



ID and Opioids

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The US Opioid Epidemic



130+

People died every day from
opioid-related drug overdoses³
(estimated)



11.4 m

People misused
prescription opioids¹



47,600

People died from
overdosing on opioids²



2.1 million

People had an opioid use
disorder¹



81,000

People used heroin
for the first time¹



886,000

People used heroin¹



2 million

People misused prescription
opioids for the first time¹



15,482

Deaths attributed to
overdosing on heroin²



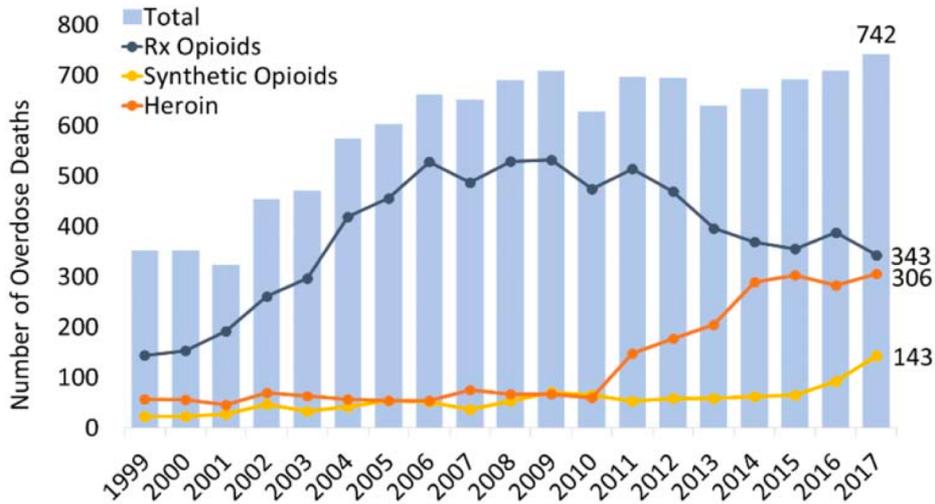
28,466

Deaths attributed to
overdosing on synthetic
opioids other than methadone²

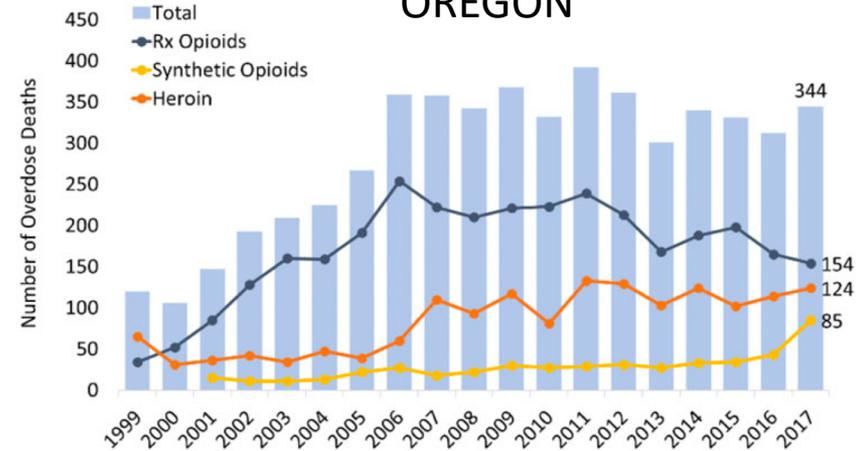


