



Northwest (HHS Region 10)

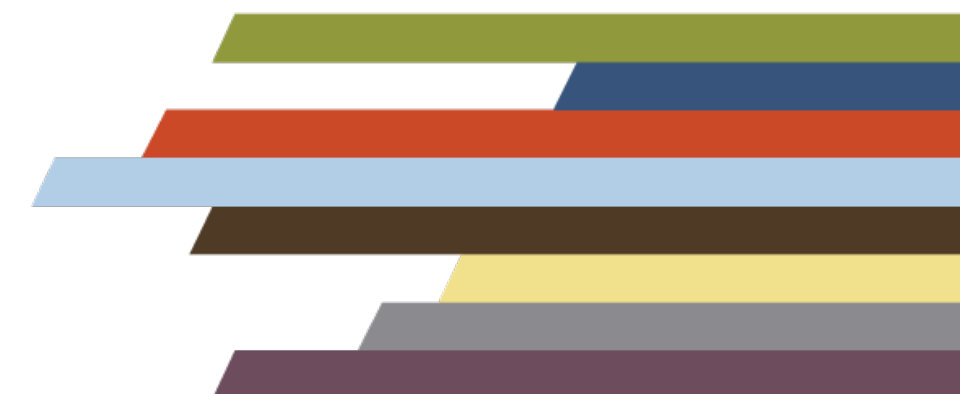
ATTC

Addiction Technology Transfer Center Network
Funded by Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

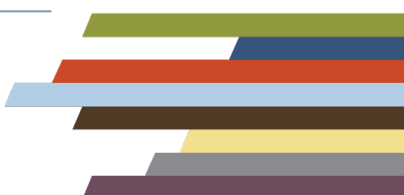
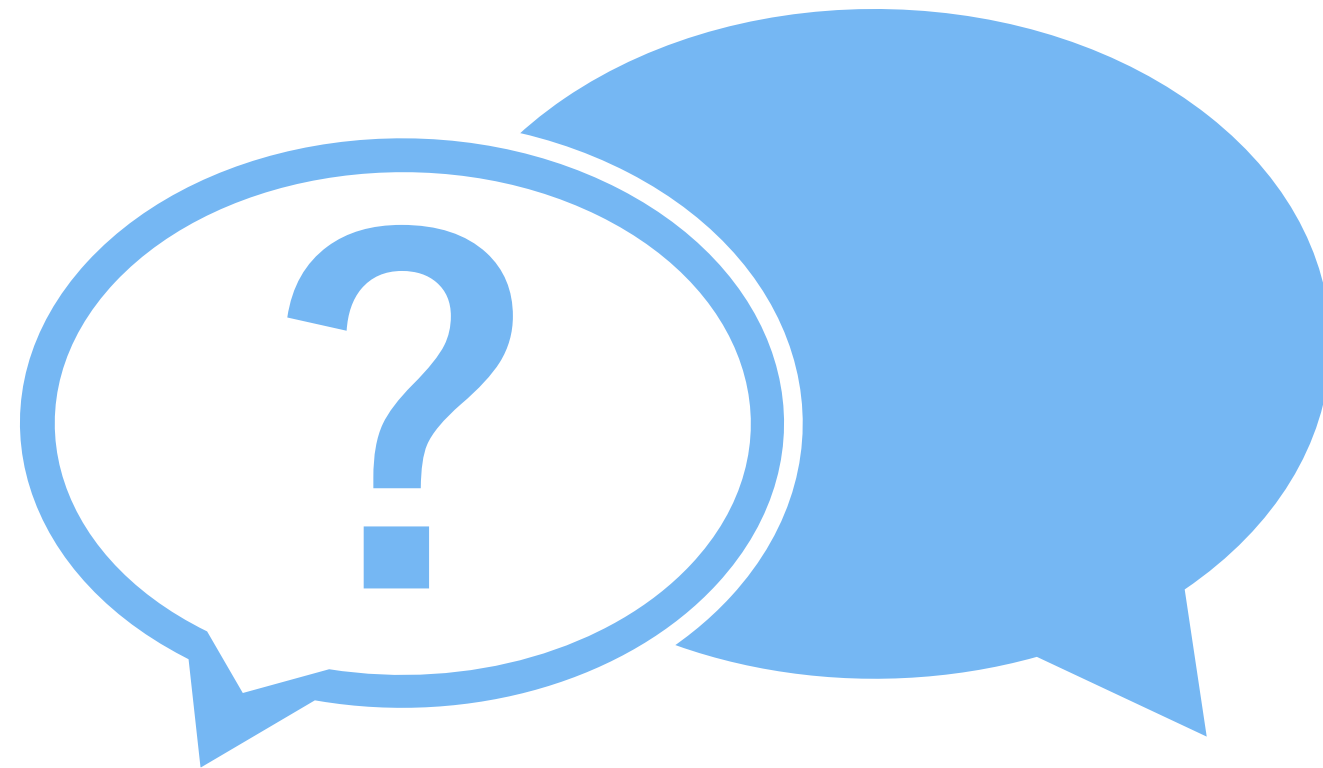
The Northwest & Pacific Southwest ATTCs and the CTN Western States Node present:
Meth 2.0 and Opioid Use Disorder: A Collision of Epidemics

**Thank you for joining us!
The webinar will begin shortly.**

- **Got questions?** Type them into the chat box at any time and they will be answered at the end of the presentation.
- Slides and a recording of this presentation will be made available on our website at: <http://attcnetwork.org/northwest> later this week



**Questions? Please type them in
the chat box!**



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Within the evaluation, you will be asked to attest to your hours of participation. Upon completion of the evaluation and attestation, your transcript will be updated will then reflect the number of credit hours for the activity.

For questions about your credit following this activity, contact stanfordcme@stanford.edu.

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For full disclosure information please go to our website:

stanford.cloud-cme.com/meth2.0

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Continuing Education (CE) Credit offered by UCLA Integrated Substance Abuse Programs

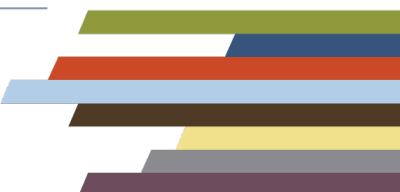


- Following the web training, participating psychologists, registered nurses, LMFTs, LCSWs, and SUD counselors will receive an email from Shannon Berteau with the links to two different brief online CE course evaluations (one for PSY/RN and a second for LMFTs/LCSWs/counselors)
- Once you submit the your CE evaluation form, a CE Certificate will be emailed to you within 6-8 weeks
- Reach out to Shannon with questions (sberteau@mednet.ucla.edu)

Certificate of Attendance



If you requested a “certificate of attendance” rather than specific CME/CE, you will receive that certificate from the Northwest ATTC automatically via email within a week.



ATTC Survey, Slides, Recording

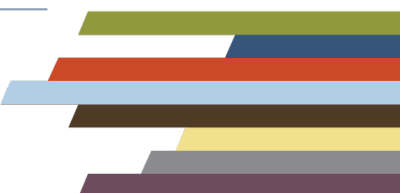
Look for our survey in your inbox!

We greatly appreciate your feedback!

Every survey we receive helps us improve and continue offering our programs.



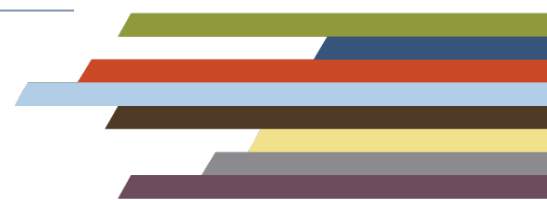
A link to the slides and recording will also be provided in this email.



Meth 2.0 and Opioid Use Disorder

Larissa Mooney, MD

- Board-certified addiction psychiatrist & Associate Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at UCLA
- Director of the UCLA Addiction Psychiatry Clinic & Chief of the Greater LA Substance Use Disorders Section
- Co-PI of the Greater Southern California Node of the CTN



Meth 2.0 and Opioid Use Disorder: A Collision of Epidemics

Larissa Mooney, M.D.

Associate Professor of Psychiatry
Director, UCLA Addiction Psychiatry Clinic
UCLA Integrated Substance Abuse Programs



UCLA

Disclosures

- Dr. Mooney has no financial disclosures or conflicts of interest

Learning Objectives

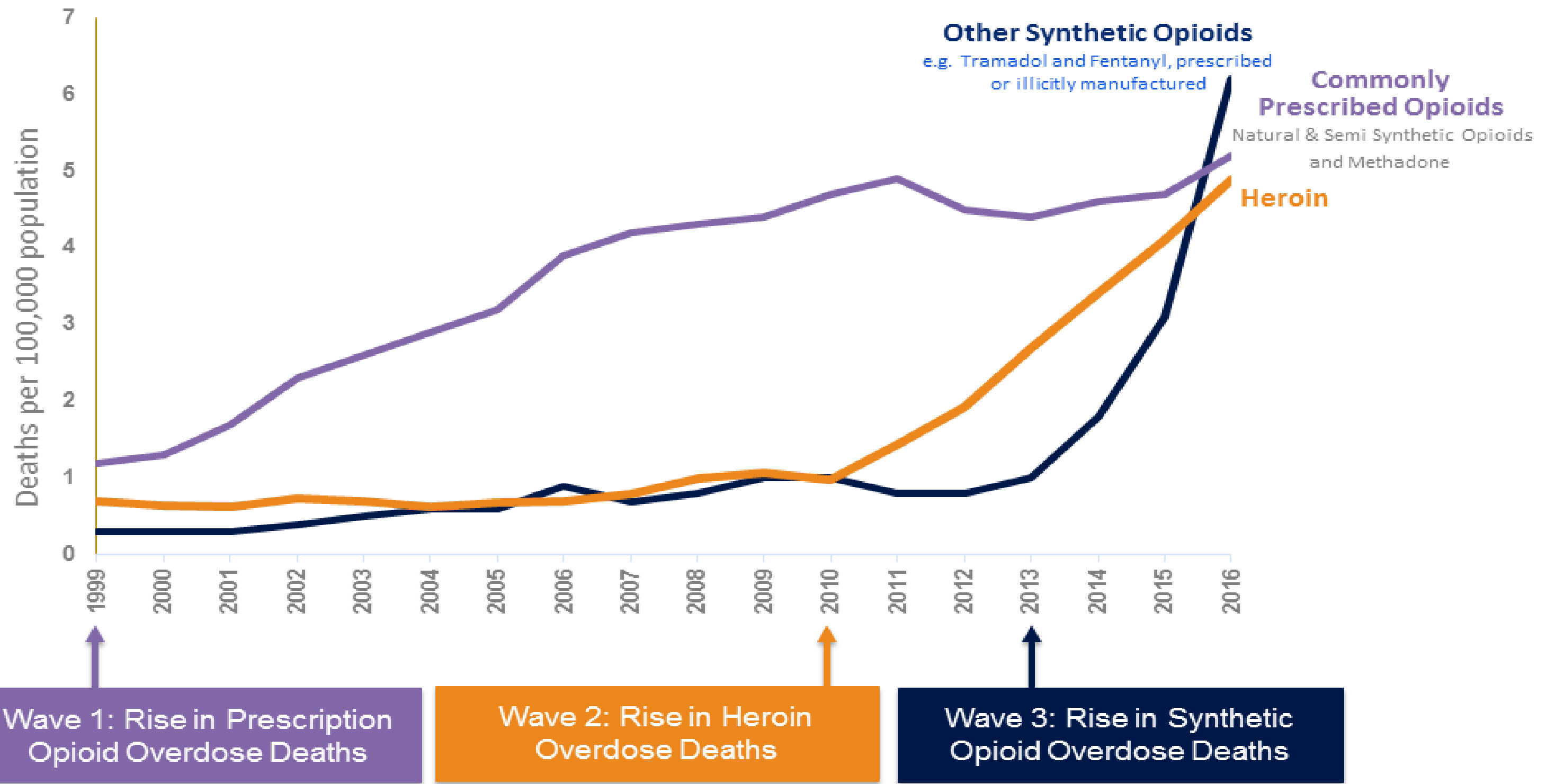
1. Describe recent epidemiological trends in methamphetamine and opioid use.
2. Identify at least three medical risks of co-occurring methamphetamine and opioid use.
3. Explain at least three evidence-based treatment approaches that can be utilized with patients who use both methamphetamine and opioids.

Outline

- Epidemiology of Opioid Epidemic
- OUD Treatment
- Meth 2.0
- Epidemiology of Stimulant Overdose
- Clinical Issues & Outcomes associated with Methamphetamine + OUD
- Methamphetamine Use D/O Treatment

Epidemiology of Opioid Epidemic

3 Waves of the Rise in Opioid Overdose Deaths



SOURCE: National Vital Statistics System Mortality File.

