



Confronting the Crisis of Our Generation

The Opioid Epidemic in Colorado

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DECEMBER 7, 2017

Pueblo heroin bust

COLORADO MATTERS

An Opioid Death Prompts Denver Public Library To Keep Overdose Antidote On Hand

“We started it”: Atul Gawande on doctors’ role in the opioid epidemic

Updated by Sarah Kliff | sarah@vox.com | Sep 8, 2017, 4:00pm EDT

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Key Takeaways

1. Opioid-related overdose deaths are an increasing share of drug overdose deaths.
2. Colorado is making progress on slowing prescription opioid overdoses.
3. Colorado must reduce heroin overdoses in order to reduce the drug overdose rate.

So, Why Opioids?

- Colorado lost 108 people to an opioid-related overdose in 1999.
- That number hit an all-time high of 504 lives lost due to an opioid in 2016.



What Are Opioids, Anyway?





Takeaway 1:

**Opioids make up
an increasing share of
drug overdose deaths.**

Opioids Make up an Increasing Share of Drug Poisoning Deaths



Source: Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. Rate per 100,000 people.



Demographics: Opioid Overdose Deaths



Rates for heroin and prescription drugs are highest for **non-Hispanic white Coloradans**.

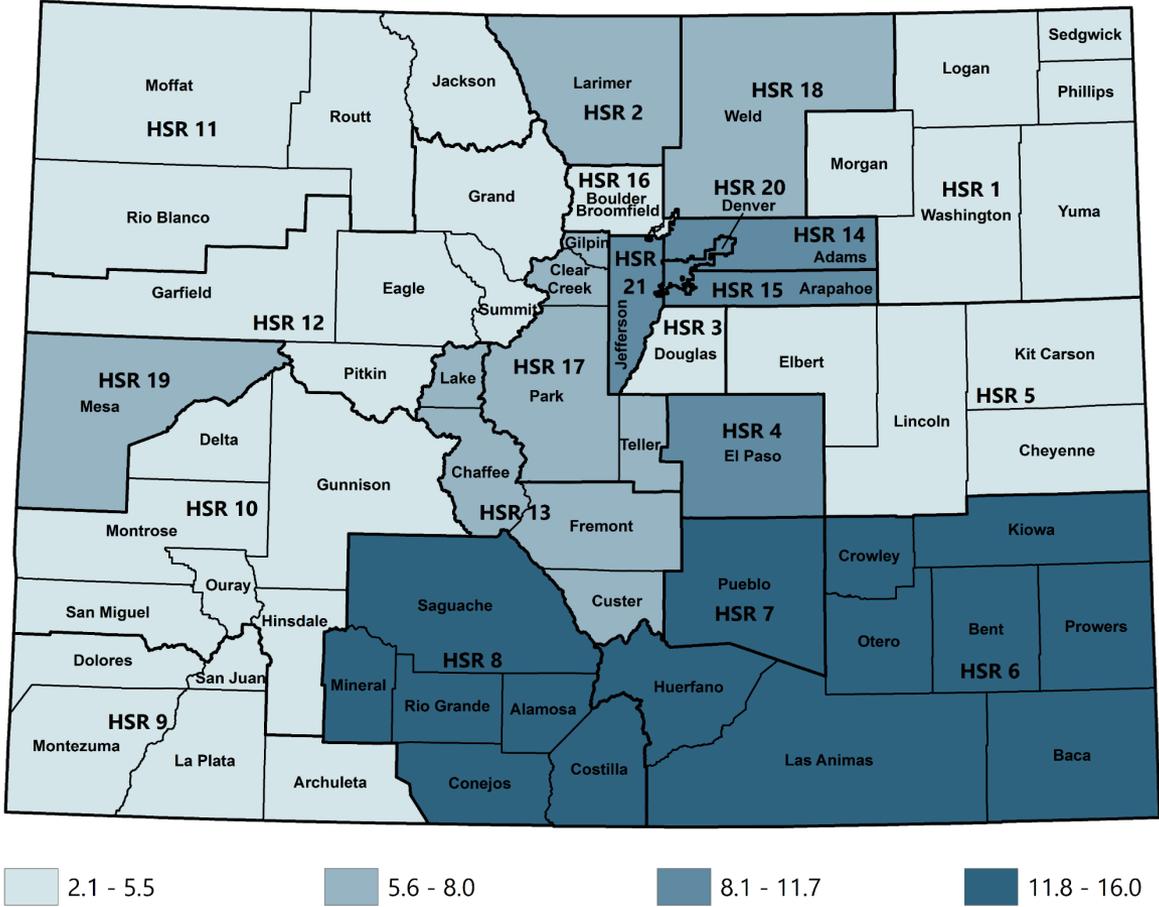


Males more likely to die of a heroin overdose than females.



