what's in the supply: Fentanyl Test Strips

Counterfeit Drugs Containing Fentanyl

6 out of 10 pills
With Fentanyl contain a potentially
Lethal Dose

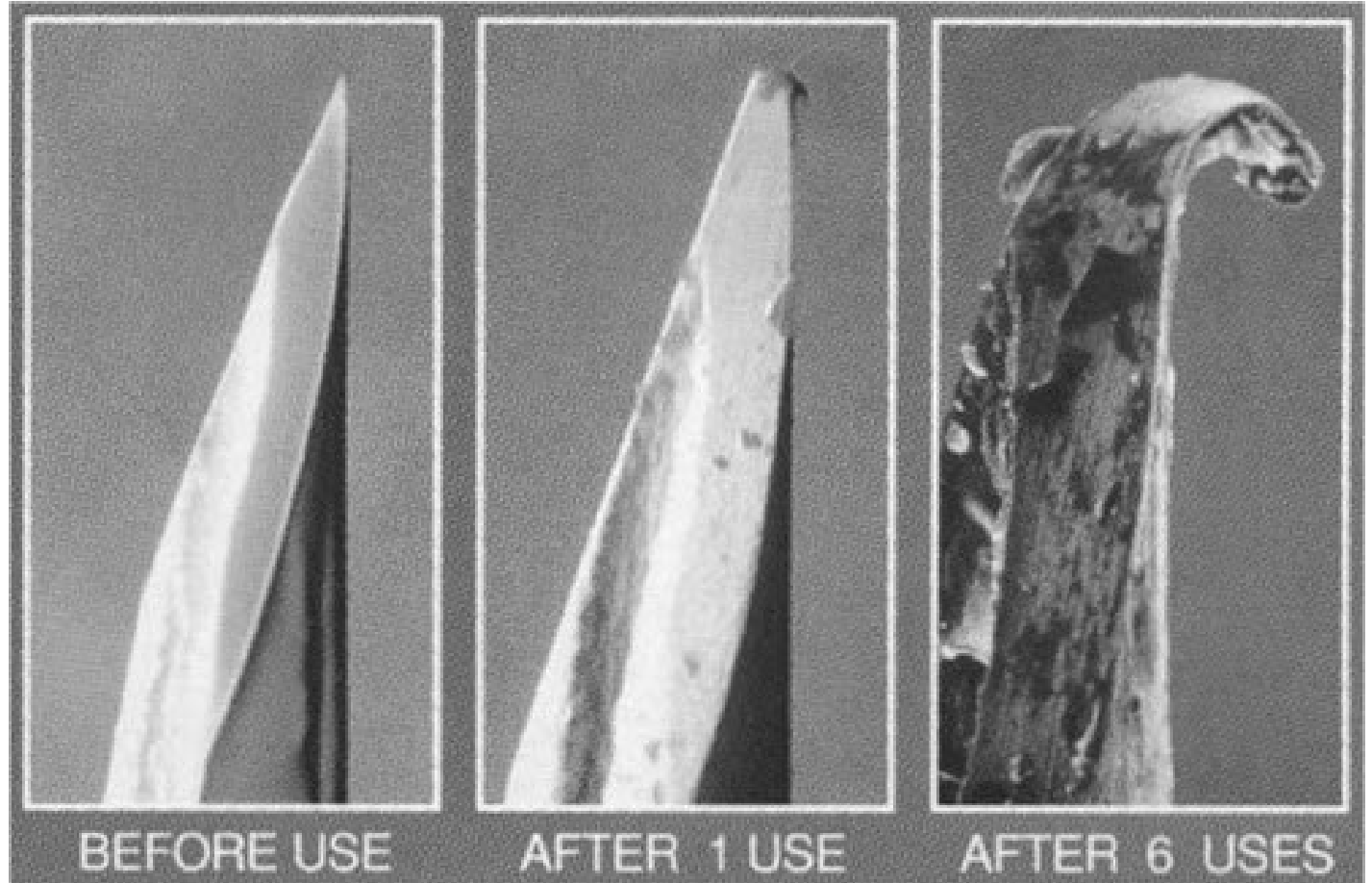


- *Help identify unintentional fentanyl in drugs*
- ***MUST BE dissolved to test! (Pills cannot have been tested.)***

Safe Supplies

Safe Syringe Programs(SSP):

Patients are **FIVE times more likely** to enter treatment and nearly **THREE times more likely** to reduce or discontinue IVDU