Source: CDC: <https://www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/epidemic/index.html>

¹<https://www.drugabuse.gov/related-topics/trends-statistics/overdose-death-rates>

Nonmedical Opioid Use and Overdose: Epidemiology

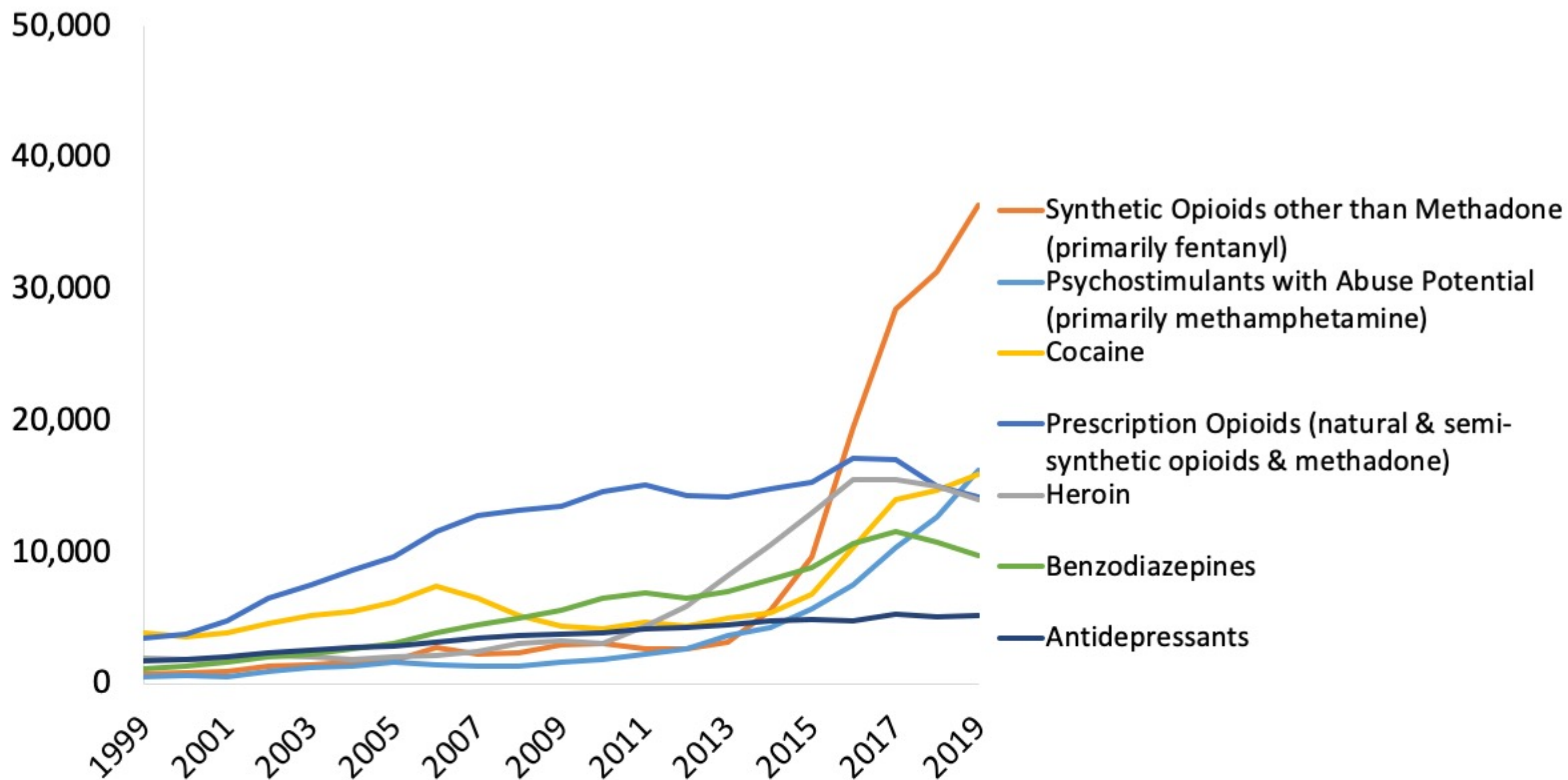
2018

- The number of opioid-related overdose deaths was 4 times higher than in 1999
- 67,367 drug overdose deaths occurred, with more than 2/3 linked to opioids
- 10% increase in fentanyl (& analog) related deaths since from 2017 to 2018

2020

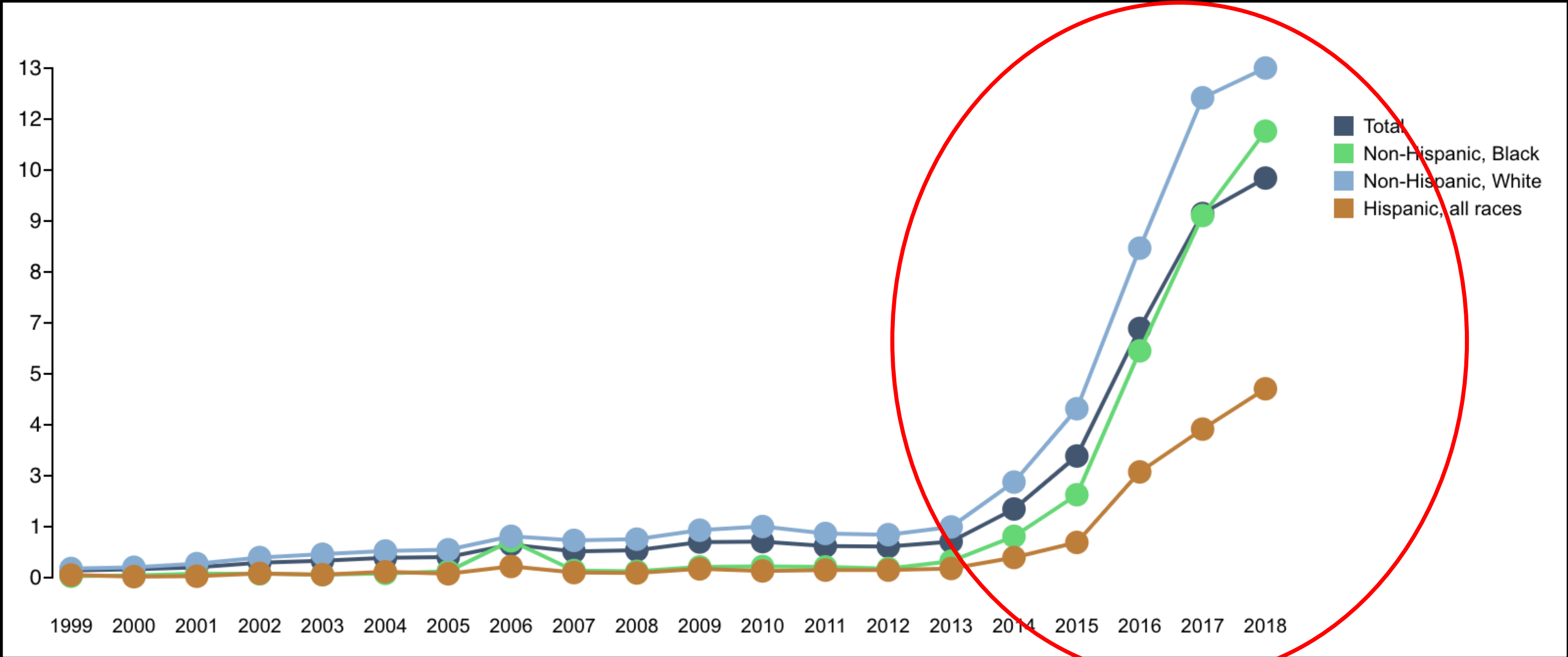
- COVID-19 hit
- >81,000 drug overdose deaths occurred between June 2019 and May 2020
- 38.4% increase in synthetic opioid overdose deaths

Figure 2. National Drug-Involved Overdose Deaths*, Number Among All Ages, 1999-2019



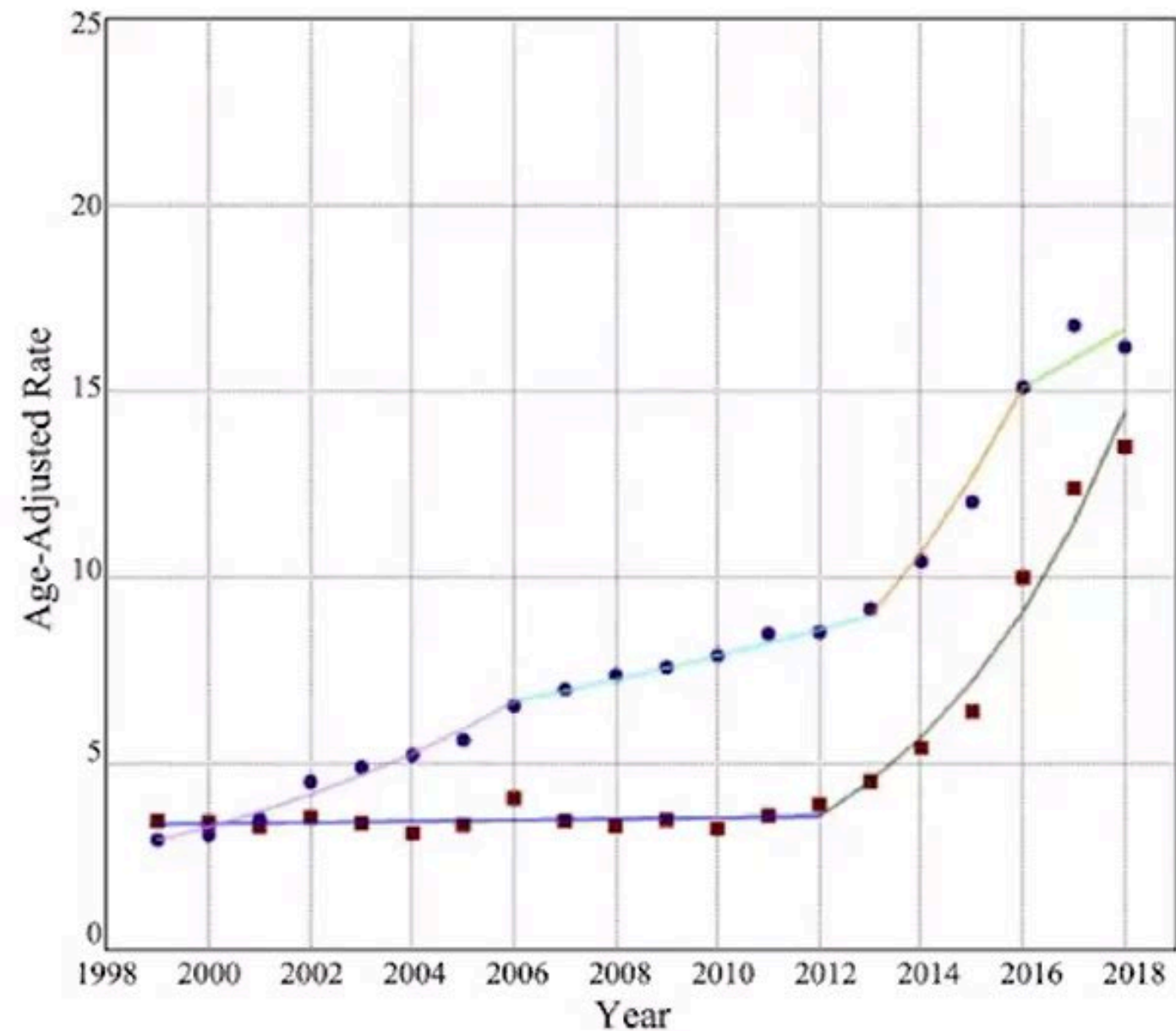
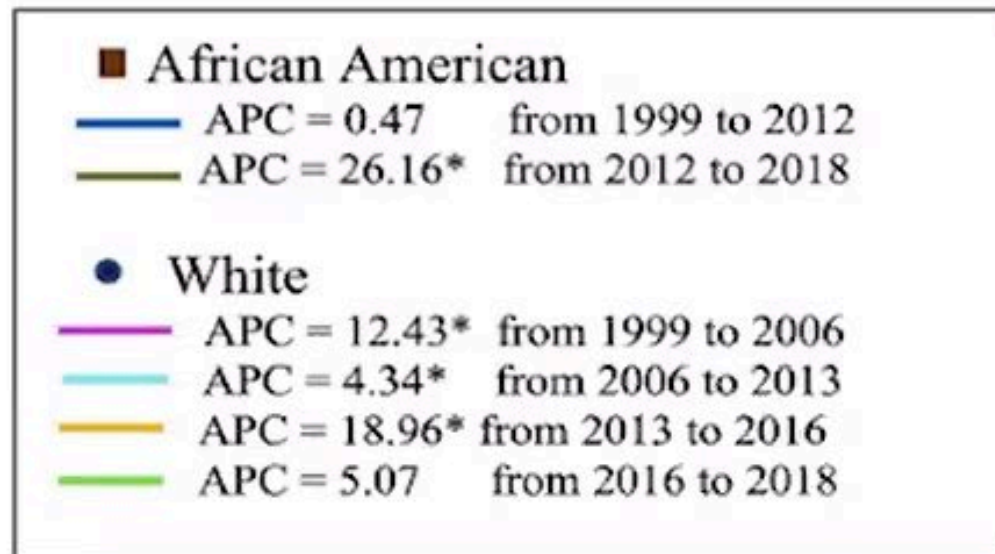
*Includes deaths with underlying causes of unintentional drug poisoning (X40–X44), suicide drug poisoning (X60–X64), homicide drug poisoning (X85), or drug poisoning of undetermined intent (Y10–Y14), as coded in the International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision. Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics. Multiple Cause of Death 1999-2019 on CDC WONDER Online Database, released 12/2020.

Drug Overdose Deaths Involving Synthetic Opioids, Excluding Methadone, Per 100,000 Resident Population Per Year, 1999-2018



Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, National Vital Statistics System - Mortality.

African Americans Now Outpace Whites in Opioid-Involved Overdose Deaths



*Indicates that the Annual Percent Change (APC) is significantly different from zero at the alpha = 0.05 level.

Furr-Holden, et al., *Addiction*, 2021

Opioid Use Disorder Treatment

Opioid Use Disorder Treatment Approaches

- Medically assisted withdrawal management (detox):
 - Opioid-based (methadone, buprenorphine)
 - Non-opioid based (clonidine, lofexidine, supportive meds)
- Relapse prevention:
 - Agonist maintenance (methadone)
 - Partial agonist maintenance (buprenorphine)
 - Antagonist maintenance (IM naltrexone)
- Psychosocial treatment
 - To promote behavior change, skills, social support



Why Not Detoxification?

POST-DETOXIFICATION RELAPSE RATES
APPROACH 100% WITHIN THE FIRST 90 DAYS
FOLLOWING COMPLETION OF DETOXIFICATION.