Opioid-Related Overdose Deaths

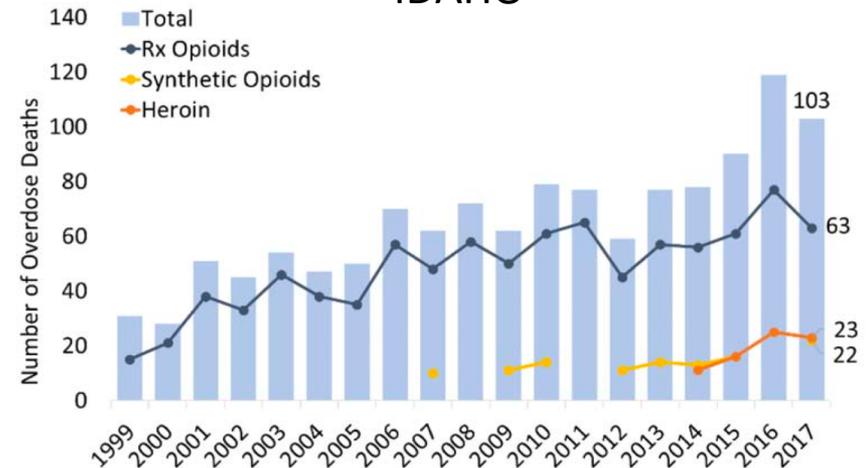
WASHINGTON



OREGON



IDAHO



Infections in PWID

- A word on stigma and language



Infections in PWID - HIV



Health Advisory: HIV Among Persons Who Inject Drugs and are Living Homeless - King County, 7 AUG 2018

Background:

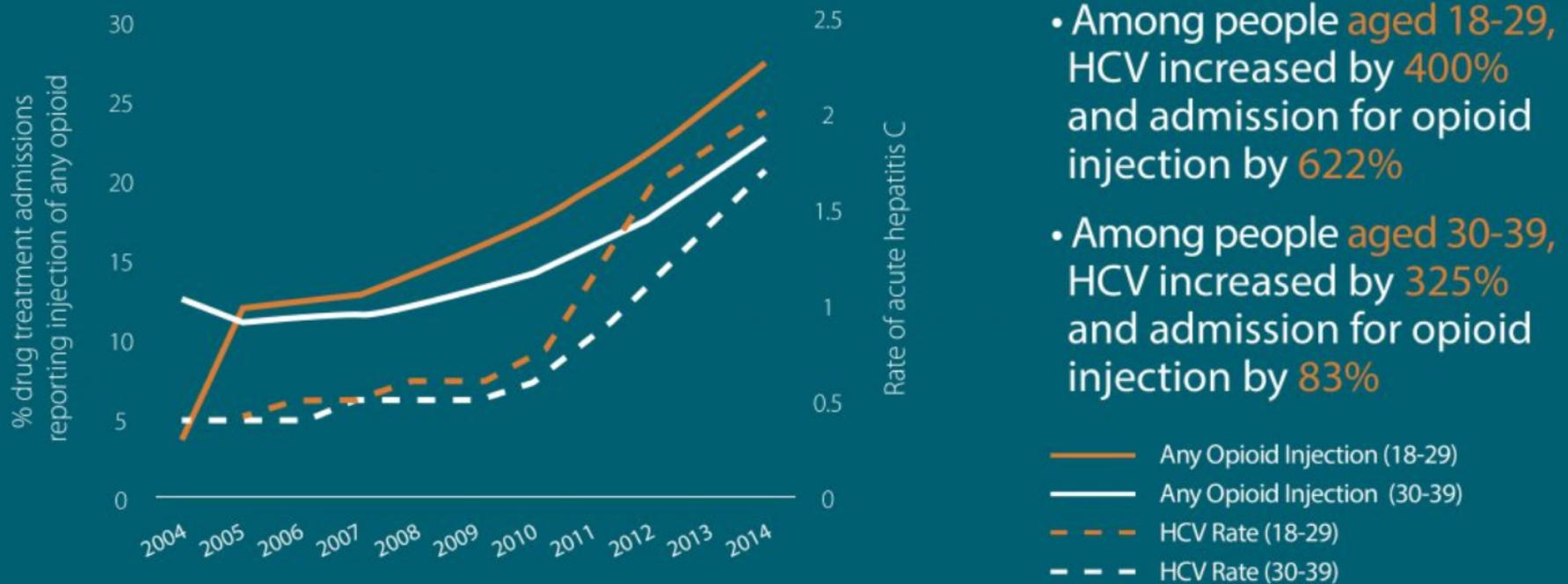
Since February 2018, Public Health has identified a cluster of six cases of newly diagnosed HIV infection among persons who inject drugs (PWID) and are living homeless. All six newly diagnosed persons reside in north King County and, to date, all have reported only opposite gender sex partners. Several have exchanged sex for money or drugs.