Reproductive Health

Safety

- Screen for **abuse/violence** and plan for safety, if necessary

Birth control method

- LARCs, OCPs, Depo-Provera
- Minimum, condoms and/or Plan B

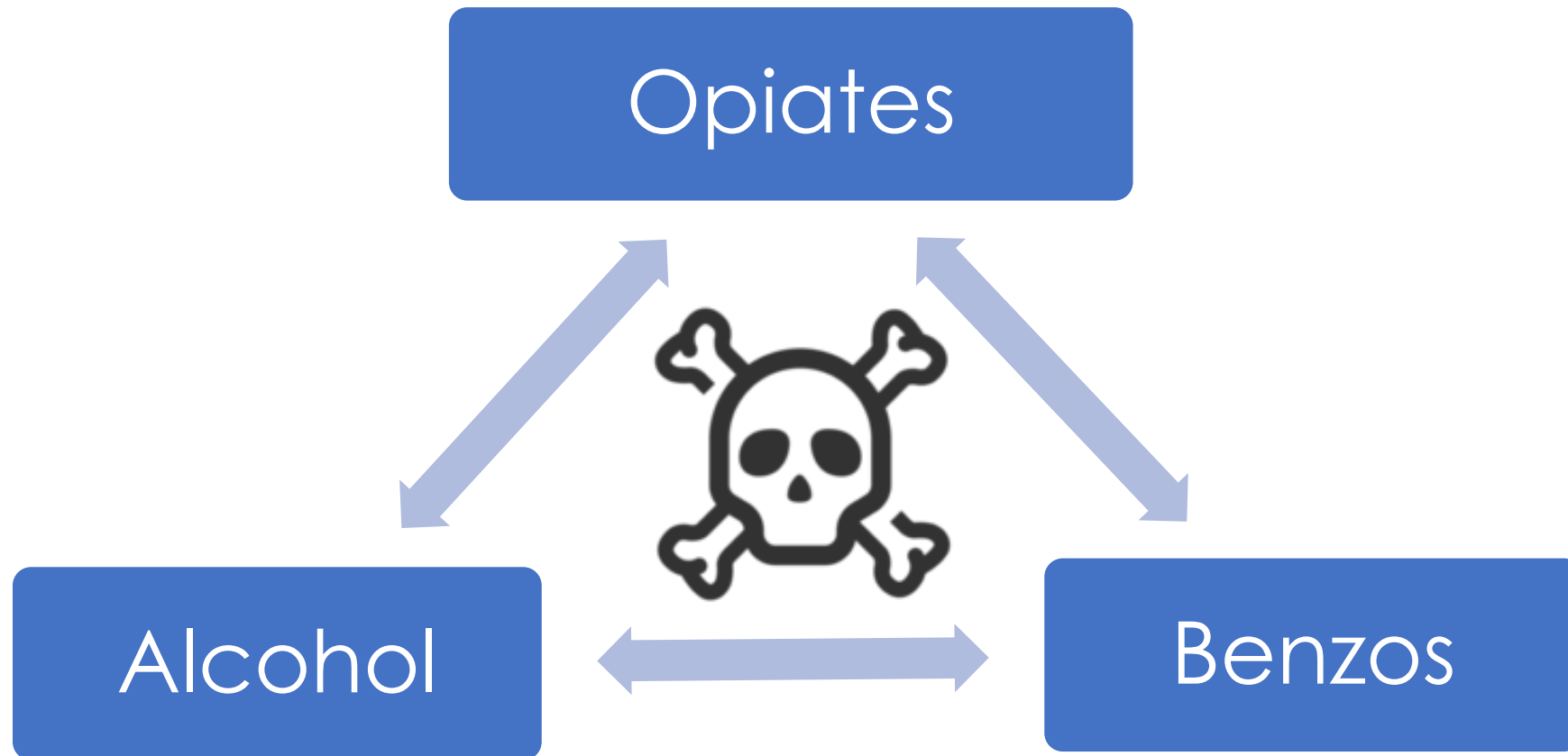
Screening

- STIs: HIV, GC/CT, syphilis, hep B/C
- Pregnancy

Consider PrEP and/or PEP

- PrEP: Daily oral (Truvada or Descovy) or injectable
- PEP: Taken within 72 hours of exposure

Overdose Triad



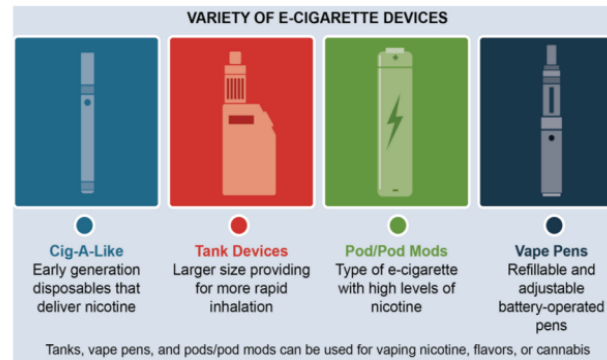


Other Substances of Abuse

Vaping/Nicotine

E-cigarettes & vaping

- Products used to deliver nicotine, cannabis (THC, CBD), flavorings, chemicals, and other substances. Devices may be referred to as
 - E-cigs
 - Vapes
 - Vape pens, dab pens, and dab rigs
 - Tanks
 - Mods
 - Pod-Mods
- Electronic nicotine delivery systems (ENDS) Use of e-cigarette, or vaping, products is sometimes referred to as “vaping” or “juuling.”
- E-cigarette, or vaping, products used for dabbing are sometimes called “dab” pens.



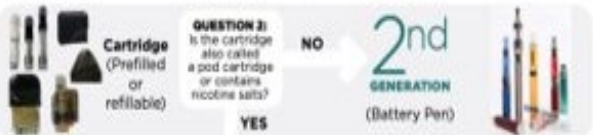
Classifying E-Cigarettes, or Vaping, Products

How to Classify the User's E-Cigarette, or Vaping, Product

For an accessible explanation of schematic below on how to classify e-cigarettes, go to [Aspirado.page.25](#)

Important notes:

1. E-liquids can contain nicotine, THC, CBD, flavors, or other solvents.
2. Marijuana herb, hash oil, dab wax are used with vaporizers.



Offer Tx for Vaping/Nicotine

Nicotine Patch

Nicotine Gum/Lozenge

Bupropion (Wellbutrin) SR up to 300mg/day or XL 150mgDay

Varenicline(Chantix) >17 year old

Stronger. Riskier.
Not Your Grandma's Weed.