Buprenorphine

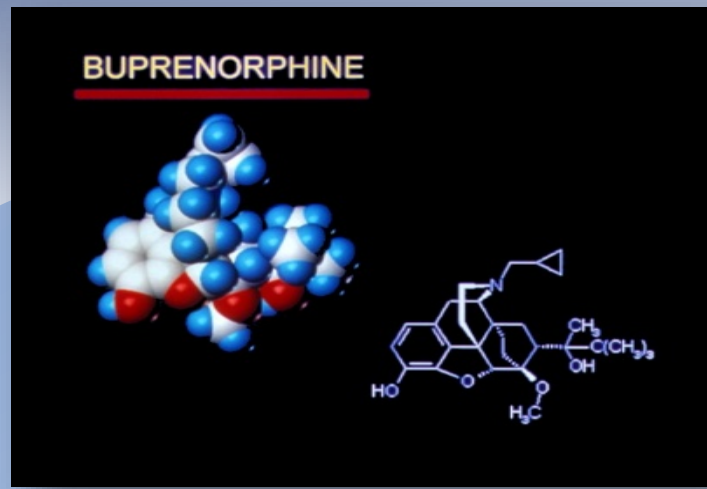


Buprenorphine for Opioid Use Disorder

- FDA approved 2002, age 16+
- Mandatory certification from DEA (100 pt. limit, or 275 with certifications)
- Mechanism: partial mu agonist
- Office-based, expands availability
- Analgesic properties
- Ceiling effect
- Safer in overdose



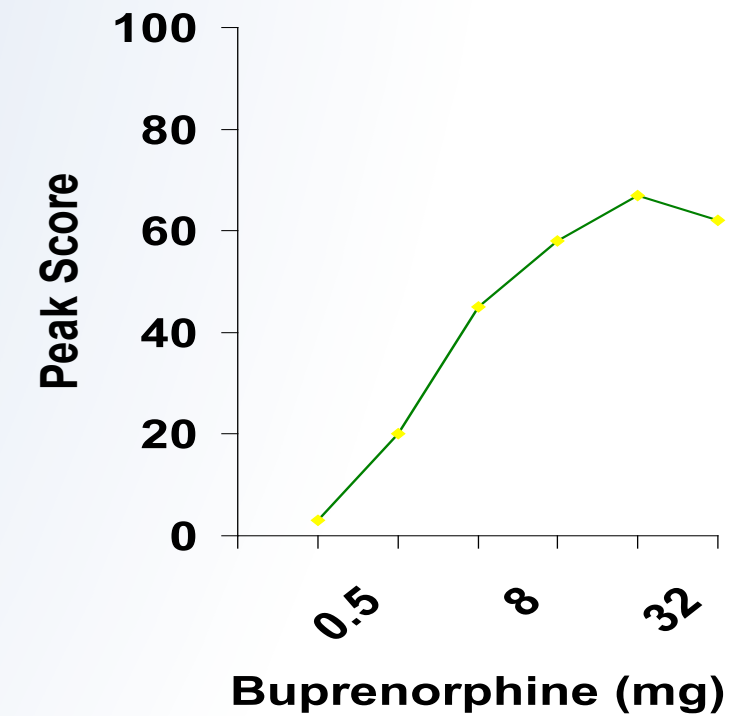
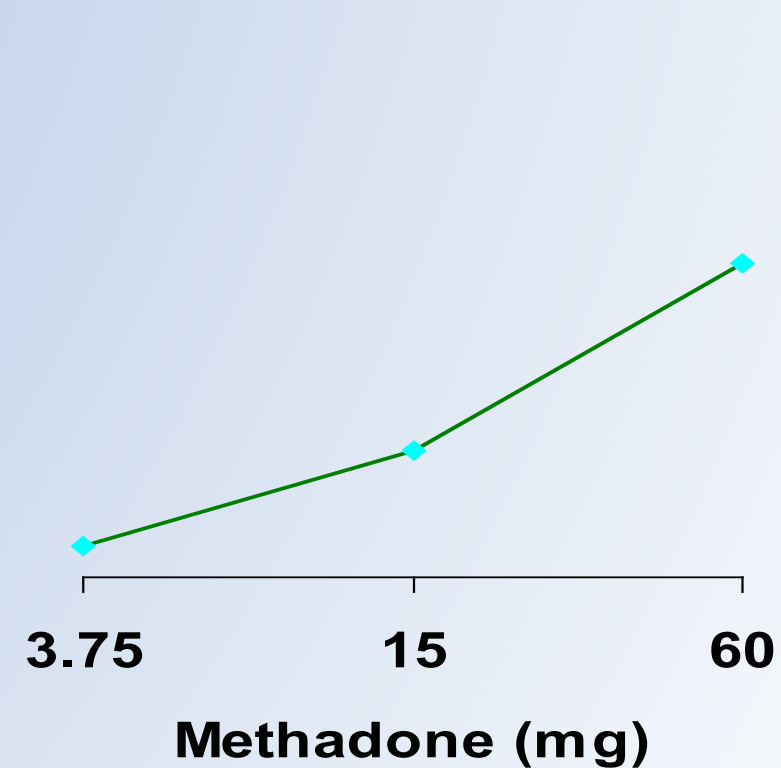
Suboxone Tablets 8mg. and 2mg



Buprenorphine: Pharmacological Characteristics

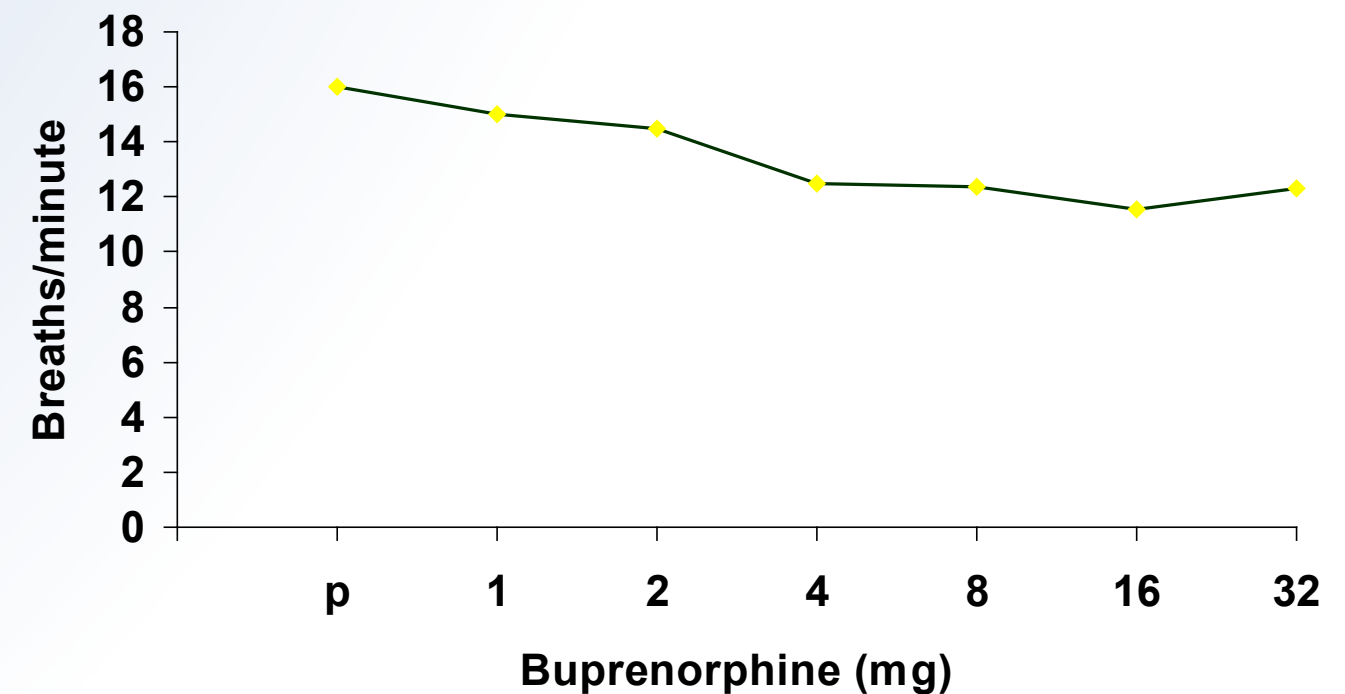
Partial Agonist (ceiling effect)

- less euphoria
- safer in overdose



Strong Receptor Affinity

- long duration of action
- 1st dose given during withdrawal



Transmucosal Buprenorphine Formulations

- **Sublingual dose:** 2mg-24mg/day
- **Subutex** (buprenorphine) (2mg, 8mg)
- **Suboxone** (4:1 bup:naloxone)
 - 2mg/0.5 mg , 8mg/2mg
 - (now also in 4mg/12mg)
- **Zubsolv** (4:1 bup:naloxone)
 - (1.4/0.36mg- 11.4/2.9mg)
- **Bunavail** (6:1 buccal film bup:naloxone)
 - (2.1/0.3mg, 4.2/0.7mg, 6.3/1mg)
- **Belbuca** (75-900mcg buccal film for pain)



Buprenorphine Injection: Sublocade

- Sublocade is a monthly injectable formulation of buprenorphine approved in 2017 for the treatment of moderate to severe OUD in individuals who have initiated a transmucosal buprenorphine product and have been stabilized on treatment for at least seven days.
- The approved dosing regimen is 300 mg administered subcutaneously for the first two months, followed by maintenance doses of 100 mg/month.
- It must be prescribed as part of a Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategy to ensure that the product is not distributed directly to patients.

Extended-Release Injectable Naltrexone for OUD

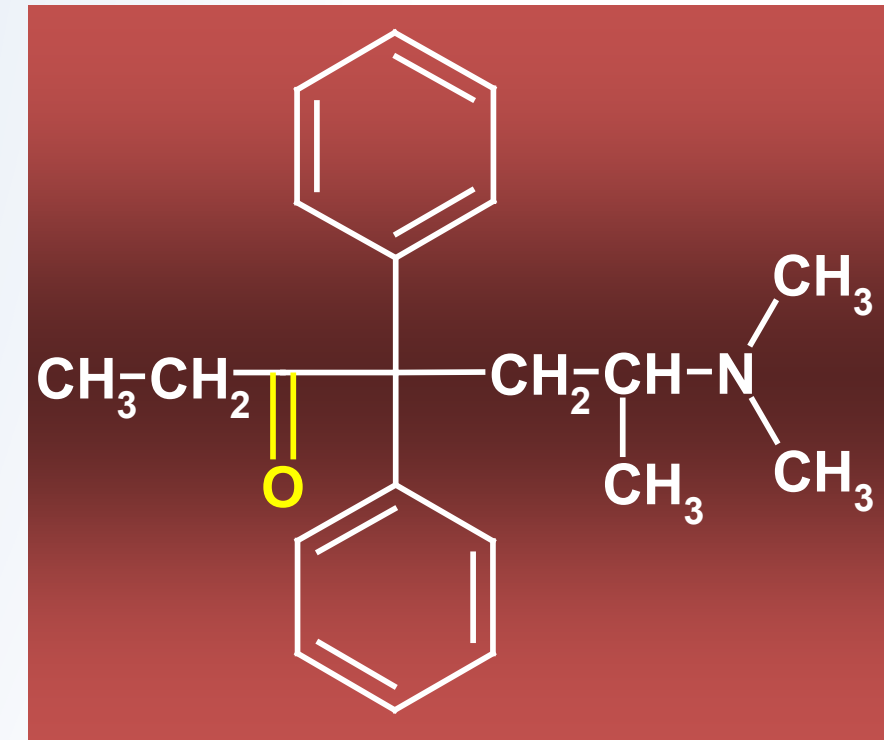


Extended-Release Naltrexone

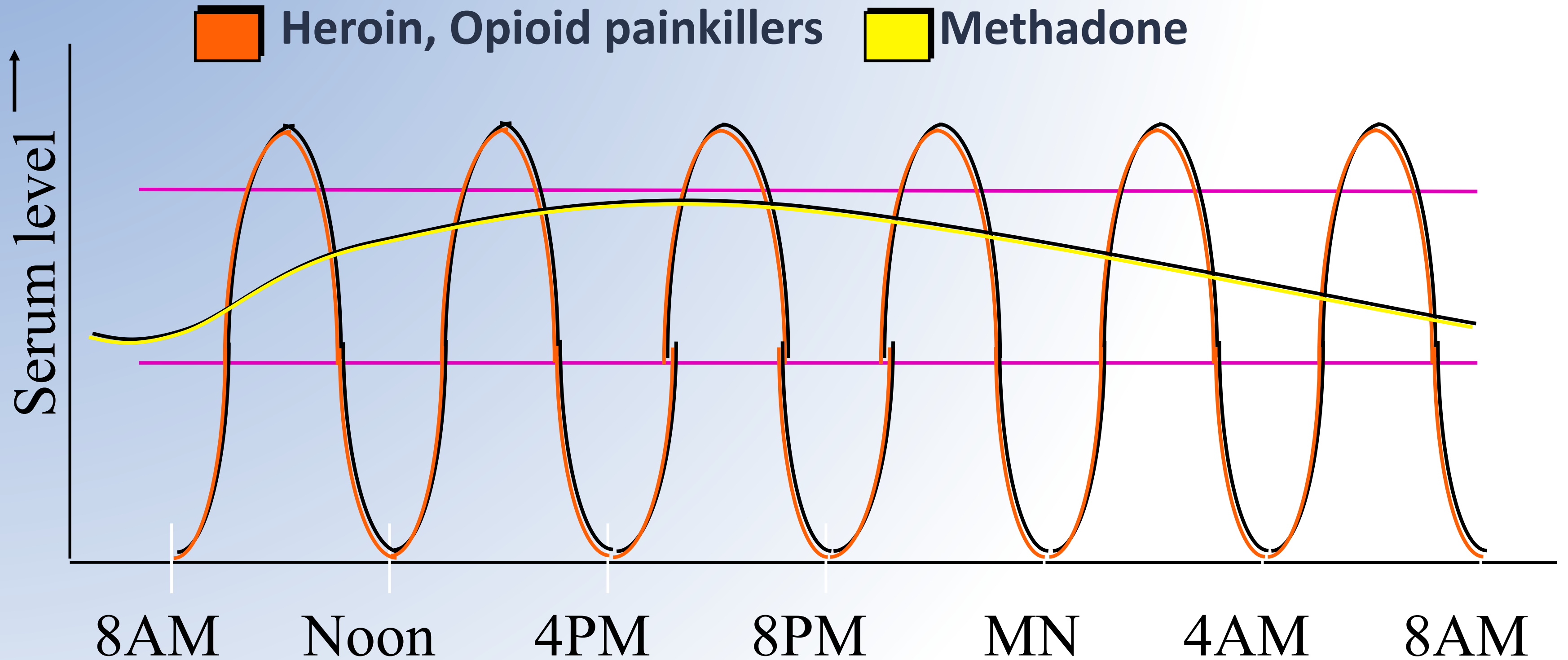
- **Dosing:** 380mg injection in deep gluteal muscle every 4 weeks; alternate sides each month.
- Blocks opioid receptors for **one entire month** compared to approximately 28 doses of oral naltrexone.
- **Adverse effects:** injection site reactions, nausea/vomiting, precipitated opioid withdrawal, depression, elevated LFTs
- **Note:** *Large doses of opioids may be required to override the blockade in a medically monitored setting.*

Methadone: Clinical Properties

- Orally active synthetic μ agonist
- Action: CNS depressant/ analgesic
- Long half-life, slow elimination
- Effects last 24 hours
- Once daily dosing maintains constant blood level
- Prevents withdrawal, reduces craving and use
- Facilitates rehabilitation
- Clinic dispensing limits availability



Blood levels: methadone vs. short-acting opioids



Treatment Outcome Data: Methadone

- 8-10 fold reduction in death rate
- Reduction in drug use
- Reduction in criminal activity
- Increased treatment retention
- Engagement in socially productive roles; improved family and social function
- Increased employment
- Improved physical and mental health
- Reduced spread of infectious disease/HIV



Comparative Medication Effectiveness

- Meta-analyses: methadone slightly more effective than buprenorphine in retaining patients in treatment; equally effective in reducing opioid use (*Mattick et al., 2014*)
- X:BOT trial (*Lee et al., 2018*) - XR-naltrexone (NTX) vs. buprenorphine (BUP) for 24 weeks (n=570): induction rates lower for NTX than BUP (72% vs. 94%), but relapse rates equivalent once inducted
- Retrospective comparative effectiveness using claims data (Optum Labs), N=40,855 w/ OUD (*Wakeman et al., 2020*): methadone and buprenorphine associated with reduced OD and OUD-related morbidity at 3 and 12 mos compared w/ NTX, inpatient tx, IOP.



