



# **Greater Atlantic City Chamber 2019 Leadership Series: Opioid Epidemic and its Impact in the Workplace**

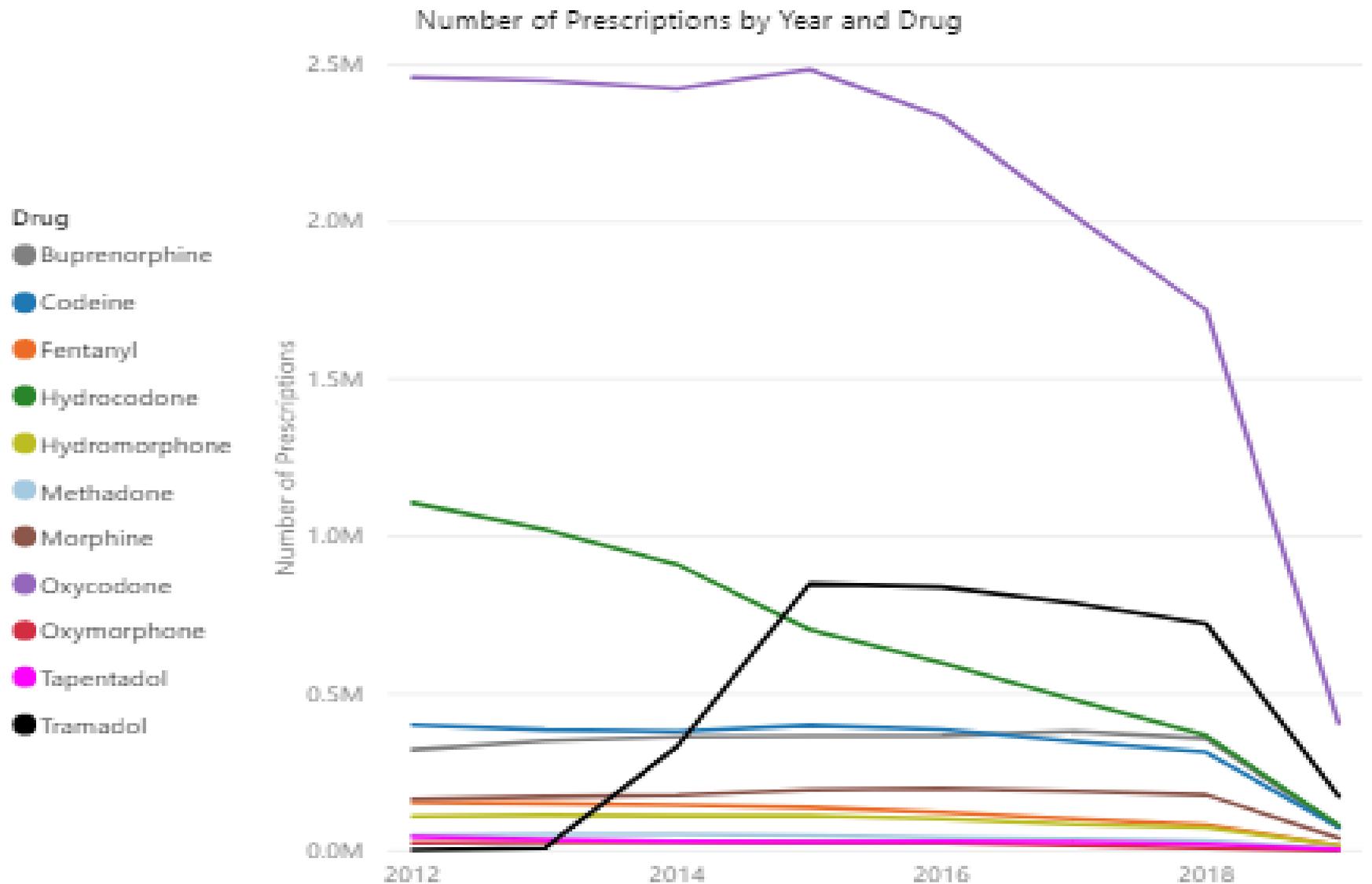
June 18, 2019



Shereef Elnahal, M.D., M.B.A.  
Commissioner  
New Jersey Department of Health



# Prescription Monitoring Data



# Eradicating the Opioid Epidemic: Murphy Administration Plan

1. Increasing access to evidence-based prevention and treatment programs
2. Supporting individuals on their path to and maintenance of recovery
3. Building sound data systems and strengthening system-wide infrastructure for the addiction community
4. Delivering robust law enforcement to stem the supply of illicit drugs, while also supporting diversion programs

