

Presentation to:
Opioid State Action Network
Thursday, October 24th



Overview of Planned Remarks

About Voices for Non-Opioid Choices

Opioid Epidemic in United States

Opioid Prescribing in the United States

Non-Opioid Pain Management

Policies Impacting Access to Non-Opioids

What's Next?

About Voices for Non- Opioid Choices

Our Members

We boast a membership of nearly 200 provider, patient, mental health, prevention and recovery organizations on national and state levels, including:



To prevent opioid addiction in the United States by increasing access to and use of non-opioid pain management approaches.

OUR MISSION

Opioid Epidemic in United States

Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) in America



- 6.1 million Americans¹ (including 1.1 million Medicare beneficiaries²) suffered from OUD in 2022.
- An HMA report estimated that OUD cost the Medicare program \$33 billion in 2022³.

1. SAMHSA, Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality, National Survey on Drug Use and Health, 2022.

2. Office of the Inspector General. The Consistently Low Percentage of Medicare Enrollees Receiving Medication to Treat Their Opioid Use Disorder Remains a Concern. December 2023, OEI-02-23-00250. <https://oig.hhs.gov/oei/reports/OEI-02-23-00250.pdf>

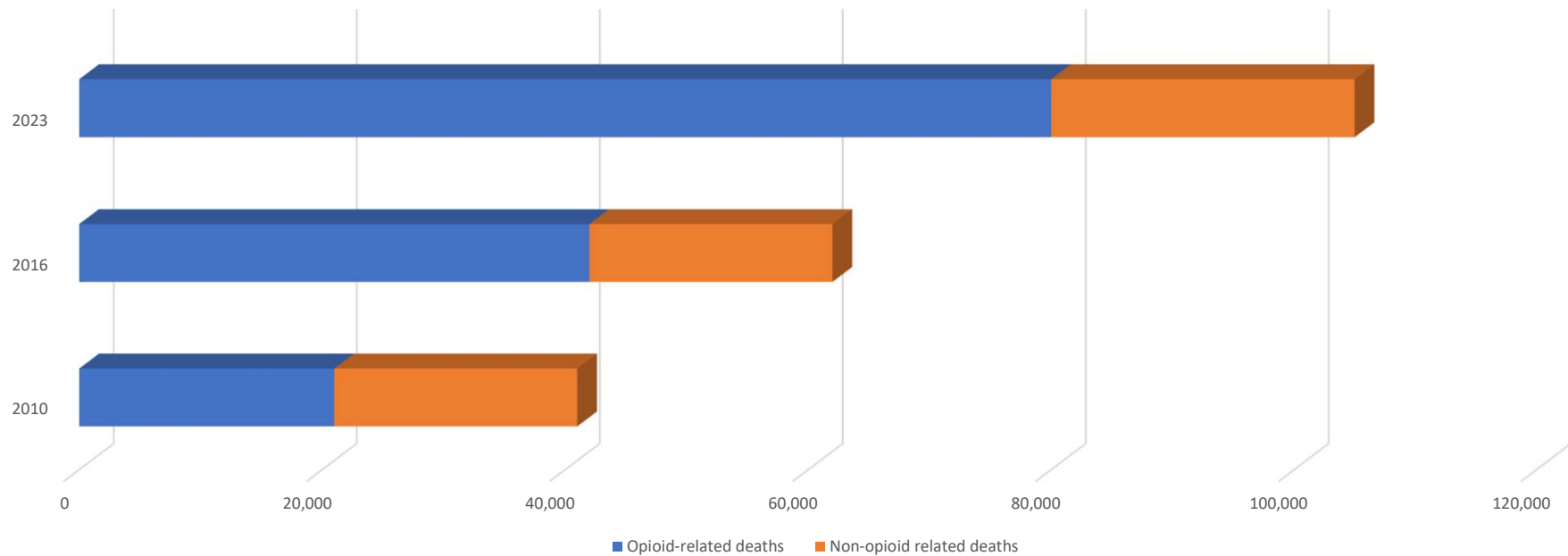
3. Desmarais, M. (2024). *Opioid Use Disorder in the Medicare Fee-for-Service Program*. The Moran Company, an HMA Company. <https://www.healthmanagement.com/insights/briefs-reports/economic-analysis-of-opioid-use-disorder-in-the-medicare-fee-for-service-program/>

Some positive signs, but work remains...

- Latest data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention⁴ showed that, for the first time in the last five years:
 - Drug overdose deaths, including those involving opioids are lower in 2023 than in 2022
 - The slight improvement still leaves room for improvement as improvements were not seen across all cohorts; and
 - Opioid-related drug overdose deaths increased among older Americans by 9 percent.