Naloxone

Short-acting opioid antagonist

- High affinity for mu opioid receptor
- Displaces opioids from receptor
- Rapidly reverses effects of opioid overdose (minutes)
- Effects last 20-90 mins
- FDA approved for IV, SC, IM, intranasal use
- Opioid overdose-related deaths can be prevented when naloxone is administered in a timely manner.
- www.PrescribeToPrevent.org

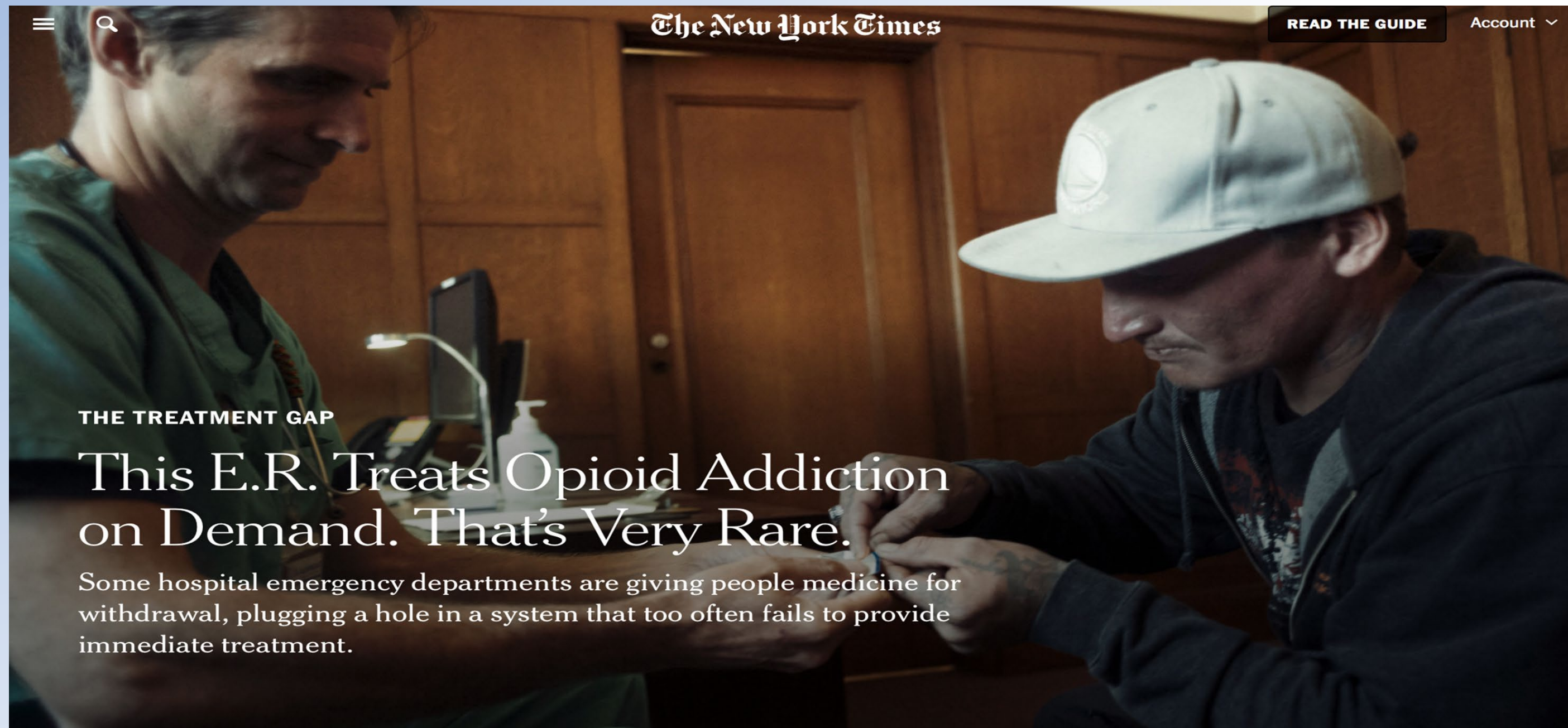
Overdose Risk Factors

- History of prior overdose
 - Release after emergency care for overdose
- Opioid use disorder
- Prescribed more than 50 mg of oral morphine equivalents daily
- Recent release from incarcerated or residential setting
- Combining opioids with other central nervous system depressants (e.g. alcohol, benzos)
- Medical conditions (e.g. pulmonary diseases)

Psychosocial Treatment Modalities

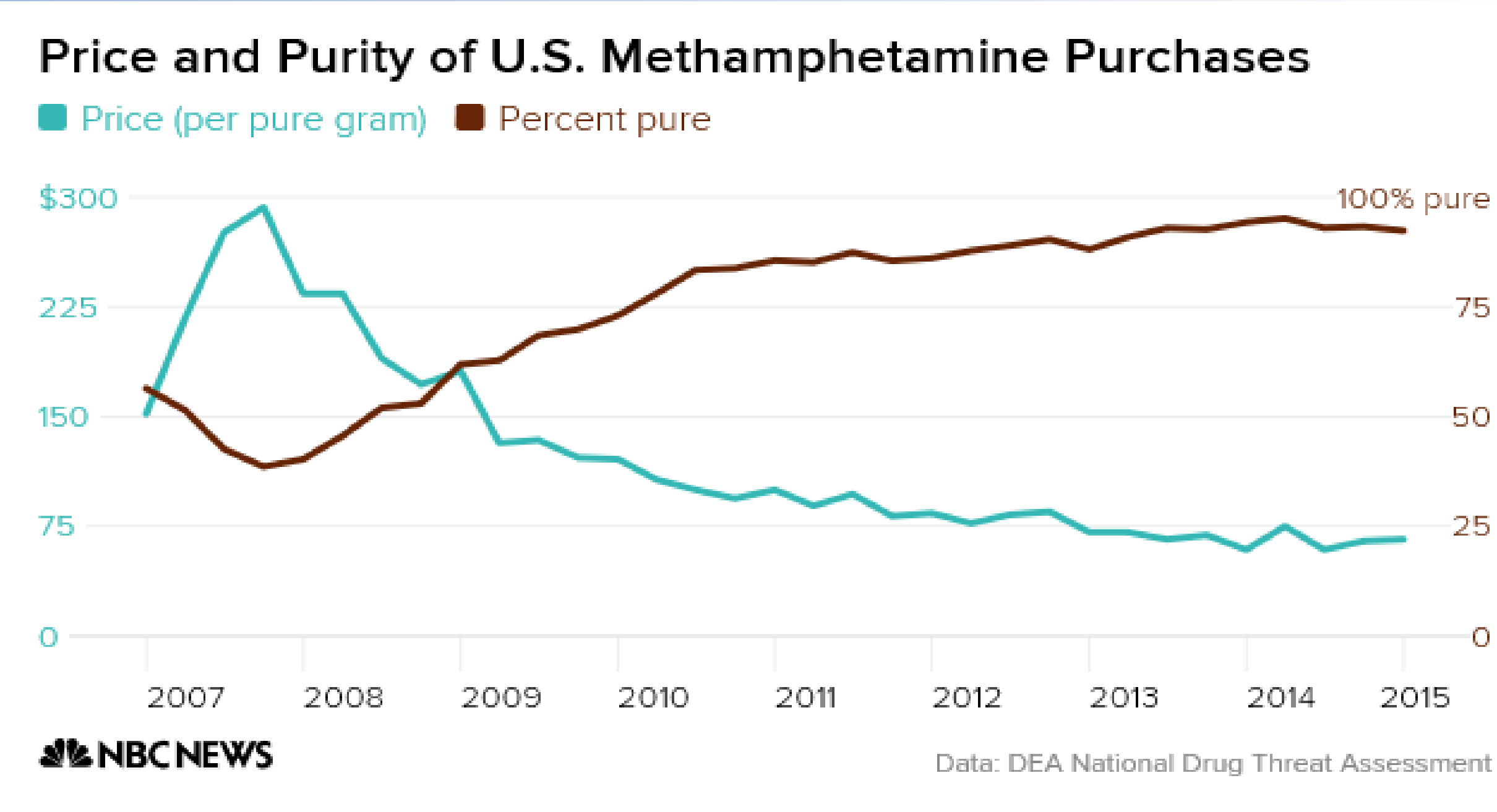
- May be combined effectively with medication treatment and mutual support groups (e.g. AA, NA):
 - Cognitive behavioral therapy
 - Contingency management
 - Motivational interviewing
 - 12-step facilitation
- Individuals with OUD have elevated rates (80%) of other substance use disorders (*NSDUH*)
- Higher rates of depressive disorders, anxiety disorders and personality disorders than general population

ED Bridge: Patients who obtained Bup Rx in ED were twice as likely to be engaged in addiction tx 1 month later relative to those given referrals. This model is similar to other chronic medical conditions such as hypertension, diabetes, and asthma in which ED clinicians initiate or restart treatment.

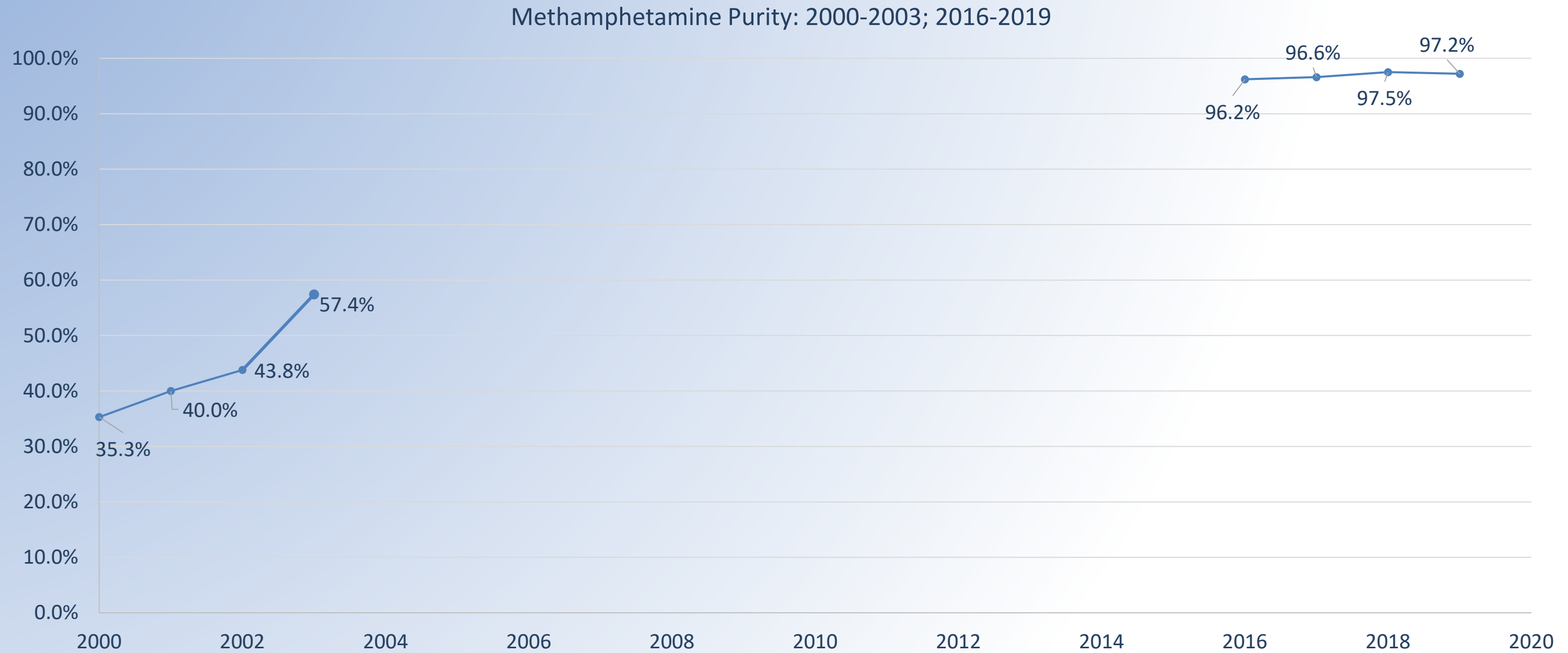


Methamphetamine 2.0

Purity of meth produced in Mexico has surged from 39% in 2007 to 97% today



Methamphetamine Purity 2000-2003 and 2016-2019



Sources: The National Threat Assessment, 2005, National Drug Intelligence Center, U.S. Dept. of Justice
DEA Methamphetamine Profiling Program.
National Drug Threat Assessment, 2020. DEA Methamphetamine profiling program.

Meth 2.0

Extremely pure
(~97%)

High potency → high addictive potential

Increased
cardiotoxicity,
psychiatric effects

Mass produced in Mexico → inexpensive

Readily available, easily accessible

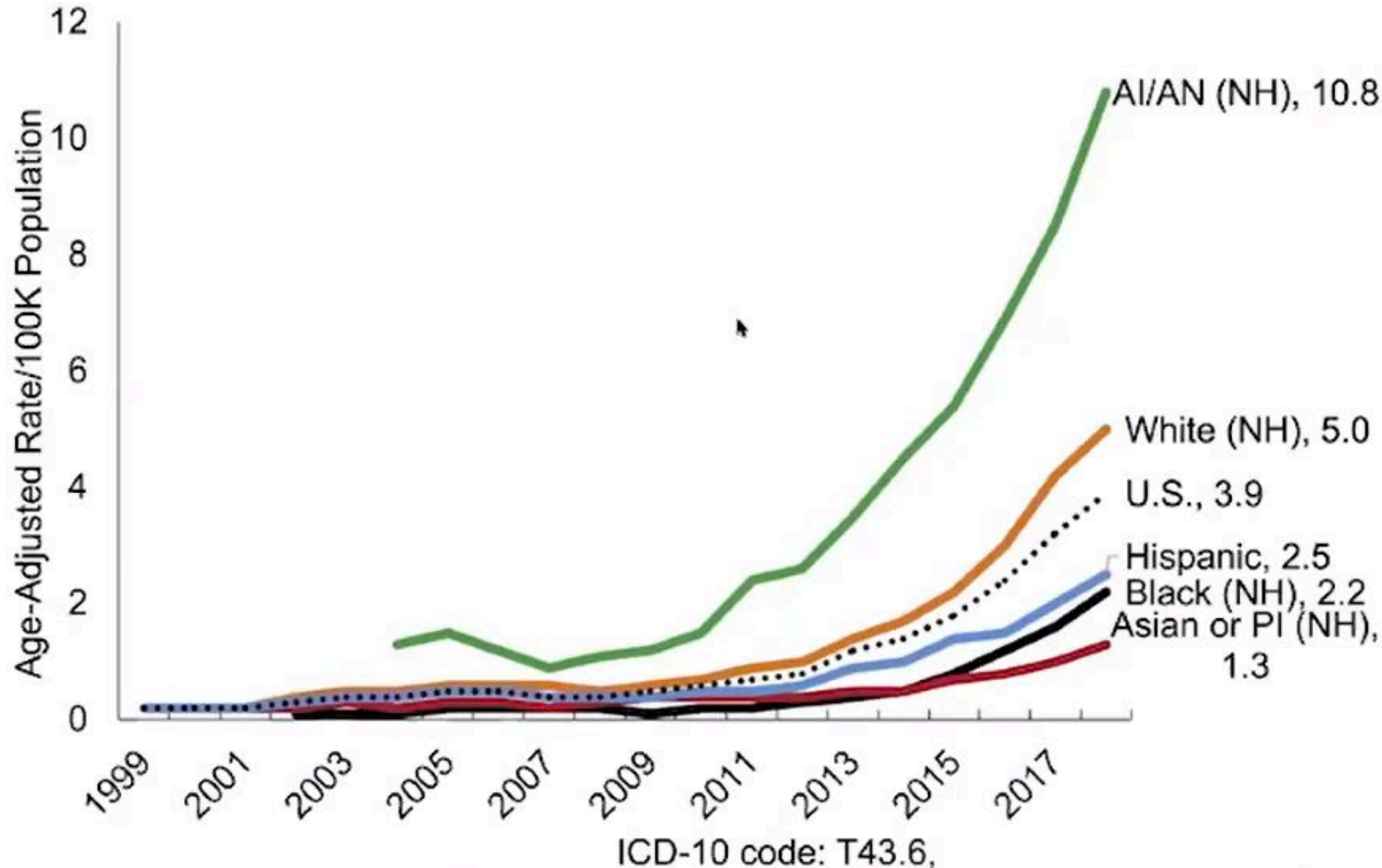
The P2P Method

- Manufacturers/chemists begin using different formula to make meth without pseudoephedrine
 - 1-phenyl-2-propanone (P2P)
 - Altered ratio of L- to D-meth
- DEA profiling program:
 - In 2010 → 43% seized meth made using P2P
 - In 2011 → 79%
 - In 2013 → 95%