**874 overdose deaths  
so far this year**



# Eradicating the Opioid Epidemic

## DOH-Led Elements

- Surveillance/Data Infrastructure
- SUD Interoperability
- Single license for PC/MH/SUD
- Opioid Reductions Options
- Harm Reduction Centers
- Naloxone
- MAT



# Surveillance, Data Infrastructure

## Data Sources

Office of  
Emergency  
Medical Services

New Jersey State  
Police

Office of the Chief  
State Medical  
Examiner (OSME)

Division of  
Mental Health  
and Addiction  
Services

Division of  
Consumer Affairs

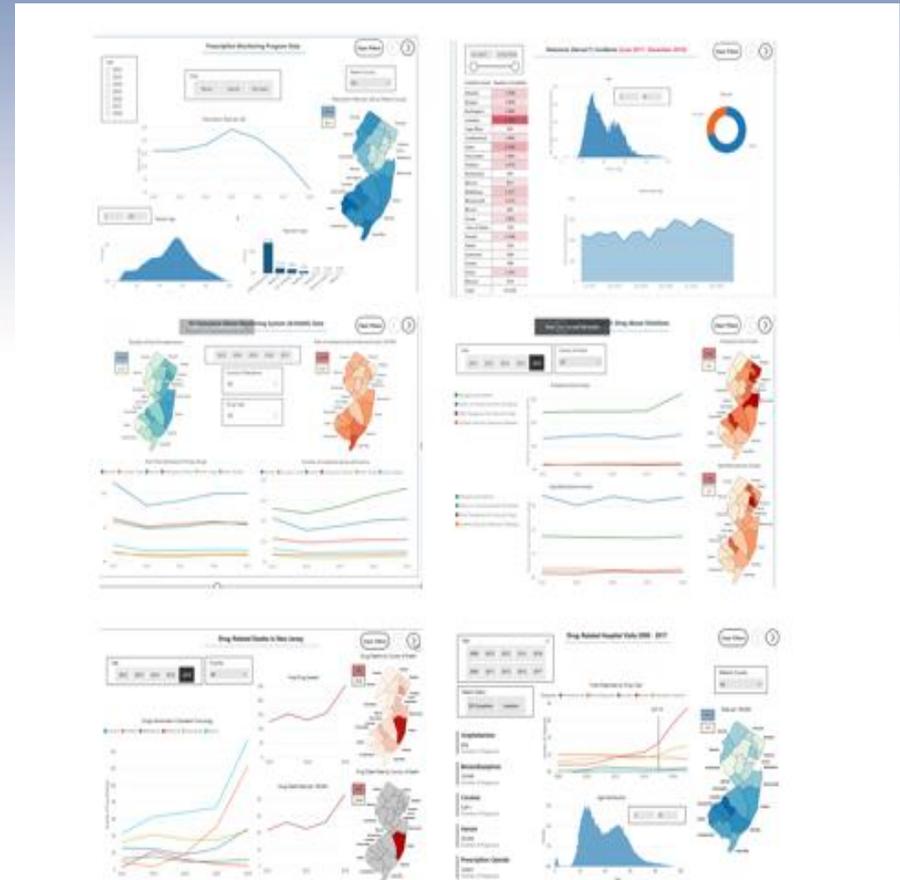
Healthcare  
Quality and  
Informatics

Communicable  
Disease Service

U.S. Census  
Bureau

Division of HIV,  
STD and TB  
Services

## Current Opioid Dashboard



# Enhanced Opioid Dashboard for Actionable Policy Decisions

## Atlantic County: Demand

- Drug-related deaths: 190
- Drug-death rate (per 100,000): 63.5
- Naloxone Incidents: 1,527
- Rate of substance use admissions (per 100,000): 10,749
- Number of 1<sup>st</sup> time admissions: 29,312
- Drug-related hospital visits (rate per 100, 000): 290.5
- Opioid prescription rate (per 100): 67.6
- Arrests (possession/use): 7,285
- Arrests (sale/manufacture): 2,430