**Cannabis products are
up to 23x riskier
than 50 years ago.**

Why We V

- THC increasi
potent, espe
vaping
 - Cannabis hy
 - Worsening
anxiety/psyc

Can Help

• MAT:
ntin or N-
steine
underlying
insomnia



Marijuana Treatment

Cannabis Use Disorder: Treatment

- **The mainstay of CUD treatment is psychosocial/behavioral**
- Evidence across adolescents and adults supports
 - Motivational Interviewing (MI)
 - Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy (CBT)
 - Family Interventions
- Effect sizes are generally small to modest, and long-term abstinence rates are low
- Contingency management (CM) can be used to reinforce abstinence and improve outcomes

Cannabis Use Disorder: Pharmacotherapy

Human Laboratory Controlled Trials		Pilot Controlled Trials		Fully Powered Controlled Trials	
Discouraging	Encouraging	Discouraging	Encouraging	Negative/Null	Positive
Bupropion SR (N=10) (Haney et al., 2001)	Rimonabant (N=63, 36) (Huestis et al., 2001; Huestis et al., 2007)	Divalproex (N=25) (Levin et al., 2004)	Buspirone (N=50) (McRae-Clark et al., 2009)	Dronabinol (N=156) (Levin et al., 2011)	N-acetylcysteine (N=116 adolescents) (Gray et al., 2012)
Nefazodone (N=7) (Haney et al., 2003)	Dronabinol (N=7, 8) (Haney et al., 2004; Budney et al., 2007)	Bupropion SR (N=106, 22) (Carpenter et al., 2009; Penetar et al., 2012)	Gabapentin (N=50) (Mason et al., 2012)	Venlafaxine XR (N=103) (Levin et al., 2013)	Nabiximols (N=128) (Lintzeris et al., 2019)
Divalproex (N=7) (Haney et al., 2004)	Lofexidine+ Dronabinol (N=8) (Haney et al., 2008)	Nefazodone (N=106) (Carpenter et al., 2009)	Oxytocin (N=16) (Sherman et al., 2017)	Buspirone (N=175) McRae-Clark et al., 2016)	
Baclofen (N=10) (Haney et al., 2010)	Zolpidem CR (N=20) (Vandrey et al., 2011)	Atomoxetine (N=78) (McRae-Clark et al., 2010)	Nabiximols (N=9, 40) (Trigo et al., 2016, 2018)	Lofexidine+ Dronabinol (N=122) (Levin et al., 2016)	
Mirtazapine (N=11) (Haney et al., 2010)	Nabilone (N=11) (Haney et al., 2013)	Escitalopram (N=52) (Weinstein et al., 2014)	PF-04457845 (FAAH inhibitor) (N=70) (D'Souza, 2019)	N-acetylcysteine (N=302) (Gray et al., 2017)	
Naltrexone (N=14, 31, 29) (Wachtel & de Wit, 2000; Haney et al., 2003; Cooper & Haney, 2010)	Nabiximols (N=51) (Allsop et al., 2014)	Lithium (N=41) (Johnston et al., 2014)			
Quetiapine (N=14) (Cooper et al., 2013)	Naltrexone (N=51) (Haney et al., 2015)	Vilazodone (N=76) (McRae-Clark et al., 2016)			
Cannabidiol (N=31) (Haney et al., 2016)	Zolpidem+Nabilone (N=11) (Herrmann et al., 2016)	Topiramate (N=66 adolescents) (Miranda et al., 2016)			
Tiagabine (N=12) (Wesley et al., 2018)	Guanfacine (N=15) (Haney et al., 2019)	Nabilone (N=18) (Hill et al., 2017)			

Cannabis Use Disorder: Pharmacotherapy

Recommendations: Cannabis Use Disorder

- **N-Acetyl Cysteine** is NOT on DHS formulary ☹️ (working on this)
 - Start at 600 mg PO Qhs x 1 day → 600 mg PO BID x 2 days → 1200 mg PO BID
- Consider:
 - Gabapentin 100 mg PO TID to start and titrate up to 300-600 mg PO TID
 - Buspar 10 mg PO BID to start and increase up to 30 BID
 - If insomnia is the most concerning symptom:
 - Consider Benadryl 25-50 mg PO Qhs
 - Guanfacine 1-2 mg PO Qhs (this can also be helpful for ADHD/impulsivity)

***** Please be mindful that Gabapentin can be abused and has street value**

Decrease ETOH Healthcare Costs

Can MAT for AUD
decrease
admissions?

51% Decrease AUD
Readmission

AUD

Treatment Inequities

12% Population has AUD:
5.4% AUD patients Received
MAT

LESS if: Medicaid or Latinx –
Male 1.8%, Female 3.2%

Alcohol Use: Low Barrier MAT

Alcohol Use Disorder: Naltrexone

NNT=8

- Prescription: 25 mg PO Qday x 3 days, then 50 mg PO Qday (until 380 mg IM Qmonth)
- MOA: antagonist at the Mu opioid receptor
- Contraindication: Opioid use, pregnancy cat C, liver failure
- Side effects: GI upset (nausea/vomiting), sedation.
- Labs: Get AST/ALT at baseline (do not Rx if 5x upper limit). Get labs Q6 months for the first year.

