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Opioid Abuse in America

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Impact on Pharmacy
Do Pharmacists See Opioid Abuse?

Pharmacists See the Epidemic Everyday
- In 2015, 12.5 million people misused Prescriptions.¹
- 15,281 people die of prescribed opioid abuse yearly.¹
- Over 2 million people had prescription opioid abuse disorder in 2015.
- Pharmacists need to stay alert and make sure patients are taking medications correctly.

Pharmacists Have the Knowledge to Help
- Pharmacists have the unique knowledge, skills, and responsibility for assuming an important role in substance abuse prevention, education, and assistance.²
- Pharmacists need to alert patients taking dangerous medications about the risks and also taking it correctly.

Impact of the Issue
On Abusers and Those Around Them
Abusers...
- Have 8.7 times higher healthcare cost than none abusers.²
- Possess a higher risk of hepatitis.³
- Have a higher rate of Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome.⁴
- High risk for Heroin abuse.⁵
- More prone to risky behavior.⁶

Others affected...
- There has been a steady increase in ED visits.⁷
- The families of the abuser suffer strain as opioid dependency becomes stronger.¹⁰

What is the Opioid Epidemic?

A form of Drug Abuse
- The misuse of Opioid drug class which includes: Heroin, Fentanyl, Oxycodone, Codeine, Morphine, and many more.⁸

Drug Overdose Deaths Per 100,000 Population
U.S., 2015

Where is the Epidemic Occurring? The Problem is from Coast to Coast
- Overdoses killed more people in the US in 2015 than car crashes and gun deaths combined.¹
- The daily death toll is 142 fatal overdoses, 91 of them from opioids, adding up to almost 52,000 drug overdose deaths in 2015.³

As Seen to the left the problem is not contained to one area but is worst in our backyard in Ohio.

Reducing Incidence
Pharmacists Can Help
- Pharmacists can also extend their involvement by incorporating risk-stratified, patient-centered opioid screening into existing workflows.
- Watch for the red flags of opioid abuse with patients.
- Make it a point to educate the patients about using opioid medications as well as safe storage and disposal of the medication.²

Helping Those Already Affected
- It is estimated that a person suffering from an opioid addiction must pay 8 times more on healthcare than the average American.¹²
- Lower costs make the proper care more accessible.

Prevention Over Prosecution
- When someone dealing with a drug dependency is imprisoned, they do not receive the proper treatment to overcome their addiction.
- Drug abusers need to be in an environment where they feel encouraged to overcome their addiction, and cope with withdrawals in a healthy manner.
- Overcoming an addiction to opioids does not have a set timeframe. Some people can spend years overcoming their dependency, while others may spend their entire lives.

What is the Opioid Epidemic?

President’s Remarks:
Read the speech President Trump delivered about the Opioid problem in The United States today.¹

Deterrents of Health
Who is at Risk?

Causes
- The majority of opioid abusers suffered some form of abuse or neglect during their childhood.¹²
- Some people are more genetically susceptible to addiction with it being inheritable nearly 50% of the time.⁹
- A family history of addiction leads to a much higher risk of abuse.
- 80% of drug abusers also abuse alcohol.⁶
- 8 Million people had co-occurring mental health and drug abuse disorders in 2014.³
- Twice as many unemployed people struggle with addiction than full-time employed people.⁴

Drugs Contributing To The Epidemic

- Illegal Drugs  ○ Heroin
- Synthetic Drugs  ○ Fentanyl
- Prescription Pain Relievers  ○ Morphine  ○ Vicodin  ○ Oxycodone

In 2015...
12.5 million people misused prescription opioids.

In 2017...
15,281 people die of prescription opioid abuse yearly.

In 2015...
Over 2 million people had prescription opioid abuse disorder.

In 2015...
12.5 million people misused medications.

In 2017...
46.3% of inmates in Prisons across the United States.

In 2015...
142 fatal overdoses daily.

In 2015...
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Almost 52,000 drug overdose deaths.

In 2015...

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