## Atlantic County: Supply

- Inpatient treatment capacity (available beds)
- Ambulatory treatment capacity (SUD clinics, AWD services, etc.)
- Primary care/family medicine provider slots (Outpatient-Based Addiction Treatment, OBAT)
- ED with suboxone induction
- Peer recovery specialist supply
- Harm Reduction Center (HRC) capacity
- ALTO-trained ED
- ALTO-trained providers

## **Smarter Policy Decisions:**

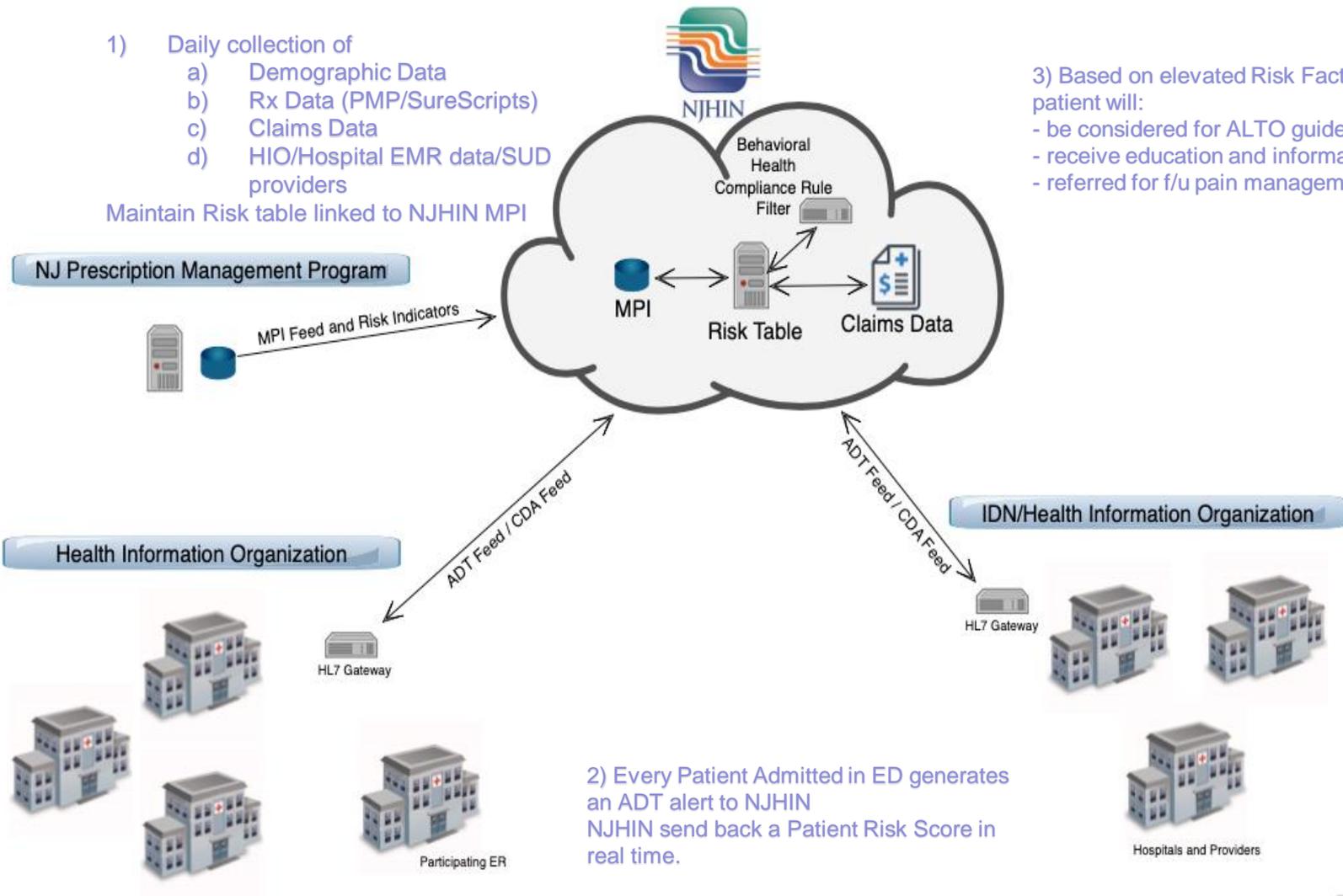
- SUD/integrated license prioritization by region
- Targeted OBAT training
- New HRC locations
- Targeted deployment of ALTO training

# Promoting Interoperability

- 1) Daily collection of
  - a) Demographic Data
  - b) Rx Data (PMP/SureScripts)
  - c) Claims Data
  - d) HIO/Hospital EMR data/SUD providers

Maintain Risk table linked to NJHIN MPI

- 3) Based on elevated Risk Factor patient will:
  - be considered for ALTO guidelines
  - receive education and information
  - referred for f/u pain management



2) Every Patient Admitted in ED generates an ADT alert to NJHIN  
 NJHIN send back a Patient Risk Score in real time.