Naltrexone (Vivitrol/Revia)

NNT= 20 for abstinence

NNT= 9 return to heavy drinking



Alcohol Use: Low Barrier MAT

Alcohol Use Disorder: Gabapentin

- Prescription: 100 mg PO TID to start and titrate up to 300-600 mg PO TID
- MOA: Binds to voltage-gated calcium channels, which seems to inhibit the release of excitatory neurotransmitters
- Contraindication: Myasthenia gravis, myoclonus
- Side effects: fatigue, sedation.
- Labs: Baseline creatinine levels before and during the treatment

Benzos (Aka “Bars”)

Why We Worry

- All Illicits: Likely fentanyl
- Respiratory depression: especially with alcohol and opiates
- High Risk Dependency
- **Withdrawal can be fatal (like for alcohol)**



How We Can Help

- Educate on risk of illicit fentanyl
- May need taper?
- **Oxcarbazepine as off-label MAT for cravings?**
- Address anxiety, insomnia with non-benzo!

Inhalants (Nitrous Oxide)

Why We Worry

- Irreversible peripheral neuropathy and CNS damage
- Cardiac arrest
- Lung damage



How We Can Help

- No MAT options...
- Educate on side effects
- Assess for ACES
- Early high acuity SUD programs...

Protective Factors for SUD Substance Use (Disorder)

Emotional Self Regulation

- Spirituality/Religiosity

Problem Solving & Coping Skills

- Supportive Relationships/Available Mentors

“Prosocial” Activity: School, Sports, Extracurricular

- Clear Expectations

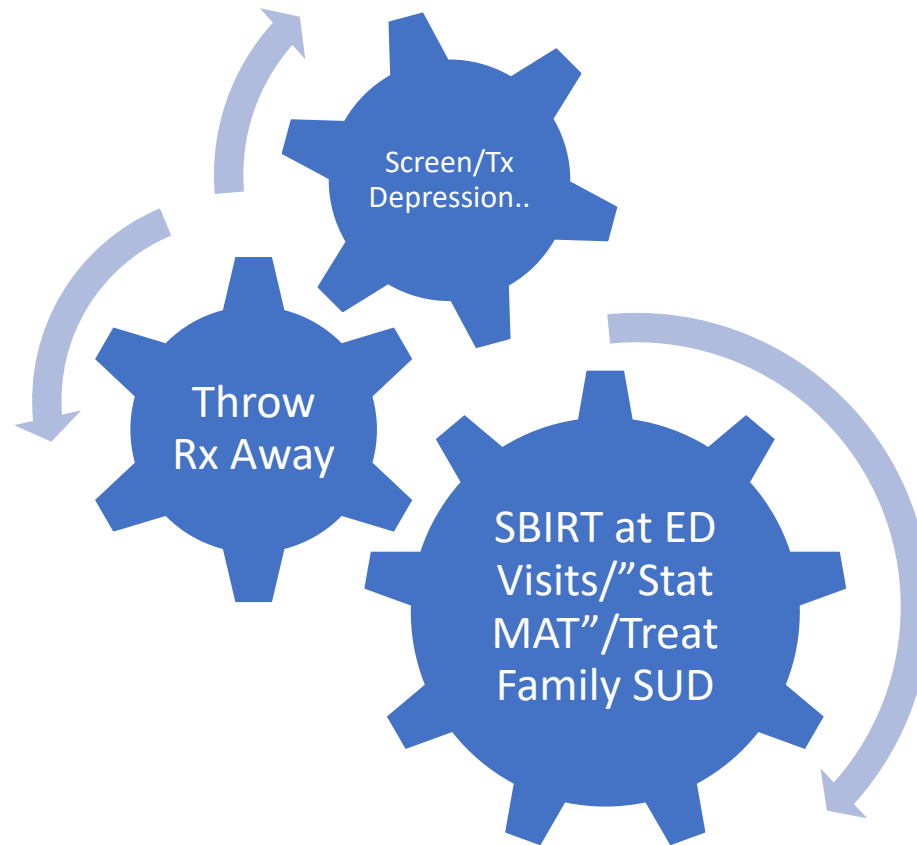
Stable Family Structure/Parental Supervision

- Physical/Psychological Safety



**Treat
Families'
SUD**

Prevention/"Intervention"



Trauma-informed care shifts the focus from:

What is
WRONG
with you?

to

“What
HAPPENED
to you?”

Learn more at chcs.org/traumainformed

CHCS Center for
Health Care Strategies

*“Don’t ask why the addiction,
ask why the pain ...
addiction is a normal response to
trauma”*

Gabor Mate, MD

Community Resources for Patients

LosAngelesMAT.org

Substance Abuse Service
Hotline 24/7 (SASH):
844-804-7500

Never Use Alone:
877-696-1996

SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICE HELPLINE



1.844.804.7500

- Toll-free, **available 24/7, year-round**
- Interpretation available, including TTY



1. **Anyone** can call the SASH (adults, youth 12+), but for referrals, the person needing treatment must also be present

2. Professional staff (clinician or counselor) conduct a screening and helps to connect the caller to a treatment provider that meets their needs.

3. An appointment can be scheduled with the provider while both the person and the SASH operator are on the line.

↑ Close Filter

SERVICE & BED AVAILABILITY TOOL (SBAT)

Treatment Works and Recovery is Possible!