Highest death rate for heroin in the **26 to 34 age group**.

Opioid-Related Overdose Death Rates Highest in Southern Colorado, Front Range



COLORADO HEALTH INSTITUTE

Source: Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. Rate per 100,000 people, 2014-2016.

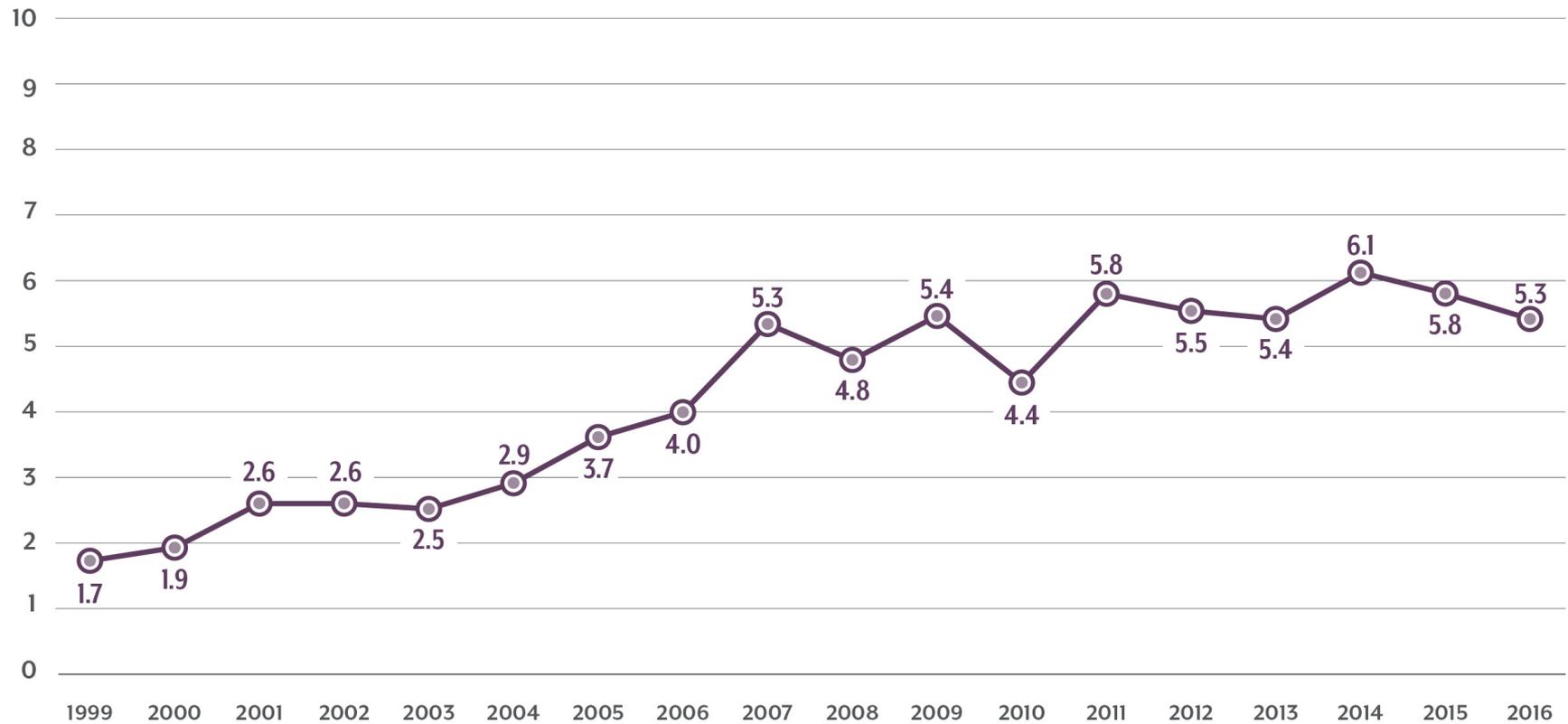




Takeaway 2:

**Colorado is making progress
on slowing prescription opioid
overdoses.**

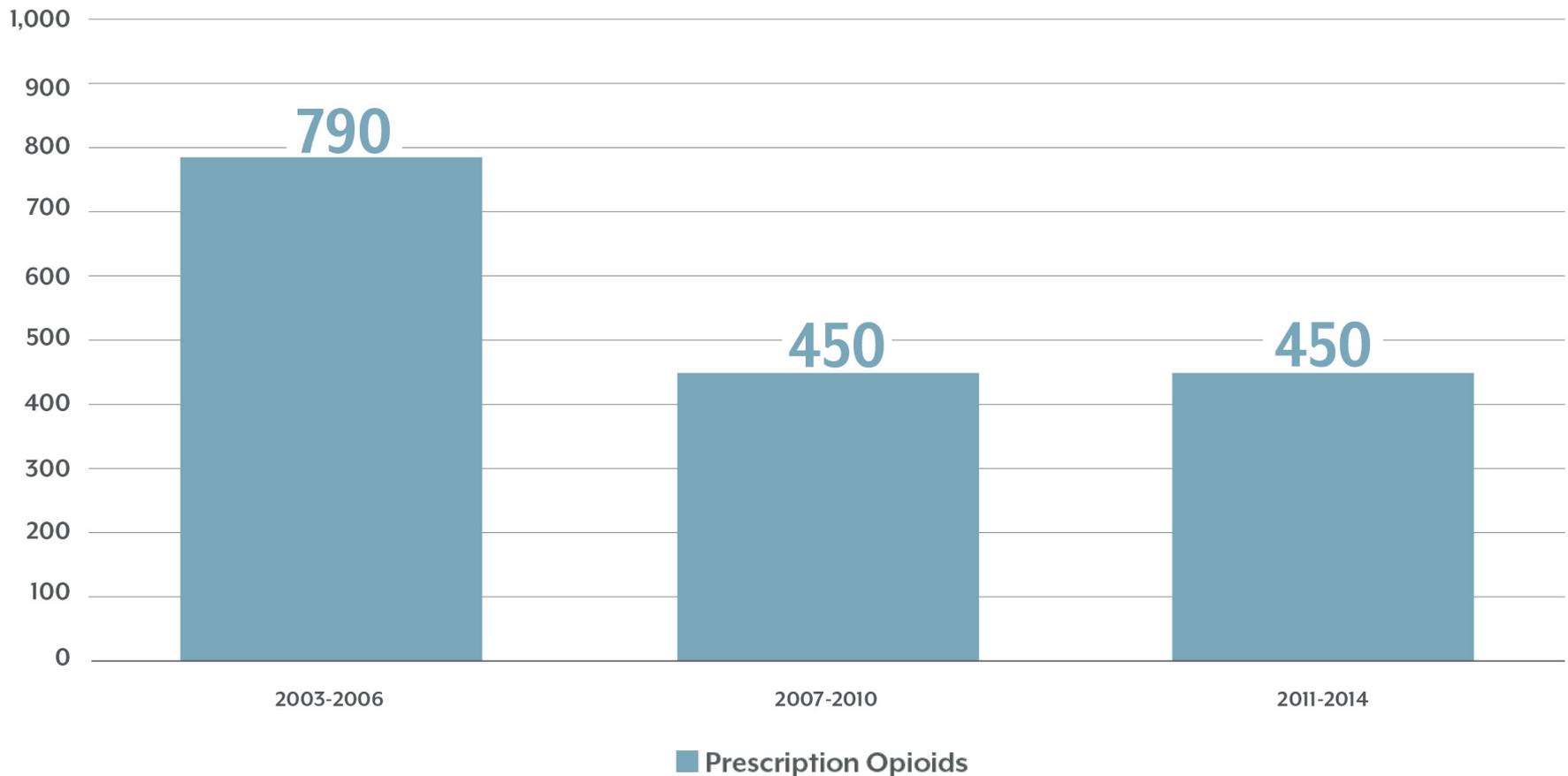
Prescription Opioid-Related Death Rates Have Levelled Off



Source: Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. Rate per 100,000 people.