# Integrated Health for Physical, Mental, and Addiction Care

DOH supports an overall system of integrated health care in NJ

- Relaxed regulatory barriers for all types of healthcare facilities to provide MAT
- Creating a single license for integrated care

													
<b>Frequently Asked Questions</b>													
<small>The chart, unless otherwise specified, does not address Medicaid reimbursement, which falls outside of the purview of the Department of Health (DOH). Any questions or issues related to Medicaid reimbursement should be directed to the Department of Human Services (DHS).</small>													
Type of Facility	Can the facility provide primary health care services <sup>1</sup> ?	Can the facility provide substance use disorder services?						Can the facility provide mental health services?					
		Prescribe Medications for MAT <sup>2</sup>	Store/Dispense Medications for MAT <sup>3</sup>	Provide SUD Treatment	Provide care through Mid-level SUD professional	Provide care through Psychiatrist	Provide care through Psychologist	Prescribe Psychotropic Medications	Store/Dispense Psychotropic Medications <sup>4</sup>	Provide Mental Health Treatment	Provide care through Mid-level mental health professional	Provide care through Psychiatrist	Provide care through Psychologist
Federally Qualified Health Center													
Ambulatory Care Facility (ACF) <sup>15</sup>													
Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic <sup>27</sup>													
Mental Health Program (MHP) <sup>29</sup>				 <small>For co-occurring conditions</small>									
Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Facility <sup>27</sup>													

# Prevention: Reducing ED opioid prescriptions

*NJ initiative to reduce opioid prescribing in hospital EDs*

## **The Opioid Reduction Options Project:**

Provide training/support to ED staff who assist in acute-pain management while decreasing an individual's reliance on opioids



**Goal:** Reduce number of opioids prescribed in all state EDs to at least **12% by 2020**

- In 2018, 43 out of every 100 persons received a prescription opioid in NJ.
- Studies have found that **17%** of all ED discharges included a prescription for opioids
- **The best hospital EDs in NJ reduced opioid prescribing by 82%**
- **If 12% target is achieved, could have serious impact on reducing opioid scripts and overdose deaths**

# Increasing Naloxone Access

## Naloxone (Narcan<sup>®</sup>):

As of June 12, 2019, a total of **526** standing orders to distribute naloxone without a prescription have been issued, which represents **958** pharmacists working at **429** pharmacies throughout the state since October 31, 2017.

# NALOXONE SAVES LIVES!



The State of New Jersey is providing naloxone for free at participating pharmacies on June 18, 2019.

Visit [nj.gov/humanservices/stopoverdoses](http://nj.gov/humanservices/stopoverdoses) for a list of participating pharmacies.

- No Individual Prescription Needed
- No Payment or Insurance Required
- No Name Required

*Naloxone can reverse opioid overdoses.  
It will be distributed on a first-come, first-serve basis.  
Limit one per person.*

For Addiction Help 24/7  
**Call 1-844-REACHNJ**



*Note: Professionals, professional entities, first responders and first responder entities, as defined in N.J.S.A. 24:6J-3, are not eligible to obtain the opioid antidote through this project.*