Deaths Involving Psychostimulants, by Race

U.S. Overdose Deaths Involving Psychostimulants (Mostly Methamphetamine), by Race



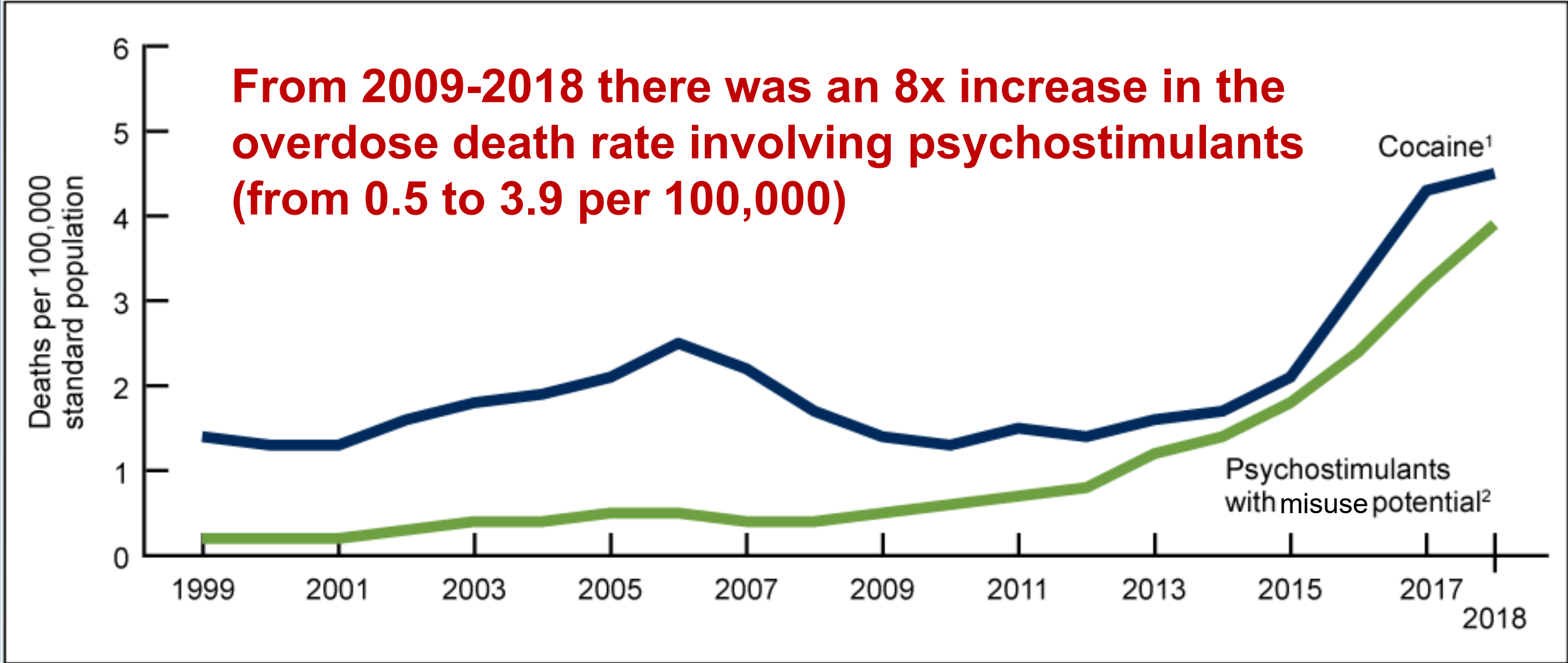
ICD-10 code: T43.6,
This category is dominated by methamphetamine related-overdoses.

Source: CDC WONDER

Epidemiology of Methamphetamine/Stimulant and Meth+ OUD Overdose

Methamphetamine 2.0 overdoses

Figure 4. Age-adjusted drug overdose death rates involving stimulants, by type of stimulant: United States, 1999–2018



¹Significant increasing trend from 1999 through 2006, decreasing trend from 2006 through 2012, and increasing trend from 2012 through 2018 with different rates of change over time, $p < 0.05$.

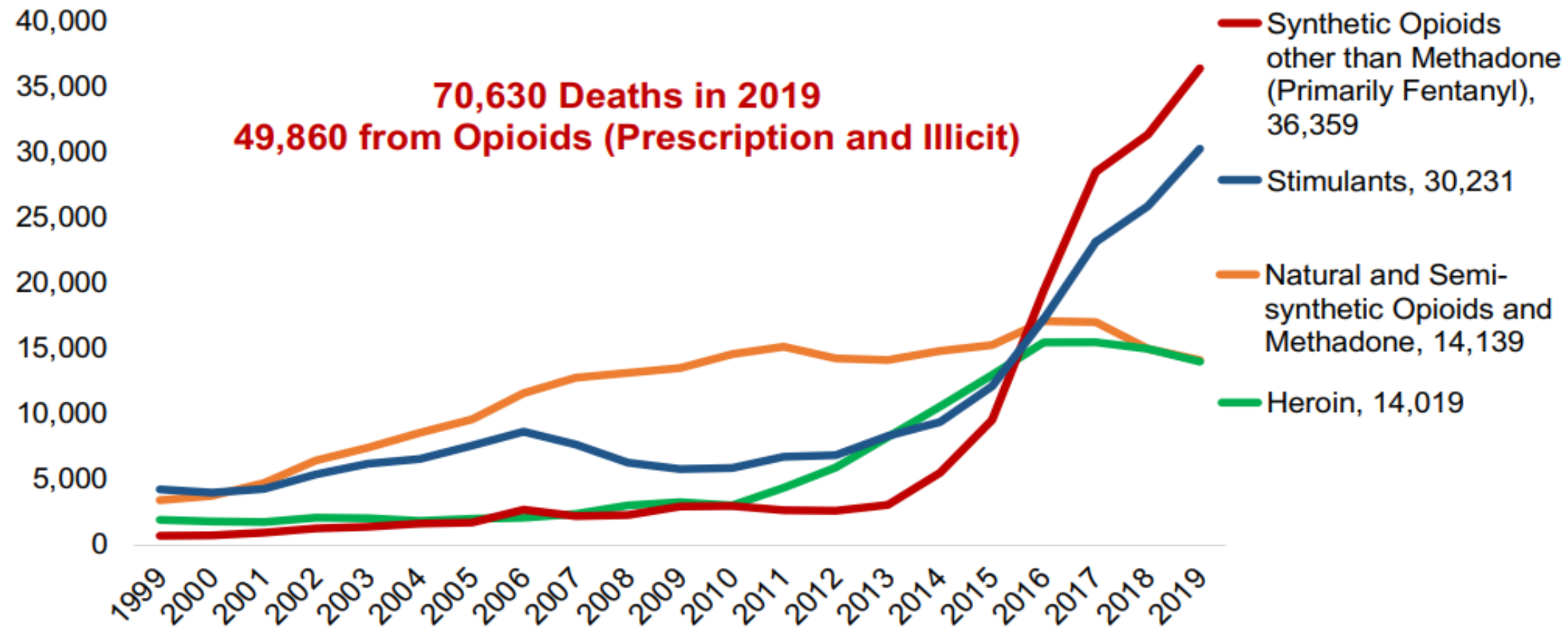
²Significant increasing trend from 1999 through 2005, 2008 through 2012, and 2012 through 2018 with different rates of change over time, $p < 0.05$.

NOTES: Deaths are classified using the *International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision*. Drug-poisoning (overdose) deaths are identified using underlying cause-of-death codes X40–X44, X60–X64, X85, and Y10–Y14. Drug overdose deaths involving selected drug categories are identified by specific multiple-cause-of-death codes: cocaine, T40.5; and psychostimulants, T43.6. Deaths may involve multiple drugs. The percentage of drug overdose deaths that identified the specific drugs involved varied by year, with ranges of 75%–79% from 1999 through 2013 and 81%–92% from 2014 through 2018. Access data table for Figure 4 at: https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/databriefs/db356_tables-508.pdf#4.

SOURCE: NCHS, National Vital Statistics System, Mortality.

Evolution of Drivers of Overdose Deaths, All Ages

Analgesics → Heroin → Fentanyl → Stimulants



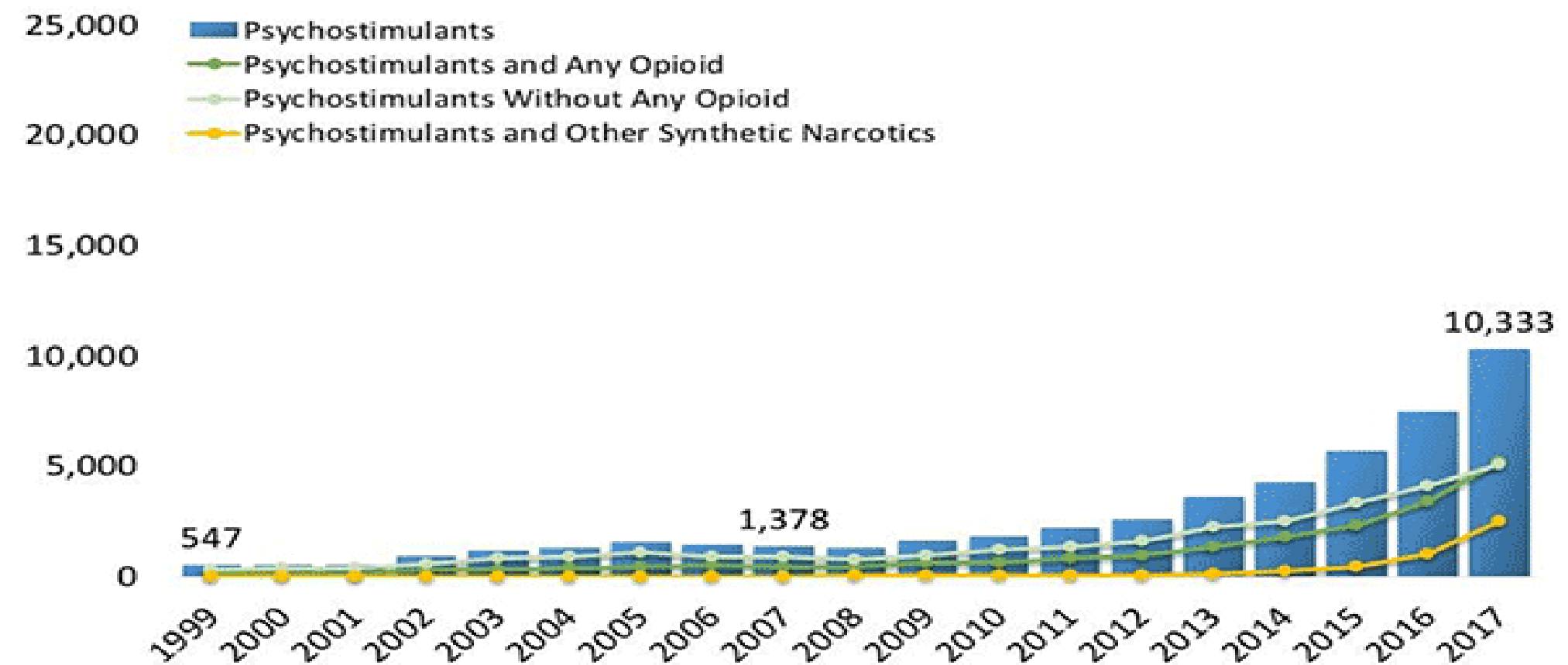
Source: The Multiple Cause of Death data are produced by the Division of Vital Statistics, National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), United States Department of Health and Human Services (US DHHS).