Find Available Substance Use Services Near You

If you want to speak to someone directly to access services, call the Substance Abuse Service Helpline (SASH) at **1-844-804-7500 (TTY: 711)**

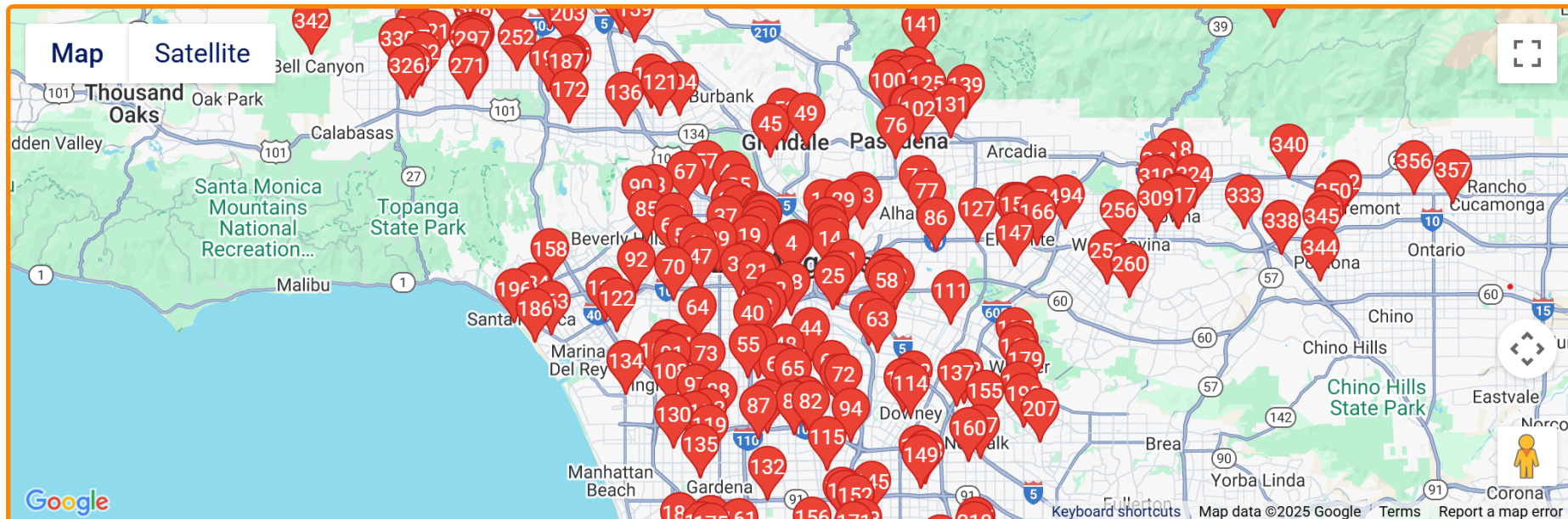
Search by agency name

- or -

Search by address

Select Range

Search



Crisis Options: PMRT over 911...

Get 24/7 help: LACDMH Help Line (800) 854-7771 or 988 Toggle Google Translate



SEARCH



[ABOUT DMH](#) ▾

[OUR SERVICES](#) ▾

[FOR PROVIDERS](#) ▾

[EVENT CALENDAR](#)

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Our Services

[Veterans](#)

[Children](#)

[Transition Age Youth](#)

[Adults](#)

[Older Adults](#)

[Home](#) ▸ [Our Services](#) ▸ [Countywide Services](#) ▸ [Emergency Outreach and Triage Division \(EOTD\) – Field Response Operations](#) ▸ **Psychiatric Mobile Response Teams (PMRT)**

PSYCHIATRIC MOBILE RESPONSE TEAMS (PMRT)

PMRT provides non-law enforcement-based mobile crisis response for clients experiencing a psychiatric emergency in the community. PMRT consists of LACDMH clinicians designated to perform evaluations for involuntary detention of individuals determined to be at risk of harming themselves or others, or who are unable to provide food, clothing, or shelter for themselves. PMRT enables successful triage of each situation involving mentally ill, violent or high-risk individuals. PMRT provides carina.



Wellness: Never Use Alone

NO JUDGEMENT, NO SHAMING, NO
PREACHING, JUST LOVE!

(800) 484-3731

If you are going to use by yourself, call us! You will be asked for your first name, location, and the number you are calling from. An operator will stay on the line with you while you use. If you stop responding after using, the operator will notify emergency services of an "unresponsive person" at your location.

FACEBOOK

CONTACT US



www.neverusealone.com

Digital mental health support for youth, young adults, and families

A groundbreaking new program providing free, safe, and confidential mental health support for young people and families across the state with two easy-to-use mobile apps:



The Warm Line is a 24/7 peer-run crisis warm line offering free, confidential emotional support to Californians.

Reach out to us by call, text, or live chat.

English (833) 317-HOPE (4673)

Spanish (833) 642-7696

Live Chat

CalHOPE Schools

A no cost initiative of HOPE for California Schools

Go to Programs

About the Programs

Resources for Providers

DHS CCL
Expected
Practices

MAT
Inpatient
Consults:
0990
UCLA
Number
89232

DHS After-
Hours
Hotline:
213-288-
9090

Inpatient
Rehab:

Place SW
consult for
SUD

Bridge to
Treatment:

<https://bridgetotreatment.org/>

Motivational Interviewing



OARS

Key Skills in Motivational Interviewing

O **OPEN QUESTIONS**
to explore concerns, promote collaboration, and understand the client's perspective.

A **AFFIRMATIONS**
to support strengths, convey respect.