NJ Department of Human Services

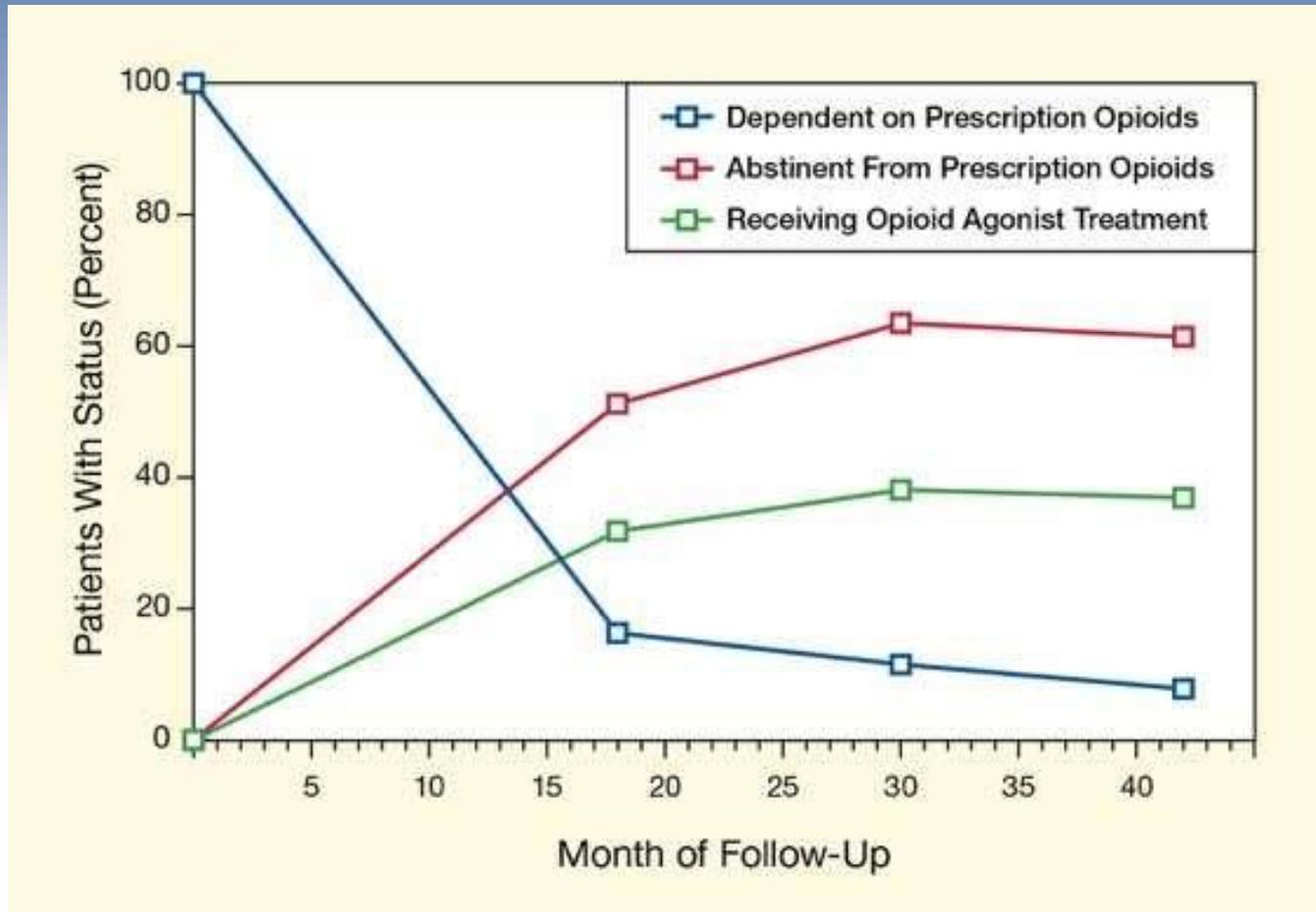
Phil Murphy, Governor | Sheila Oliver, Lt. Governor | Carole Johnson, Commissioner

# Harm Reduction

## Syringe Access Programs (SAPS):

- NJ currently operates 7 Syringe Access Programs (SAPs).
- DOH intends to expand services in the state, and bolster types of services SAPS provide through services called “Harm Reduction Centers,” which may provide:
  - HIV and HCV testing and counseling;
  - Harm reduction counseling;
  - Condom distribution;
  - Pre-exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) counseling and prescription;
  - Referral and linkage to medical care, mental health and social services, and substance use disorder treatment;
  - Overdose prevention education and access to Naloxone;
  - Fentanyl test strips and training on how to use them;
  - Reproductive care for women;
  - Safe disposal of injection equipment education; and
  - Education on safer injection practices and wound care

# Medication Assisted Treatment



**Figure. Abstinence Rate Exceeds 60 Percent in Long-Term Follow-Up of Medication-Assisted Therapy for Dependence on Opioid Pain Relievers**

Potter, J.S.; Dreifuss, J.A.; Marino E.N. et al. The multisite prescription opioid addiction treatment study: 18-month outcomes. *Journal of Substance Abuse Treatment* (48)1:62-69, 2015.