4-fold increase in non-MSM PWID diagnosed with HIV in 2017



Infections in PWID - Hepatitis C

HEPATITIS C AND OPIOID INJECTION ROSE DRAMATICALLY IN YOUNGER AMERICANS FROM 2004-2014

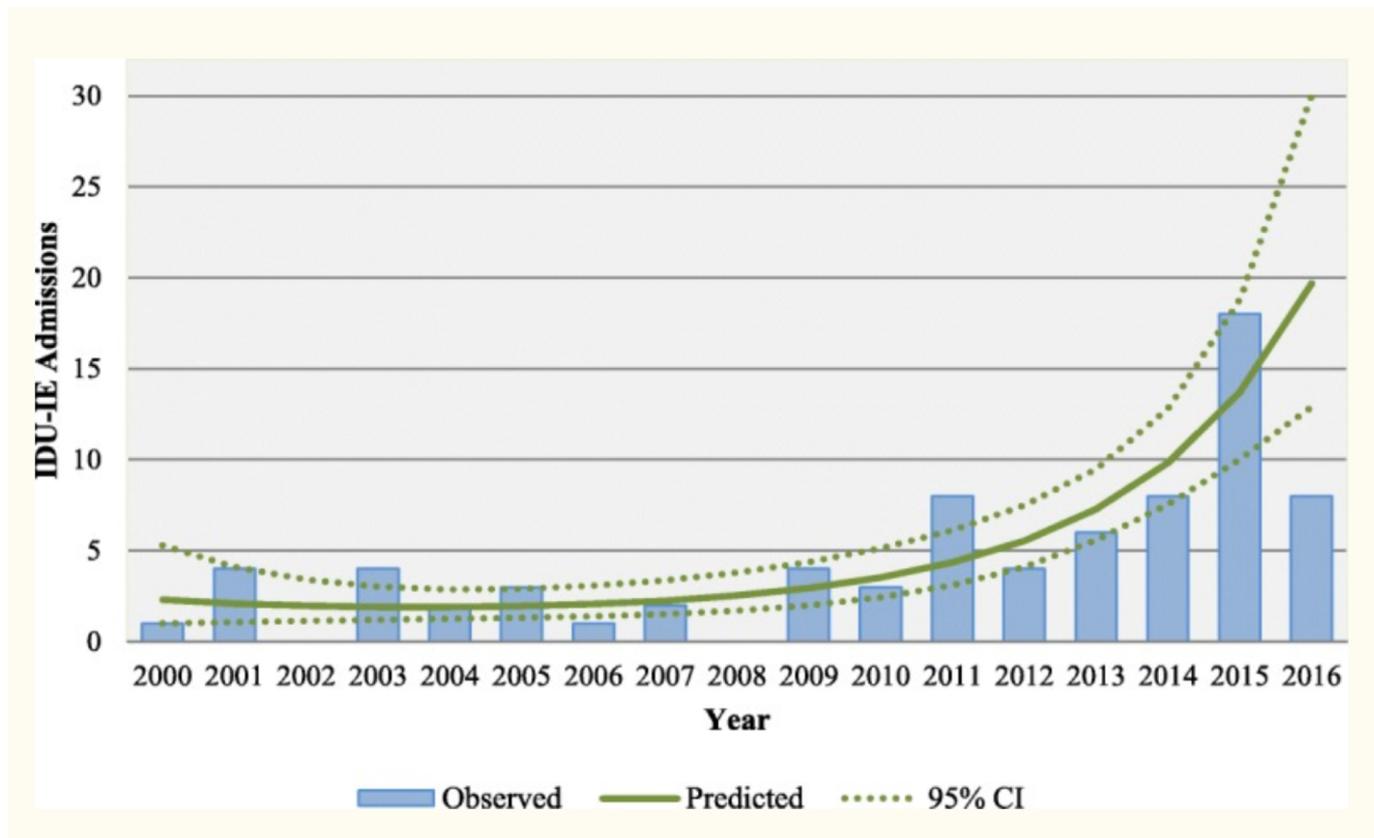


Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

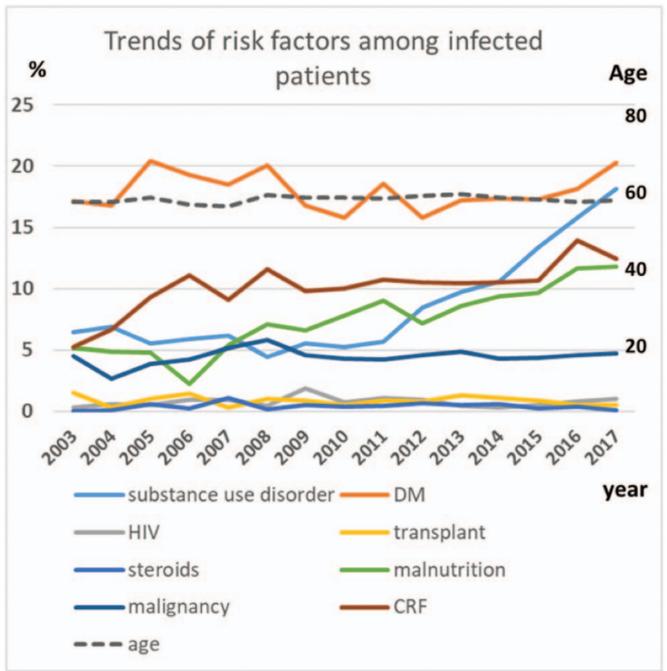


Infections in PWID – Endocarditis

Observed and predicted IE in PWID over time (Virginia)



Infections in PWID - Osteomyelitis



Infections in PWID

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
MMWR | **WOUND BOTULISM AND BLACK TAR HEROIN**

THINK ABOUT BOTULISM!

-  • DROOPY EYELIDS
-  • BLURRED OR DOUBLE VISION
-  • SLURRED SPEECH
-  • PARALYSIS, DIFFICULTY BREATHING

BOTULISM OUTBREAK, SAN DIEGO COUNTY



- 9** PATIENTS WITH BOTULISM 
- 7** USED BLACK TAR HEROIN 
- 6** INJECTED BY SKIN POPPING 
- 6** INTUBATED 
- 1** DIED 

ANTITOXIN EARLY SAVES LIVES

- SUSPECT BOTULISM? CALL STATE OR LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT EMERGENCY NUMBER FOR:
 - CONSULTATION
 - ANTITOXIN
 - TESTING



Outbreak data from 09/2017–05/2018 by County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency and California Department of Public Health as published in Peak et al. *MMWR* 2019 [bit.ly/CDCVA20](https://doi.org/10.1093/mmwr/mmz020)
#201911

WWW.CDC.GOV



What are we supposed to do about it?

- Opportunities to intervene exist every time we interact with a patient



Infective Endocarditis at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center

- 747 patients with IE (10 years)
 - 102 a/w injection drug use
 - 57% Surgery
 - 49% Readmission
 - 25% deceased (median 305 days)
 - 8% had a plan for addition treatment at discharge
 - 0 given naloxone