Meth +/- Opioids Overdose Deaths

In 2017 ~15% of all drug overdose deaths involved methamphetamine and **50%** of those deaths also involved an opioid

Misuse

Figure 6. National Drug Overdose Deaths Involving Psychostimulants With Abuse Potential (Including Methamphetamine), by Opioid Involvement Number Among All Ages, 1999-2017



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

Increased Overdose Death Rates During COVID-19 Pandemic 12-months Ending June 2020 Compared to 12-months Ending June 2019

	ALL DRUGS	HEROIN	NAT & SEMI – SYNTHETIC	METHADONE	SYNTHETIC OPIOIDS	COCAINE	OTHER PSYCHO- STIMULANTS (mainly meth)
June-19	68,711	14,856	12,148	2,863	33,164	14,894	14,583
June-20	83,335	14,480	12,966	3,195	48,006	19,215	20,318
% Change	21.3%	-2.5%	6.7%	11.6%	44.8%	29.0%	39.3%

*Predicted Number of Deaths

Source: NCHS Provisional Drug Overdose Death Counts:



<https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nvss/vsrr/drug-overdose-data.htm> (Accessed on 1-18-2021)

Clinical Issues and Outcomes Associated with Methamphetamine + OUD

Meth use with MOUD

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RADARS SYSTEM  

Researched Abuse, Diversion and Addiction-Related Surveillance System

**QUARTERLY
Technical
REPORT**

Third Quarter, 2019

**The Prevalence of Methamphetamine Use is Increasing Among
Individuals Entering Medication-Assisted Treatment Programs for
Opioid Use Disorders**

Key Findings

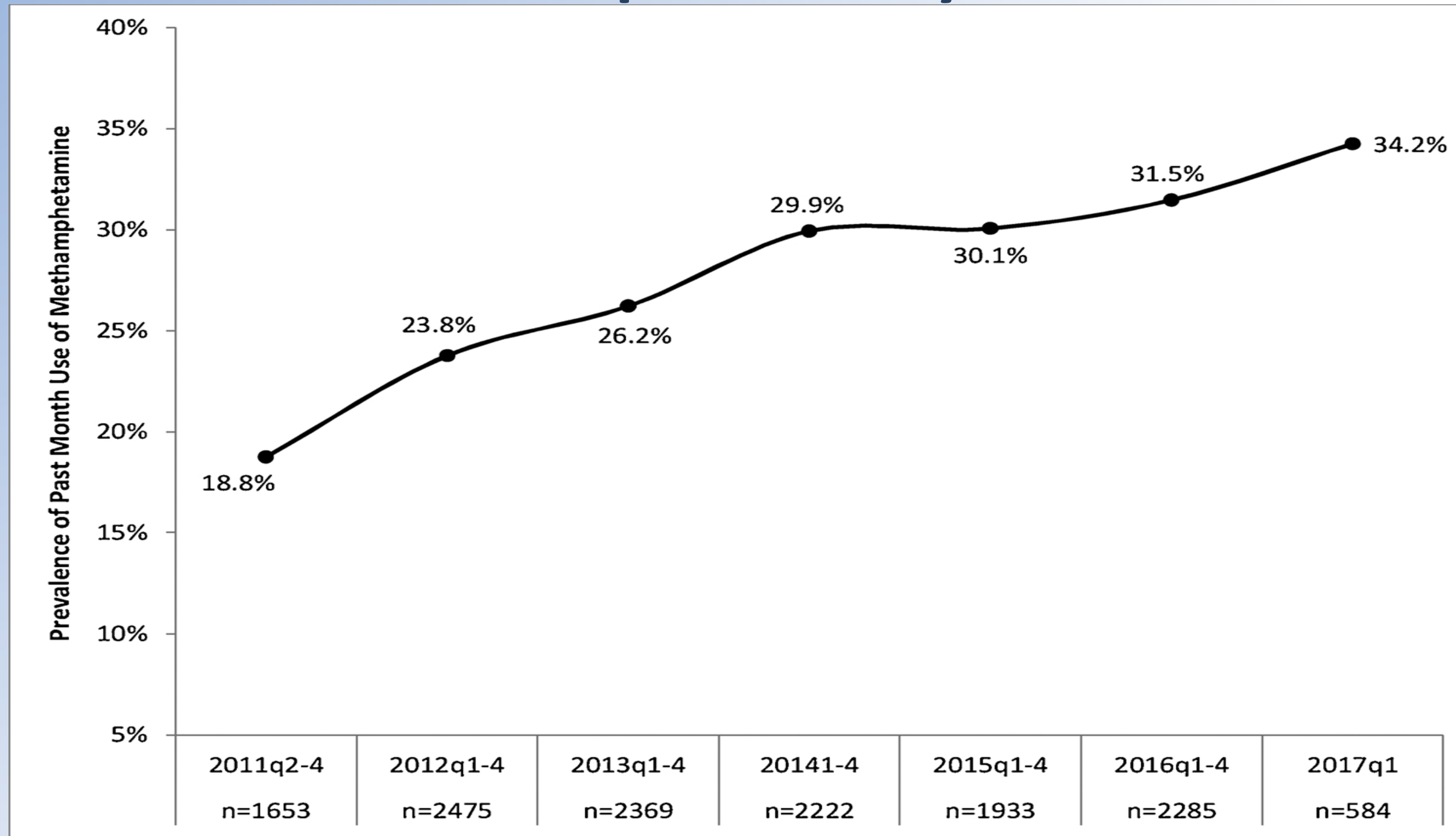
- Among individuals enrolling in medication-assisted opioid treatment programs, past month use of methamphetamine increased from 7.8% of respondents in 2012 to 21.3% of respondents in 2018
- The odds of a respondent endorsing past month methamphetamine use in the Midwest, South, and West significantly increased between 2012 and 2018
- The Census Region with the highest prevalence of past month methamphetamine use in 2018 was the West region (46.0%) followed by the South (16.8%), the Midwest (12.4%), and the Northeast (5.4%)
- In 2018, past month use of methamphetamine was highly associated with past month injection use of an opioid (prescription or illicit), past month heroin use, and past month non-medical use of a prescription stimulant

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Twin Epidemics: The surging rise of methamphetamine use in chronic opioid users.

- Past-month use of methamphetamine significantly increased among treatment-seeking opioid users (+82.6%, $p < .001$),
 - From 18.8% in 2011 to 34.2% in 2017.

% of respondents reporting use of meth in past 30 days



Methamphetamine and Opioid Co-Ingestion

– What are the Issues?

- A synergistic effect occurs when using meth and an opioid together (i.e., the result is greater than either alone)
- May use together to diminish side effects of the other
- Increased overdose risk (respiratory depression + cardiac arrest)
- The most potent effect seems to be in the first 90 minutes of co-ingestion

Dropout rates of in-person psychosocial substance abuse treatment: a systematic review and meta-analysis

- Meta-analysis of in-person psychosocial SUD treatment.
- Drop out rates in first 90 days of treatment
- 151 studies, with 26,243 participants.
- Results yielded overall average dropout rates, and predictors of dropout.

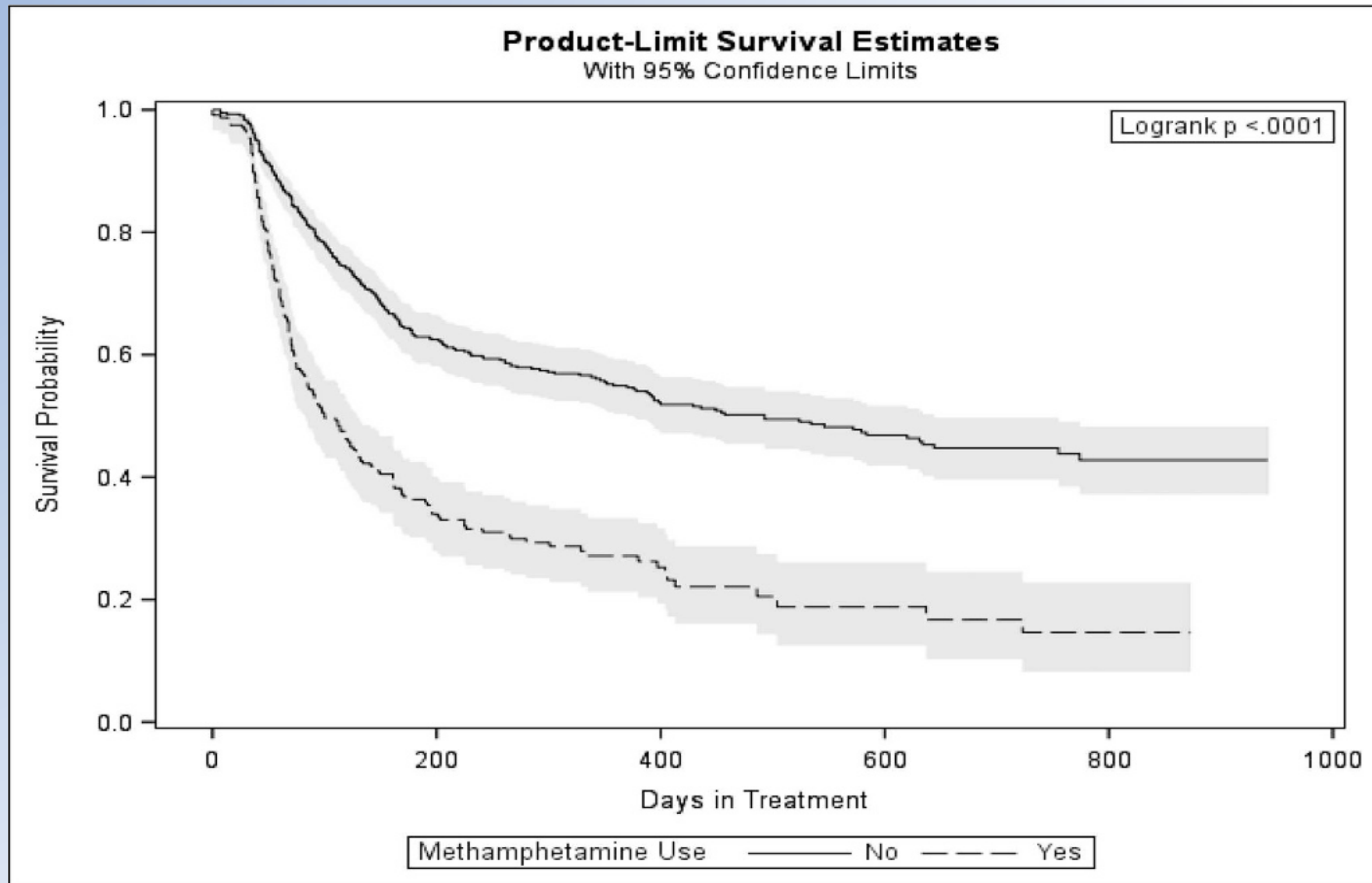
Substance Targeted and Dropout

Treatment Target	Dropout Rate
Heroin	25.1
Tobacco	25.5%
Alcohol	26.1%
Cocaine	48.7%
Methamphetamine	53.5%

Association between methamphetamine use and retention among patients with OUD treated with buprenorphine

- Adults receiving buprenorphine from Washington State MAT-Drug and Opioid Addiction program clinics between 2015-2018 (N=799)
 - Past 30-day substance use data were collected at baseline and 6-months, as well as date of program discharge.
- 30% (n=237) individuals reported meth use at admission. Baseline methamphetamine use was associated with more than twice the relative hazards for discharge in adjusted models (aHR=2.39; 95% CI: 1.94–2.93).

Association between methamphetamine use and retention among patients with opioid use disorder treated with buprenorphine



Interest in Reducing Meth and Opioid Use among Syringe Services Program Participants in Washington State

- In a sample of 583 participants at a Washington State syringe exchange program (443 opioids; 140 methamphetamine), survey data were collected on their attitudes about stopping drug use.
- **82%** of the individuals who reported opioids as their primary drug expressed an interest in reducing/stopping opioid use
- **46%** of individuals who reported methamphetamine as their primary drug expressed an interest in reducing/stopping their meth use.

Methamphetamine Use D/O Treatment + OUD Treatment

Behavioral Interventions for SUD – Gold Standard for Stimulant Use Disorder

- Contingency management (CM)
- Cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT)
 - Matrix Model
- Community Reinforcement Approach (CRA)
- Motivational interviewing
- 12-step facilitation
- Exercise
- Behavioral interventions may be combined with 12-step mutual support
- Consider level of care:
 - General outpatient
 - Intensive outpatient
 - Residential treatment

Non-Pharmacological Interventions for Methamphetamine Use Disorder: A Systematic Review Drug and Alcohol Dependence

- 44 Studies reviewed.
- Conclusions: While contingency management (CM) interventions showed the strongest evidence favoring the outcomes assessed, tailored CBT alone or with CM was also effective in the target population.

Current Status of Treatment Approaches for Stimulant Use Disorder

- Contingency management unanimously supported in reviews (6 recent systematic reviews and meta-analyses) found to have best evidence of effectiveness.
- Other approaches with less but clear evidence of support: Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) and Community Reinforcement Approach (CRA).
- Approach with evidence for treatment of a broad variety of SUD: Motivational Interviewing (MI).
- Approach with recent studies showing benefit to methamphetamine users: Physical Exercise (PE).

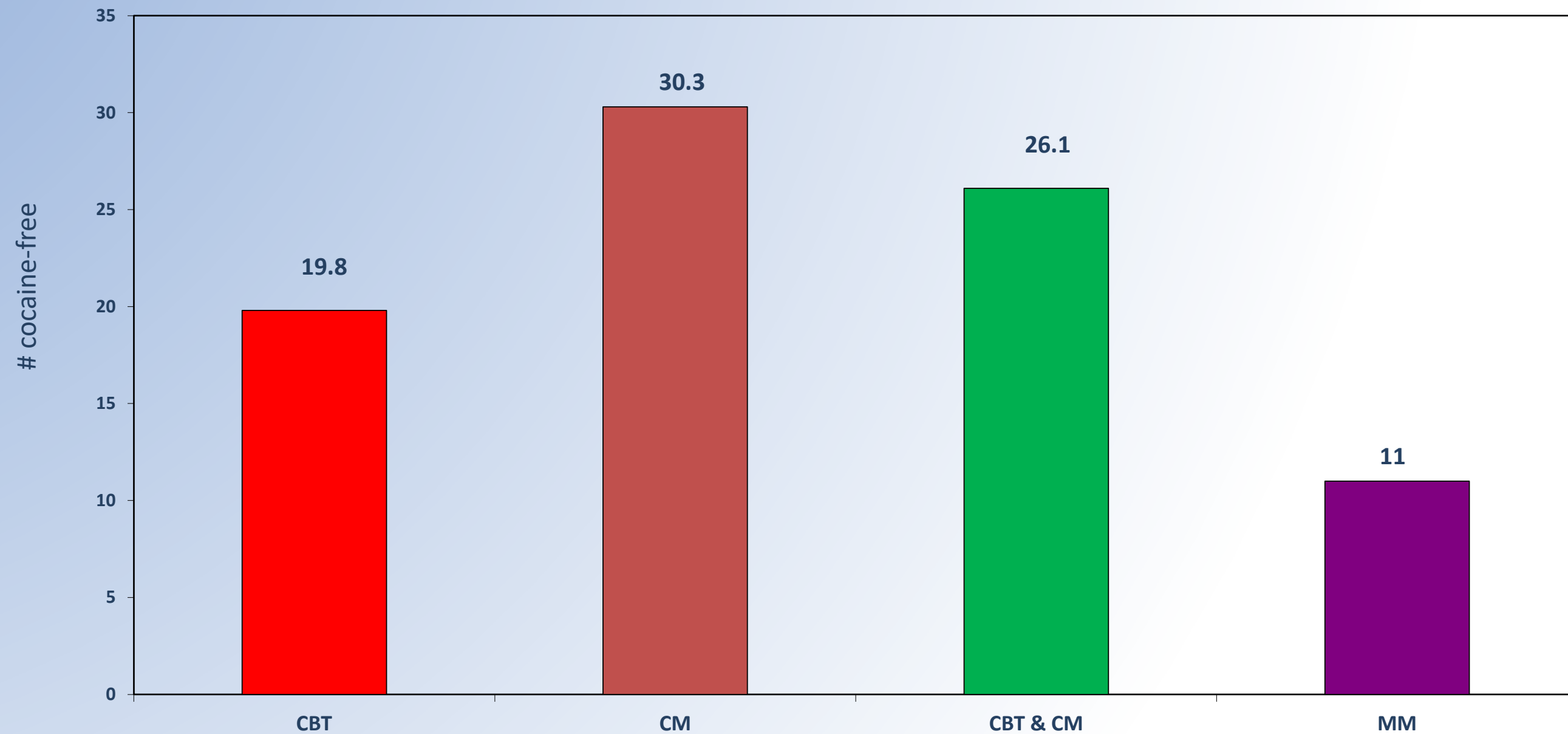
Contingency Management

- A technique employing the systematic delivery of positive reinforcement for desired behaviors, effective to facilitate reduced use of stimulants.
- In the treatment of methamphetamine use disorder, vouchers or prizes or gift cards can be “earned” for submission of methamphetamine-free urine samples or other behaviors that promote recovery (eg. attendance at treatment sessions).