Weiss, R.D.; Potter, J.S.; Griffin, M.L. et al. Long-term outcomes from the National Drug Abuse Treatment Clinical Trials Network Prescription Opioid Addiction Treatment Study. *Drug and Alcohol Dependence* 150:112-119



# MAT Access Expansion

## **Marijuana to treat OUD:**

- **Final rule, Medicinal Marijuana Program**
  - Codifies opioid addiction as a condition for which physicians can use medical marijuana for treatment in cases with chronic pain, which has been in effect since March 2018
- **Updated Final Agency Decision on new Conditions to add OUD even in cases without chronic pain**
  - Expands usage of medicinal marijuana as an adjunct to traditional MAT for patients suffering from OUD who don't have chronic pain

## **Medicated Assisted Treatment in county jails:**

- 80% of incarcerated have a substance use disorder (SUD)
- Inmates are over 120x more likely to die from opioid overdose on release, or 3-4% of inmates per year (650 deaths/year, 22% of all overdose deaths in the state)
- DOH, DOC, and DHS working together on plans to provide MAT, therapy, and patient navigator services in county jails across NJ.
  - Funding for programs in at least 10 counties
  - Successful programs achieved 61% decrease in post-incarceration deaths

# Medical Marijuana Evidence: Opioids and Opioid Abuse

## Association of Medical and Adult-Use Marijuana Laws With Opioid Prescribing for Medicaid Enrollees

Wen et al., JAMA Intern Med. 2018;178(5):673-679. doi:10.1001/jamainternmed.2018.1007

### Design:

- Population-based, cross-sectional, longitudinal analysis of Medicaid prescription claims data for 2011 to 2016

### Results:

- State implementation of medical marijuana laws was associated with a 5.88% lower rate of opioid prescribing (95% CI-11.55% to approximately -0.21%)
- The implementation of adult-use marijuana laws in states with existing medical marijuana laws was associated with a 6.38% lower rate of opioid prescribing (95% CI-12.20% to approximately -0.56%)

### Conclusion:

- **The potential of marijuana liberalization to reduce the use and consequences of prescription opioids among Medicaid enrollees deserves consideration during the policy discussions about marijuana reform and the opioid epidemic.**

# Medical Marijuana Evidence: Opioids and Opioid Abuse

## Association Between US State Medical Cannabis Laws and Opioid Prescribing in the Medicare Part D Population

Bradford et al., JAMA Intern Med. 2018;178(5):667-672. doi:10.1001/jamainternmed.2018.0266

### Design:

- Longitudinal analysis of the daily doses of opioids filled in Medicare Part D for all opioids as a group and for categories of opioids by state and state-level Medical Cannabis Law (MCL) from 2010 through 2015.

### Results:

- Analysis results found that patients filled fewer daily doses of any opioid in states with an MCL
  - States with active dispensaries saw 3.742 million fewer daily doses filled

### Conclusion:

- Medical cannabis laws are associated with significant reductions in opioid prescribing in the Medicare Part D population. This finding was particularly strong in states that permit dispensaries, and for reductions in hydrocodone and morphine prescriptions.

# Medical Marijuana Evidence: Opioids and Opioid Abuse

## Association Between Medical Cannabis Laws and Opioid Overdose Mortality has Reversed Over Time

Chelsea L. Shover, Corey S. Davis, Sanford C. Gordon, Keith Humphreys. Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, 2019; 201903434 DOI: 10.1073/pnas.1903434116

### Design:

- Longitudinal analysis that revisited 2014 JAMA study which found that states with medical marijuana laws had lower opioid overdose death rates.

### Results:

- Analysis results found that while states that enacted a medical marijuana law between 1999 and 2010 saw about a 25% drop in opioid overdose deaths
  - Between 1999 and 2017 states with medical marijuana laws eventually saw, on average, a 22.7% increase in opioid overdose deaths

### Conclusion:

- Cannabinoids have demonstrated therapeutic benefits (13), but reducing population-level opioid overdose mortality does not appear to be among them. There is no evidence that either broader (recreational) or more restrictive (low-tetrahydrocannabinol) cannabis laws are associated with changes in opioid overdose mortality.

**For more information visit:**

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