- ID team got trained to treat substance use disorder



Interventions for Opioid Use Disorder

- Identify it
- Assess readiness for recovery
 - ~50% of patients ready for OUD treatment while inpt
- Provide Treatment
- Harm reduction



Medication Assisted Treatment

- “...the use of medications in combination with counseling and behavior therapies for the treatment of substance use disorders.”
- Safe and effective
- 3 meds to know:
 - Methadone
 - Naltrexone
 - Buprenorphine
- Buprenorphine Training
 - Any provider with a DEA License
 - 8 hour course



Harm Reduction

- How to help keep patients alive until they are ready for treatment
 - Safer injection practices
 - Naloxone
 - Creative means to get ID care
 - PrEP
 - Vaccinations
 - Mental health referrals
 - Treatment for other medical problems
 - Housing



Stretching the Scope

At some point, it became culturally acceptable to treat all conditions in a patient except addiction. It's a diagnosis still frequently and falsely regarded as untreatable — a convenient assumption driven by the stigma against people with this disease. ID specialists have historically been ardent advocates for social justice and public health, championing patients on the margins of society who have stigmatizing illnesses. In the age of the opioid epidemic, treatment of life-threatening infections arising from injection drug use accounts for an increasing proportion of our practice. Far too often, however, infections that we treat resolve while underlying substance use disorders are left to fester.



Resources

- www.samhsa.gov
- <https://www.asam.org/resources/guidelines-and-consensus-documents>
- Waiver training
 - <https://www.asam.org/education/live-online-cme/waiver-training>