A comparison of contingency management and cognitive-behavioral approaches during methadone maintenance treatment for cocaine dependence.

- The purpose of this study was to compare the effectiveness of CM and CBT alone or in combination for cocaine dependence for patients receiving methadone treatment.
- N=120 random assignment to CM, CBT, CM+CBT, or MMTP (standard methadone tx only, TAU).
- Interventions were 16 weeks, 3 research visits per week.

Cocaine-free Urine Samples During Study



P<.001

CM>MM

CBT & CM>MM

Discussion

- During study period, the CM conditions were associated with significantly more cocaine free UDS than the control group.
- CBT did not produce a substantial suppression of cocaine use during the study period.
- CBT and CM did not show an additive effect.
- Self reported data supported significant reductions in cocaine use from baseline to week 17 for all groups except MMTP.
- At the 26- and 52-week follow-up points self-reports and urine results reflect an improvement in all 3 intervention groups compared to MMTP alone.

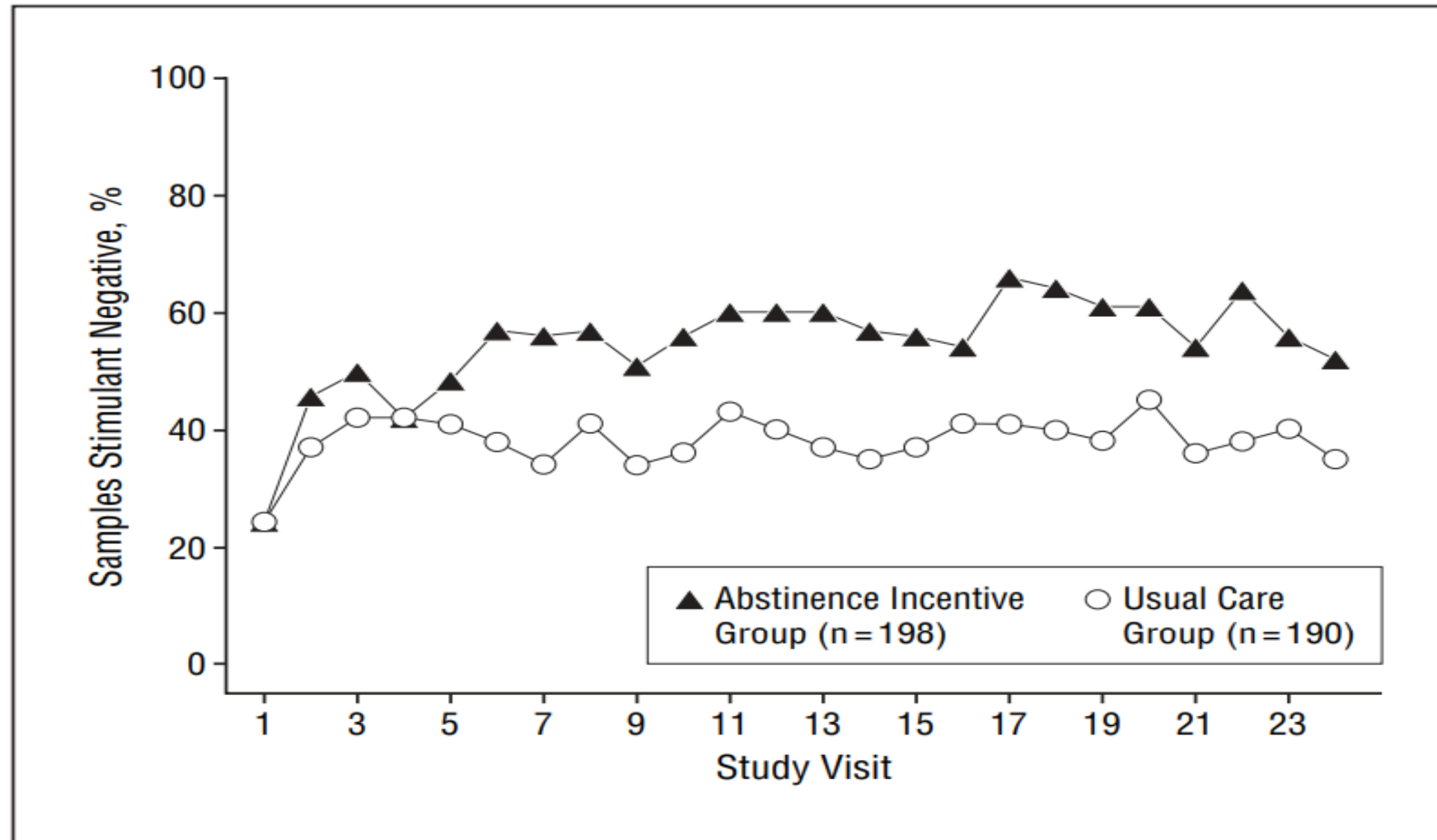
Effects of lower-cost incentives on stimulant abstinence in methadone maintenance treatment: a National Drug Abuse Treatment Clinical Trials Network study

- Contingency management (CM) has been shown to be effective in research settings, but cost has limited real world implementation.
- This NIDA Clinical Trials Network study addressed cost with an intermittent reinforcement approach (“fishbowl approach”).
- Sites were 6 community-based, methadone maintenance clinics in locations across the United States.
- Stimulant use was the primary target.

Effects of lower-cost incentives on stimulant abstinence in methadone maintenance treatment: a National Drug Abuse Treatment Clinical Trials Network study

- 388 participants across 6 OTPs were randomly assigned to either the CM condition (intermittent reinforcement, “fishbowl”) or treatment as usual (TAU).
 - On methadone, submitted stimulant-positive UDS within 2 weeks
- Submission of negative samples was twice as likely for CM as for the TAU group.
- Achieving 4 or more, 8 or more, and 12 weeks of continuous abstinence was approximately 3, 9, and 11 times more likely for CM vs TAU participants.
- The average cost of prizes was \$120 per participant.

Percent Samples Stimulant Negative



Target drug use. The mean percentage of submitted samples testing negative for target drugs (stimulants and alcohol) is shown for abstinence incentive and usual care participants at each of 24 study visits.

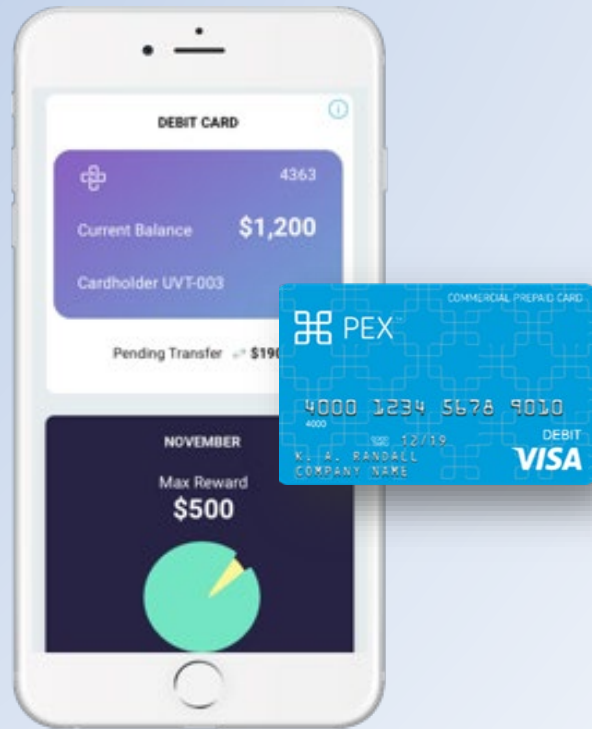
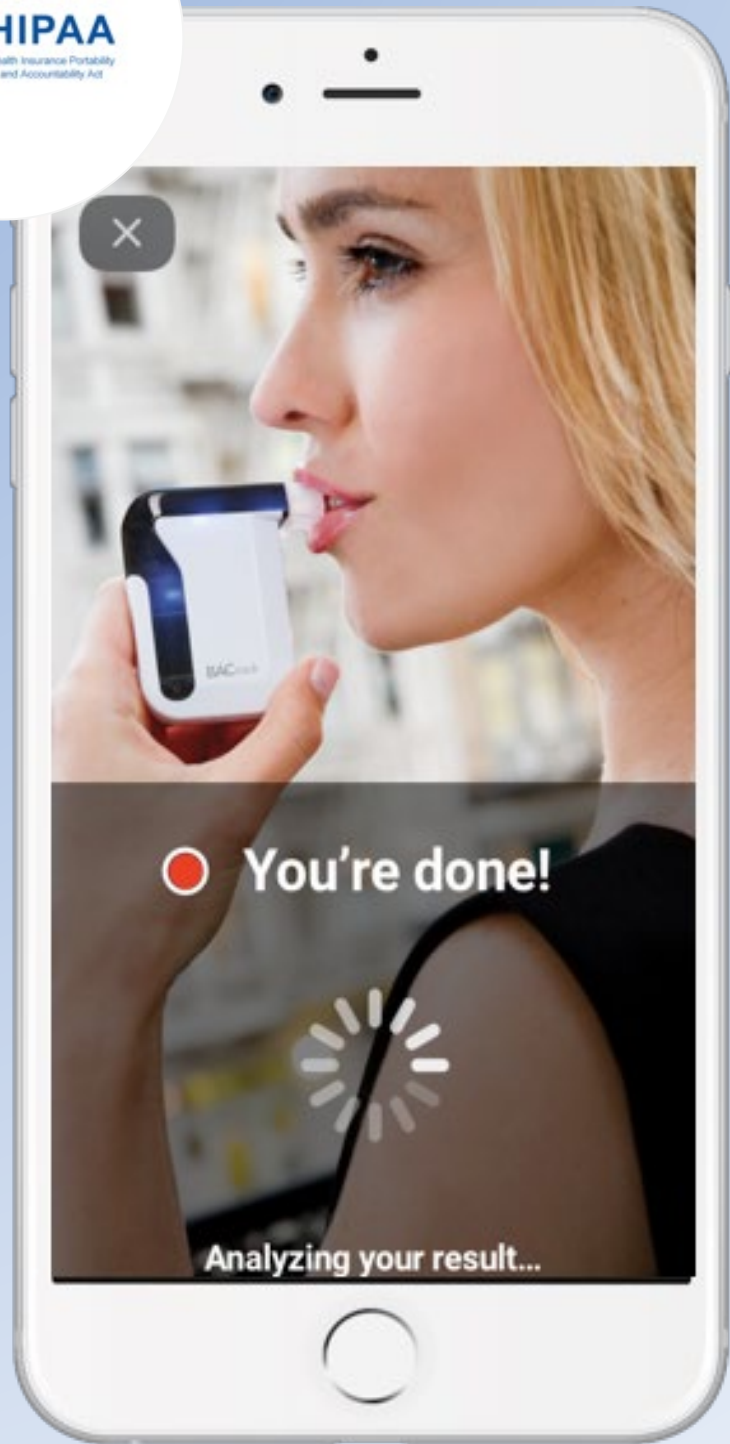
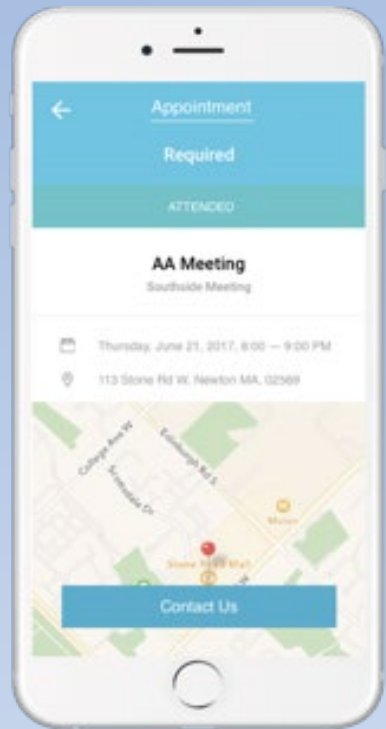
Desipramine and contingency management for cocaine and opiate dependence in buprenorphine-maintained patients.

- A 12-week, randomized, double blind, four cell trial evaluating DMI (150 mg/day) or placebo plus CM or a non-contingent voucher control in 160 cocaine users maintained on buprenorphine (median 16 mg daily)
- Cocaine-free and combined opiate and cocaine free urines increased more rapidly over time in those treated with either DMI or CM, and those receiving both interventions had more drug-free urines (50%) than the other three treatment groups (25/29%)
- DMI and CM had independent and additive effects in facilitating cocaine-free urines in buprenorphine-maintained patients

App-based CM?

- At least three companies are marketing app-based treatment programs that deliver CM remotely:
 - DynamiCare - CM delivered for stimulant-free saliva tests
 - reSET - FDA cleared, CM delivered for completion of treatment modules
 - WeConnect - CM delivered for adherence to treatment plan activities

An Integrated, Wrap-around Toolkit, Powered by CM



-  **Recovery Coaching**
-  **Remote Substance Testing**
-  **Medication Adherence**
-  **Appointment Tracking**
-  **CBT Modules**
-  **Virtual Recovery Support**
-  **FINANCIAL REWARDS**

Net Promoter Score:
72

Medications for MUD - 1

Positive Signals

- Bupropion (better in low severity users)¹
- Mirtazapine²
- Naltrexone³
- Methylphenidate⁴
- d-amphetamine (craving/WD)⁵
- Topiramate (better if abstinent at tx entry)⁶
- Modafinil (better in hi-severity users)⁷

Medications for MUD - 2

(Mostly) Negative Results

- Imipramine
- Desipramine
- Tyrosine
- Ondansetron
- Fluoxetine
- Sertraline, paroxetine
- Aripiprazole
- Gabapentin
- N-acetylcysteine
- Varenicline

Bupropion: dopamine-norepinephrine re-uptake inhibitor for meth?