R **REFLECTIVE LISTENING**
to explore deeper, convey understanding, deflect discord, elicit change talk.

S **SUMMARIZE**
to organize discussion, clarify motivation, provide contrast, focus the session and highlight change talk.

ACE Screening Implementation How-To Guide



Events

Grants

Resources

ACEs and Toxic Stress Campaign



Trauma-Informed Care

Understanding and caring for patients affected by toxic stress



cafp@familydocs.org

[\(415\) 345-8667](tel:(415)345-8667)

[ADVOCACY/POLICY](#) ▾

[EDUCATION](#) ▾

[EVENTS](#) ▾

[RESOURCES](#) ▾

[FOR MEMBERS](#) ▾

[ABOUT](#) ▾

Addiction & Substance Use Disorder

CAFP supports family physicians through programs in education, outreach and treatment for patients with substance use disorder.

[Education](#)

[Voices Of OUD Stigma](#)

[Podcast](#)

[SUD Programs](#)

[Resources](#)

Teens & Opioids: Parents Make a Difference

Share this brochure with parents in your practice. It presents concrete steps that parents can take to encourage a safe environment. The most important message: Talk with Your Teen.

[DOWNLOAD BROCHURE](#)



Narcan, Safe
Syringe
Supplies,
Condoms...



Accessing Naloxone, Drug Testing & Test Strips

Naloxone is a Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved medication that reverses an opioid overdose. It acts as an opioid receptor antagonist – meaning that it binds to opioid receptors and reverses and blocks the effects of other opioids. In the event of an opioid overdose, naloxone can quickly restore breathing to an individual whose breathing has slowed or stopped.

Access Naloxone from a Pharmacy

Naloxone is available to people with Medi-Cal and Medicare with a prescription from their doctor or can be supplied by participating pharmacies without a prescription. Additionally, many private insurances also cover the cost of naloxone, for more information call your insurance provider.

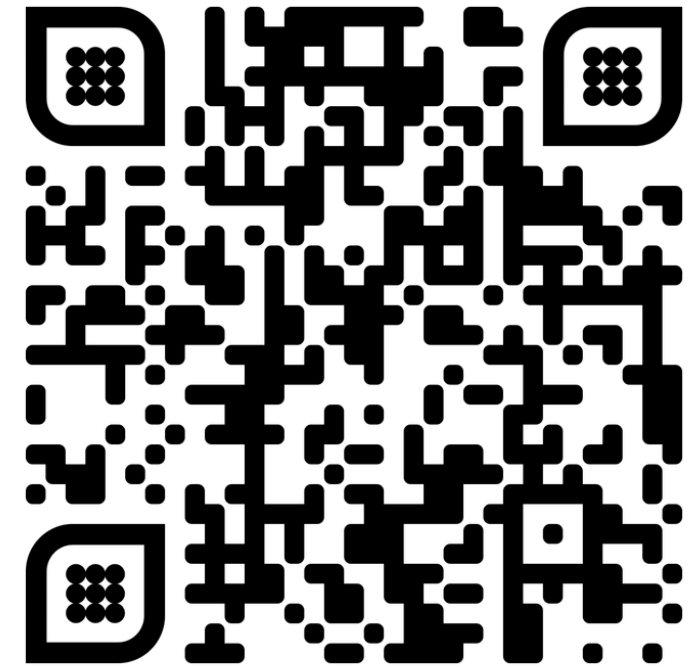
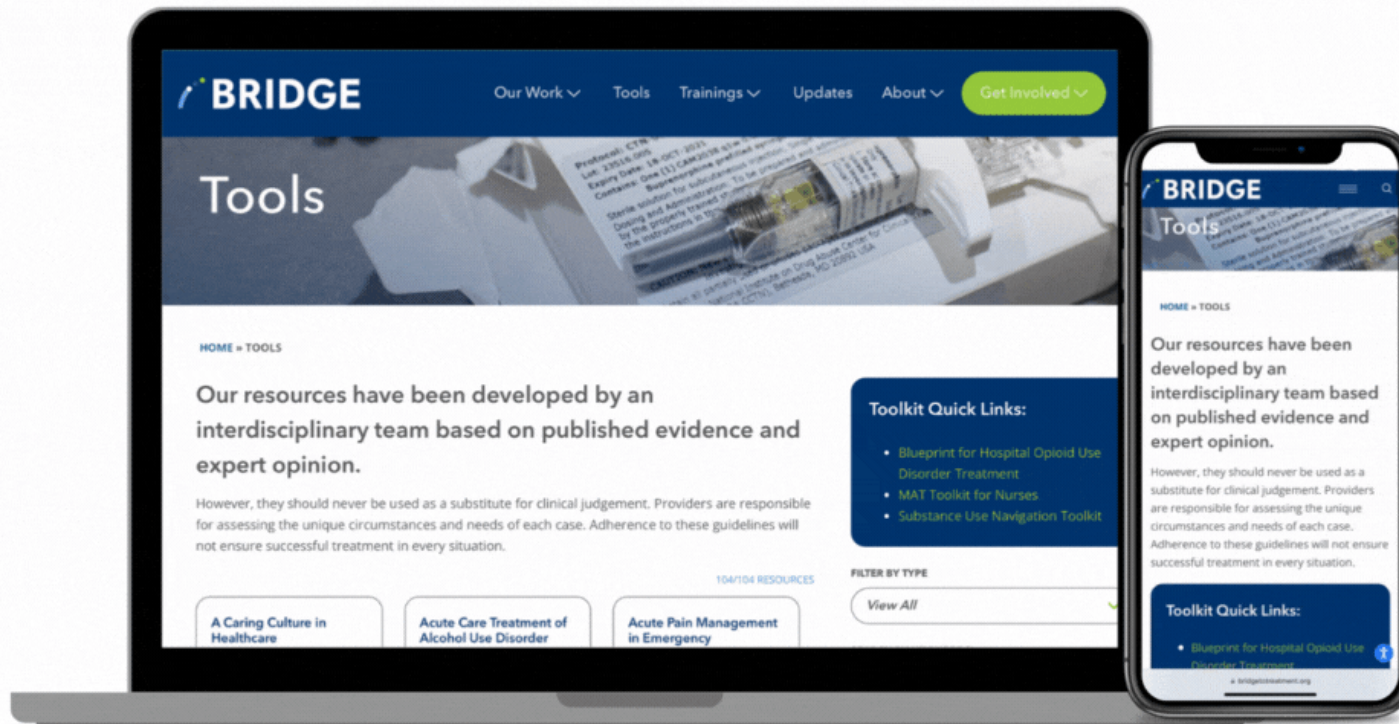
- [Naloxone Access Options in California](#)
- [NEXT Distro California](#)