4. (2024, May 15). *U.S. Overdose Deaths Decrease in 2023, First Time Since 2018*. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/pressroom/nchs_press_releases/2024/20240515.htm#

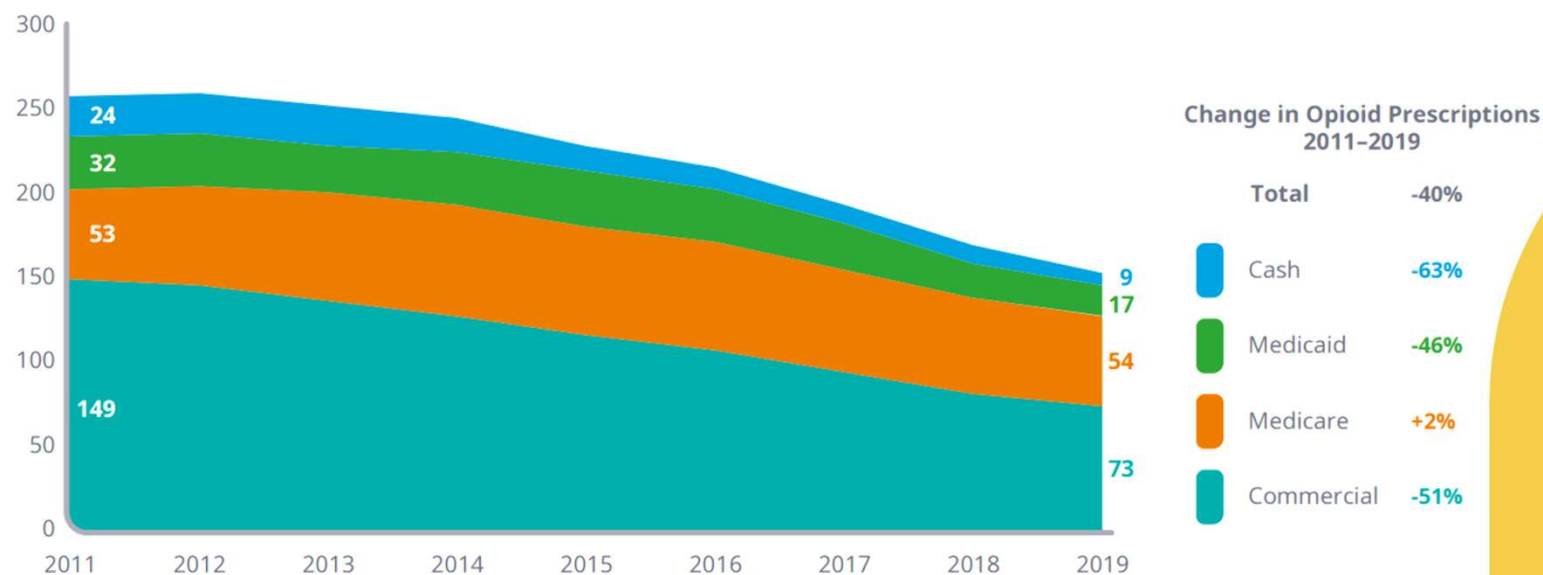
Drug Overdose Deaths in U.S. (2010 – 2023)⁵



5. (2024, August 1). *Drug Overdose Deaths: Facts and Figures*. National Institute on Drug Abuse. <https://nida.nih.gov/research-topics/trends-statistics/overdose-death-rates>

Opioid Prescribing in the United States

Number of Prescription Opioids Dispensed by Pay Type, Millions, 2011–2019



Source: IQVIA Xponent, Mar 2020; IQVIA Institute, Nov 2020

Despite progress, some patients continue to receive opioids



Up to 90 percent of acute pain patients receive opioids to manage their pain⁶.



This happens because:

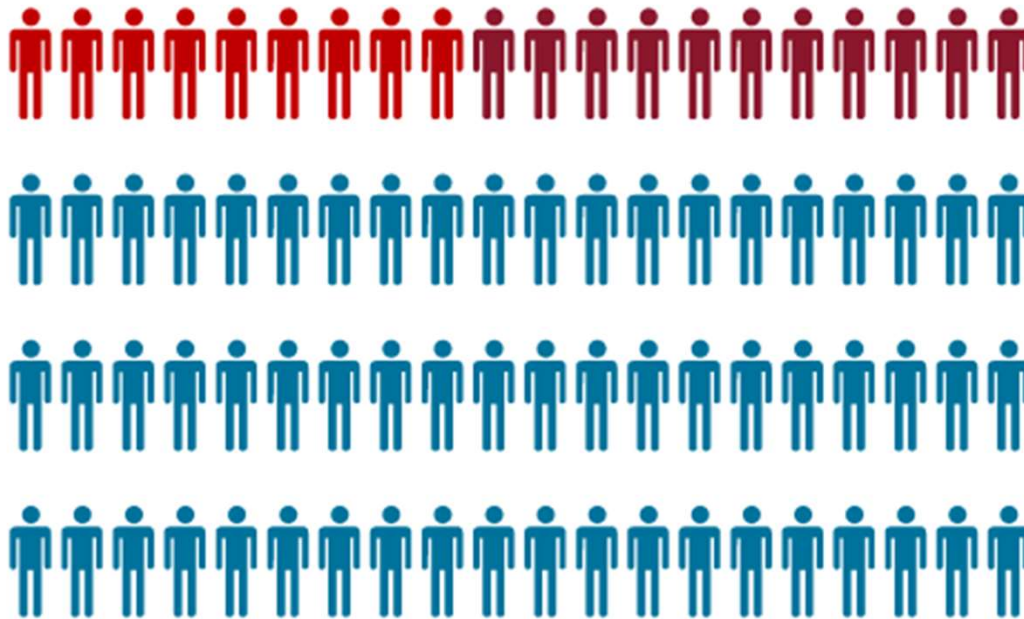
Lagging HCP practices

Universal insurance coverage

Lack of awareness of other options

6. Singh, K., Murali, A., Stevens, H., Vydiswaran, V. G. V., Bohnert, A., Brummett, C. M., & Fernandez, A. C. (2022). Predicting persistent opioid use after surgery using electronic health record and patient-reported data. *Surgery*, 172(1), 241–248. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.surg.2022.01.008>

Problem: Long-Term Opioid Use After Surgery



New research shows that **10 percent** of those prescribed opioids will become opioid dependent or develop and opioid addiction⁷.

This results in **millions of new cases of opioid dependence and addiction every year** in the United States.

7. (2019). *PRESCRIPTION OPIOID EPIDEMIC: KNOW THE FACTS*. AMA Alliance. https://amaalliance.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/Opioid-White-Paper_Final_Template.pdf

Non-Opioid Pain Management

What are non-opioids?

- Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs)
- Nerve blocks
- Anticonvulsants (e.g. gabapentin)
- Antidepressants (e.g. tricyclics)



...and do they work?

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention⁸:

“Non-opioids should be used as a first line therapy.”

“Non-opioids are just as effective at treating acute pain...”



8. Dowell D, Ragan KR, Jones CM, Baldwin GT, Chou R. CDC Clinical Practice Guideline for Prescribing Opioids for Pain — United States, 2022. MMWR Recomm Rep 2022;71(No. RR-3):1–95. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.15585/mmwr.rr7103a1>

Other Benefits of Non-Opioid Pain Approaches

Minimizes exposure to narcotics⁹

Reduced opioid-related adverse events (ORAEs)¹⁰

Faster recovery after surgery¹¹

Reduced patient length of stay (and associated system savings)¹²

SAVES LIVES.

9. Schwenk, E. S., & Mariano, E. R. (2018). Designing the ideal perioperative pain management plan starts with multimodal analgesia. *Korean journal of anesthesiology*, 71(5), 345–352. <https://doi.org/10.4097/kja.d.18.00217>

10. Yalmanchili HM. et. all. Post laparotomy pain management: Comparison of patient-controlled analgesia pump alone, with subcutaneous bupivacaine infusion, or with injection of liposomal bupivacaine suspension. *J. Opioids Manag.* 2019 Mar/Apr; 15 (2): 169-175

11. Lieblisch SE and H. Danesi. Liposomal Bupivacaine Use in Third Molar Impaction Surgery: INNOVATE Study. *Anesth Prog.* 2017 Fall: 64(3): 127-135

12. Kim, K., Elbuluk, A., Yu, S., & Iorio, R. (2018). Cost-effective peri-operative pain management: assuring a happy patient after total knee arthroplasty. *The bone & joint journal*, 100-B(1 Supple A), 55–61. <https://doi.org/10.1302/0301-620X.100B1.BJJ-2017-0549.R1>

Policies Impacting Access to Non-Opioids



Separate Payment for Non-Opioids

- Because utilization of non-opioids was lagging in certain care settings:
 - CMS, in 2019, started providing separate payment for using non-opioid pain approaches for outpatient surgical procedures performed in the ambulatory surgical center (ASC) setting;
 - Policy was limited to the ASC; and
 - The policy was tremendously impactful: from 2019 to 2020, use of non-opioids **more than doubled**¹³.

13. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (2021). Medicare Program: Hospital Outpatient Prospective Payment and Ambulatory Surgical Center Payment Systems and Quality Reporting Programs proposed rule: <https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/fact-sheets/cy2023-medicare-hospital-outpatient-prospective-payment-system-and-ambulatory-surgical-center>



Increasing Access to Non-Opioids

- In December 2022, Congress passed the Non-Opioids Prevent Addiction in the Nation Act (“NOPAIN Act”)
 - Legislation was signed into law by President Biden as part of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023
 - Legislation was supported by more than 175 Members of Congress from both parties
 - Policy changes in legislation set to go into effect January 2025.
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What's Next?



Work Remains

Medicare patients undergoing an outpatient surgical procedure will enjoy access to non-opioids across care settings beginning in 2025

Medicaid, TRICARE, VA beneficiaries, or those with private insurance coverage may continue to be denied access

Need to broaden access in Medicare to ensure robust access to non-opioid medicines. Including at the pharmacy counter

Needed Next Steps

- Medicaid patient access to non-opioids
 - In the outpatient surgical setting; AND
 - At the pharmacy counter
- Additional payer coverage of non-opioid approaches
 - TRICARE/VA
 - Commercial insurance
- Enhancing patient and provider awareness