Randomized trial of bupropion SR 150 mg twice daily versus placebo for 12 weeks in methamphetamine users with *less than daily meth use*

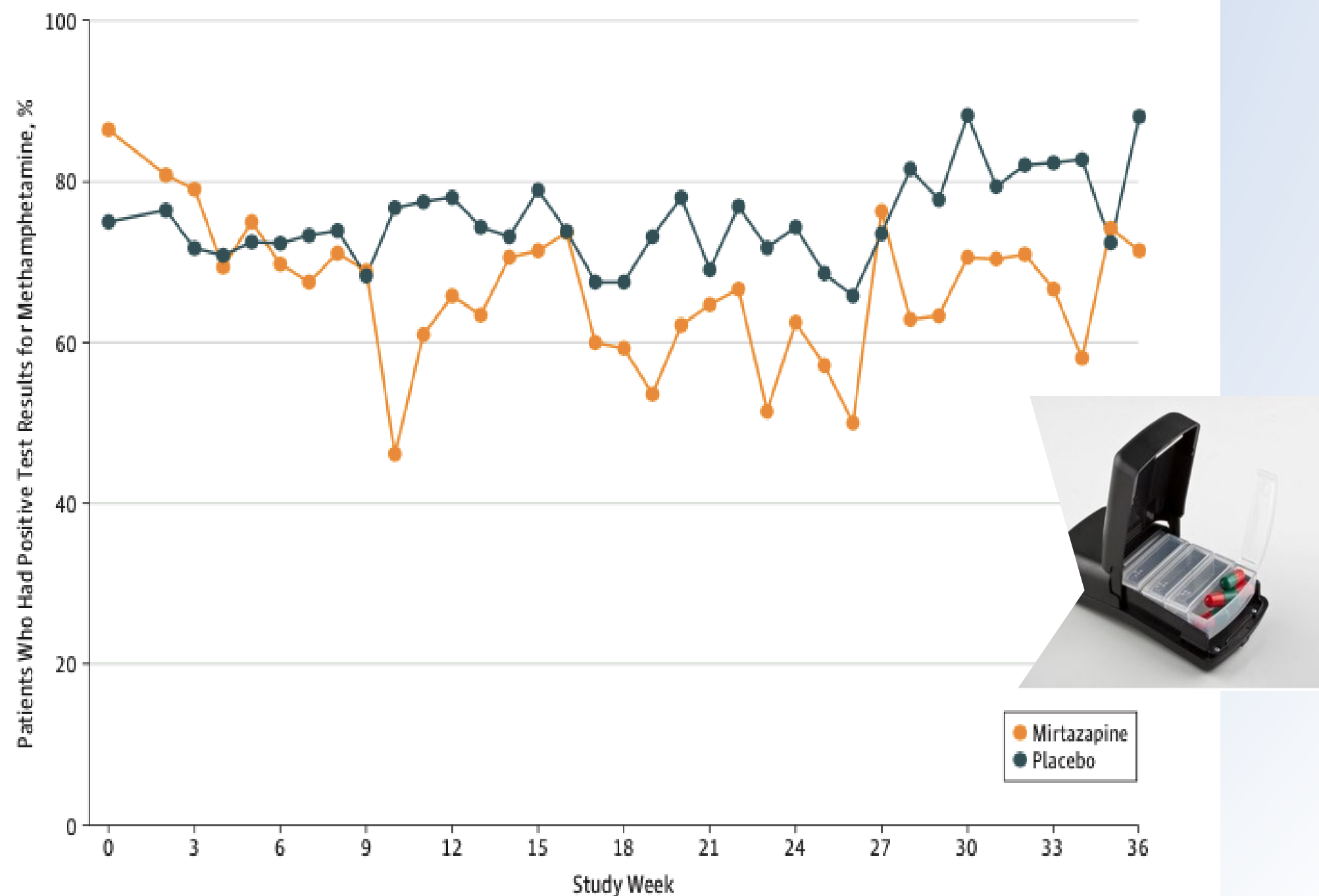
Total sample	Bupropion (N=41)	Placebo (N=43)	P value
End of treatment abstinence	29% (12)	14% (6)	0.087

Only 32% (13/41) of bupropion participants were deemed medication adherent via week 6 plasma bupropion level. Adherence was strongly associated with end of treatment meth abstinence.

Bupropion only	Adherent (N=13)	Non-adherent (N=28)	P value
End of treatment abstinence	54% (7)	18% (5)	0.018

MIRTAZAPINE

Figure 2. Proportion of Participants With Positive Urine Test Results for Methamphetamine During Follow-up, by Arm



Summary:

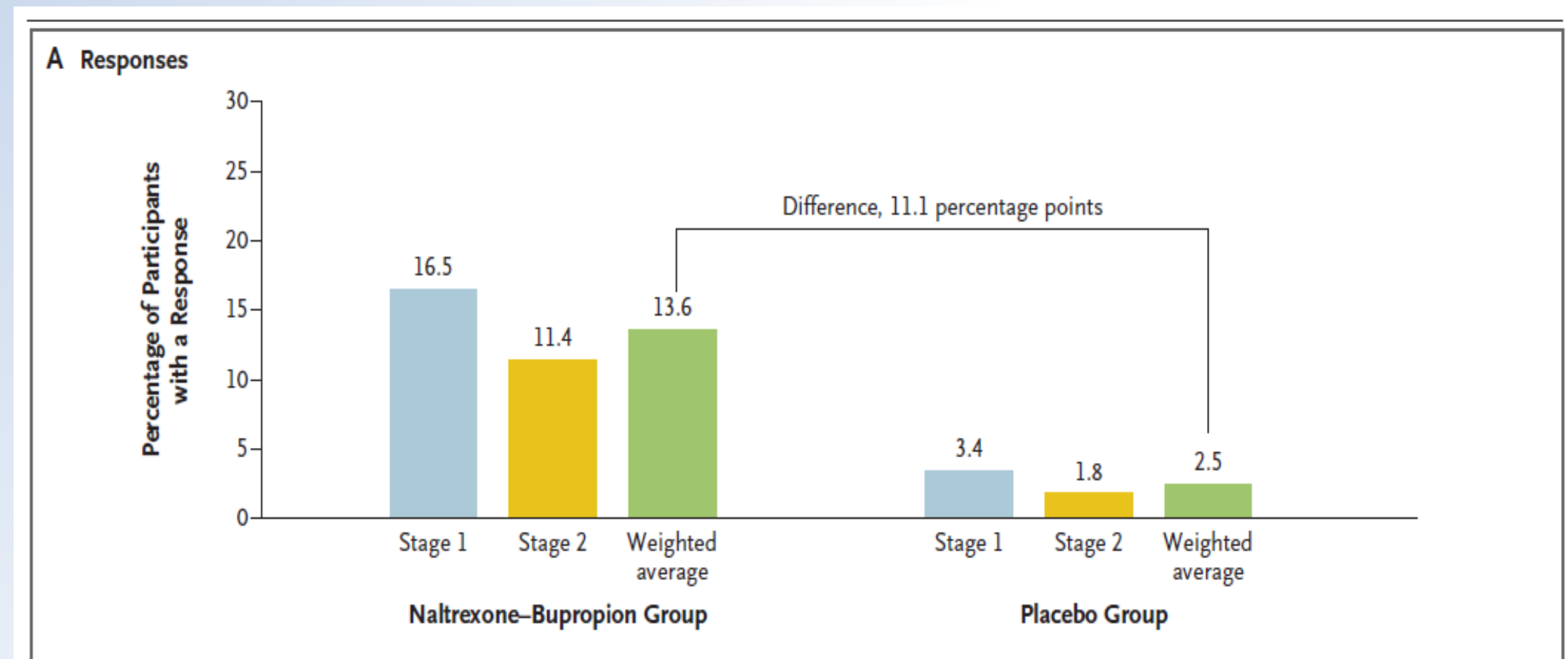
- Double blind, RCT, n=120 cis men, transgender men, transgender women who have sex with men and MA use disorder, actively using MA
- Mirtazapine 30 mg vs placebo, plus counseling, for 24 weeks, and 12 weeks of f/u
- ~40% adherence in both groups (used WisePill dispenser)
- Significant reductions in positive UDS in the mirtazapine group at all time points

Sustained-Release Methylphenidate for MUD

- Sustained-release methylphenidate (MPH) titrated to 54mg/day to reduce methamphetamine (MA) use (N=90).
- 10 weeks active med (MPH vs. PLB), then 4 weeks single-blind PLB
- CBT platform with motivational incentives (MA-neg UDS)
- MPH associated with significantly fewer self-reported days of MA use over the active treatment period than PLB in MA users with >10 days use in past 30 days at baseline (not for 1^o outcome)
- MPH group reduced MA use > PLB from baseline to end of active phase (6.5 vs. 3.5 days)
- No difference in proportion of +UDS across active med period

Naltrexone for MUD

- Naltrexone shown to reduce subjective effects of MA and relapse to amphetamines¹
- NIDA CTN: open-label 8-wk pilot study (N=49) XR-naltrexone + bupropion XL 450 mg for severe MUD yielded 11 responders (6 out of 8 MA-negative UDS in last 4 weeks of meds)²
- f/u RCT: combination yielded significant response relative to placebo in 12-week, 2 stage trial (N= 403 Stage 1, N= 225 Stage 2) (*see fig*)³



Clinical Management Considerations

- Treat agitation or withdrawal symptoms if indicated
- Provide/refer to evidence-based behavioral interventions
- Treat psychiatric comorbidity
- Consider medications with some evidence base
 - Think about comorbidities when selecting options (e.g., ADHD, depression, anxiety)
 - Consider severity of use (e.g., frequency, duration)

Summary of Pharmacotherapy Evidence – Methamphetamine

- Underpowered studies, high attrition
- Bupropion may be more effective in individuals with lower use disorder severity
 - May be better in individuals with depression, males
- Low strength evidence that methylphenidate and topiramate may facilitate reduction in use
 - Topiramate better if negative urine screen at baseline
 - Standard dosing ranges generally studied

Summary of Off-Label Pharmacotherapy Options Cont'd

- Methamphetamine: bupropion 300 mg/day, topiramate 300 mg/day, naltrexone, mirtazapine 30 mg/day, methylphenidate 54 mg/day
- Evidence for effects of prescription stimulants on abstinence most robust for cocaine use d/o; influenced by dose and potency
- Safety considerations: seizure threshold, h/o prescription stimulant use disorder, medical/psych/substance comorbidities

Naloxone for Users of Methamphetamine?

- Patients with co-occurring stimulant use disorder and opioid use disorder should be maintained on medication treatment for opioid use disorder (MOUD), even if stimulant use is ongoing.
- With increasing rates of fentanyl mixed into samples of methamphetamine (and cocaine), stimulant users are at much higher risk for overdose death due to their lack of tolerance for opioids.
- Stimulant users should be educated about the dangers of fentanyl and offered naloxone in case of opioid overdose.
- Fentanyl has greater affinity for the opioid receptor than naloxone = more difficult to reverse overdose.

What are some treatment implications for MUD + OUD?

- **Prescribe naloxone** for overdose prevention
 - May require more than one dose to counteract the effects of meth and heroin/fentanyl
- Combine **medication treatment for OUD with contingency management** for meth
- Assess and treat psychiatric comorbidity
- Refer to other **evidence-based behavioral tx interventions**: CBT, CRA
- Emerging considerations: exercise? rTMS? Digital therapeutics?



Thank you!

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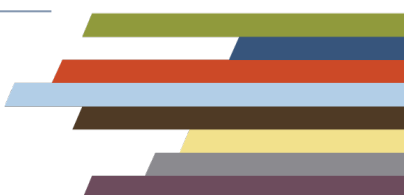
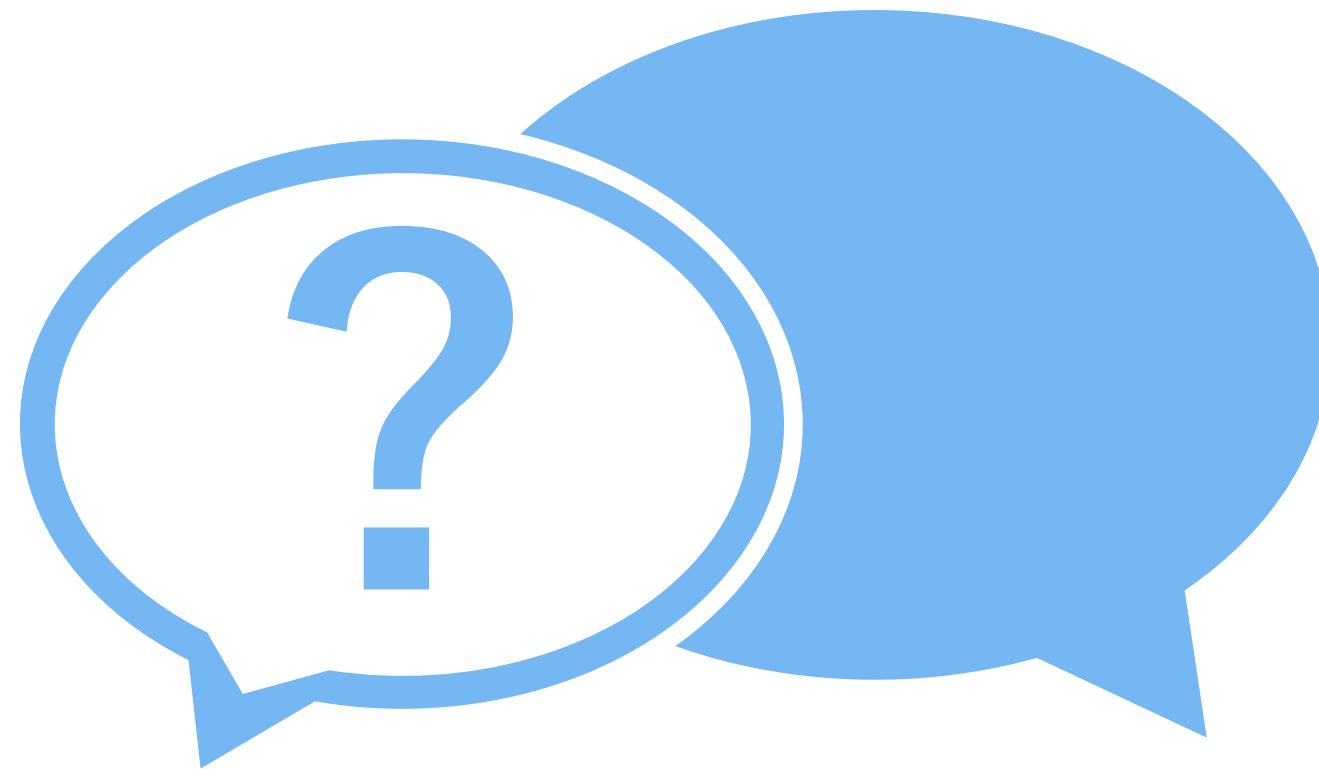
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**Questions? Please type them in
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gracias cảm ơn bạn धन्यवाद 고맙습니다
 شڪرا جزىلا salamat благодарю вас 谢谢
 Dziękuję Ci **Thank** ευχαριστώ
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 ありがとうございます спасибі mahalo



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