Pharmacy Locations that Furnish Naloxone without a clinician's prescription.

eaviles@dhs.lacounty.gov

<http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/sapc/public/harm-reduction/>

Clinic Care Resources



Continuing education with:

CA Bridge Academy



<https://cabridge.academy.reliaslearning.com/>



SUD/MAT Resources – Please Consider Using



Grayken Center for Addiction
Training & Technical Assistance
Boston Medical Center

[LOGIN](#) | [CREATE](#)

A Resource for Healthcare and Social Services Professionals

[Home](#)

[DEA MATE Act](#)

[MAT Mobile App](#)

[Training](#) ▾

[Request TTA](#)

[Project ECHO®](#) ▾

[Resources](#) ▾

[News](#)

[About](#)

MAT Quick Start



Welcome to the desktop version of the BMC MAT Quick Start app! We've developed this guidance to help inform clinicians on the use of medications for opioid use disorder. The clinical algorithms walk you through each step of the clinical decision-making process for patients. This app is not a substitute for individualized clinical care.



BMC MAT Quick Start 17+

Addiction Treatment Tools

[Boston Medical Center Corporation](#)

Designed for iPad

★★★★★ 5.0 • 24 Ratings

Free

California Society of Addiction Medicine Annual Conference – 2025



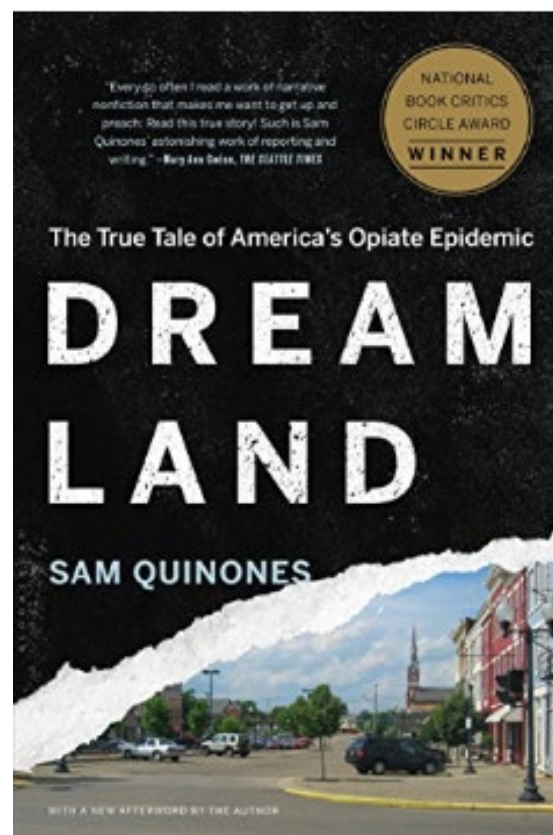
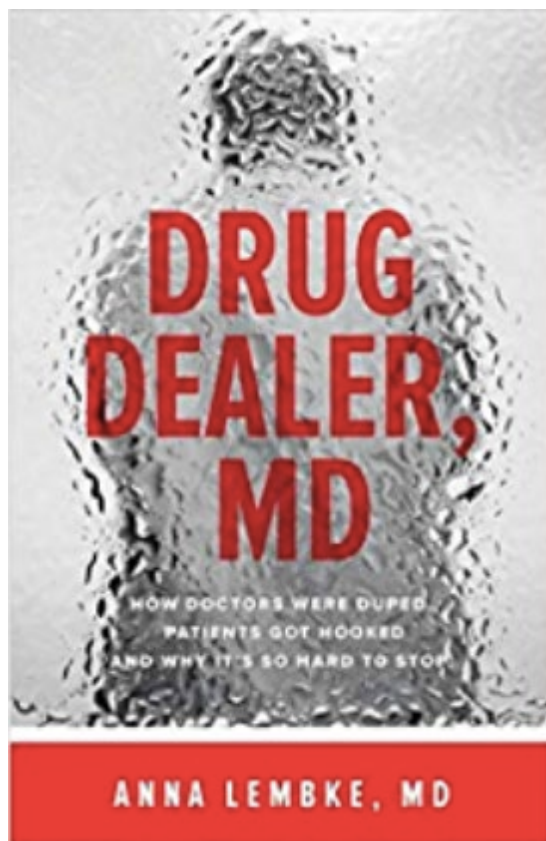
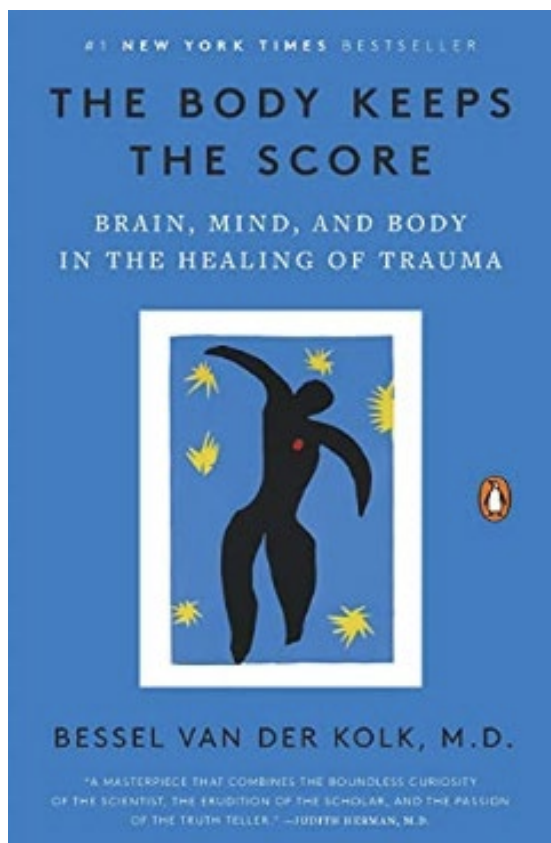
Street to Symposium, Clinic to Capitol



ASAM American Society of
Addiction Medicine



Providers
Clinical Support
System





Addiction is a TREATABLE disease of pediatric onset....
IF they receive timely interventions and MAT!

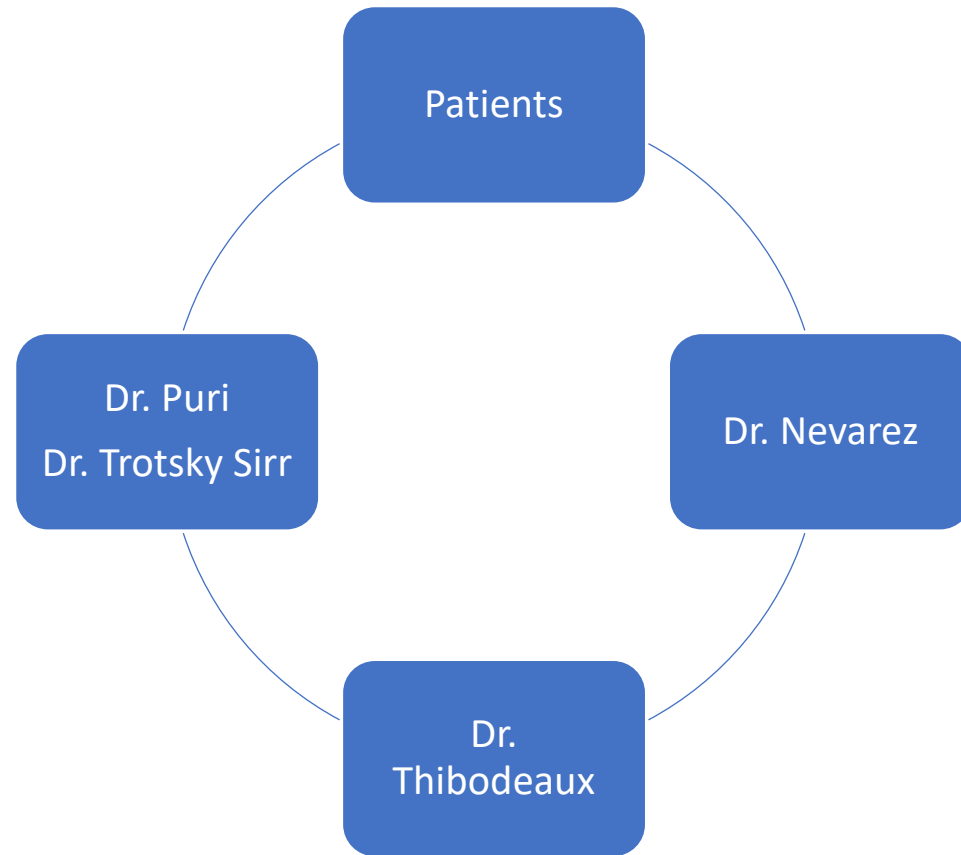
GET IN TROUBLE

GOOD TROUBLE

NECESSARY TROUBLE

John Lewis

Gratitude



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Summary of MOUD (Medications OUD)

Medication	Effect on Mu Receptor	Forms	Overdose Treatment?	Opiate Cessation	Other Uses
Naloxone (<i>Narcan</i>)	Antagonist	Intranasal IM	YES		
Naltrexone	Antagonist	PO IM		YES (only if already abstinent)	Treatment of AUD
Buprenorphine (<i>Subutex</i>)	Partial Agonist	Sublingual (tab/films)		YES	Analgesia
Buprenorphine-Naloxone (<i>Suboxone</i>)		SubQ			
Methadone	Full Agonist (long half-life)	PO		YES	Analgesia