Rates of Abuse or Dependence on Prescription Opioids Have Levelled Off



Source: National Survey on Drug Use and Health. Rate per 100,000 people ages 12 or older.



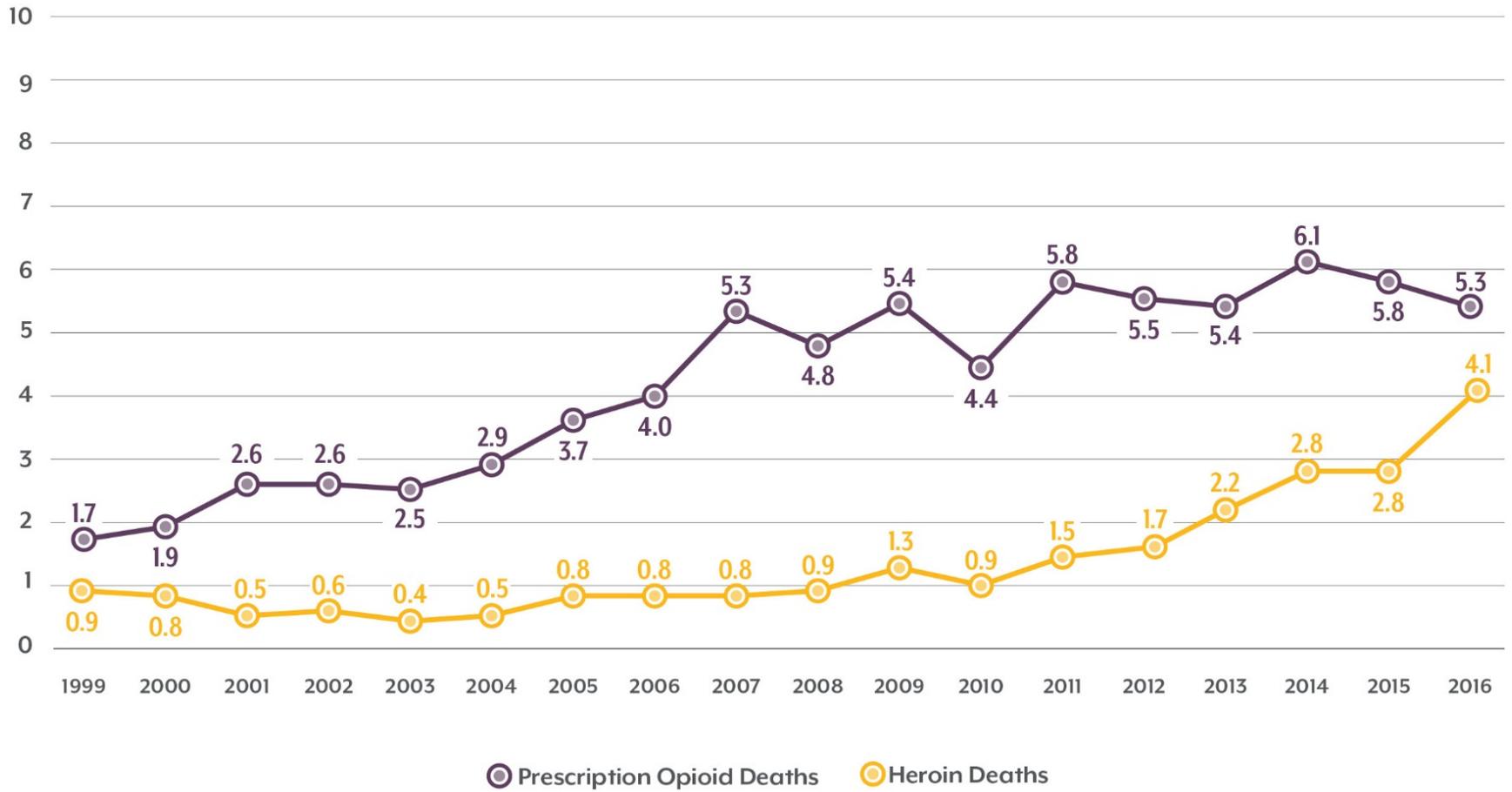
Why Are Prescription Opioid Death Rates Leveling Off?

- Colorado Consortium for Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention
- Prescription Drug Monitoring Program
- Provider education and awareness
- Insurance coverage



Takeaway 3:
**Colorado must reduce
heroin overdoses.**

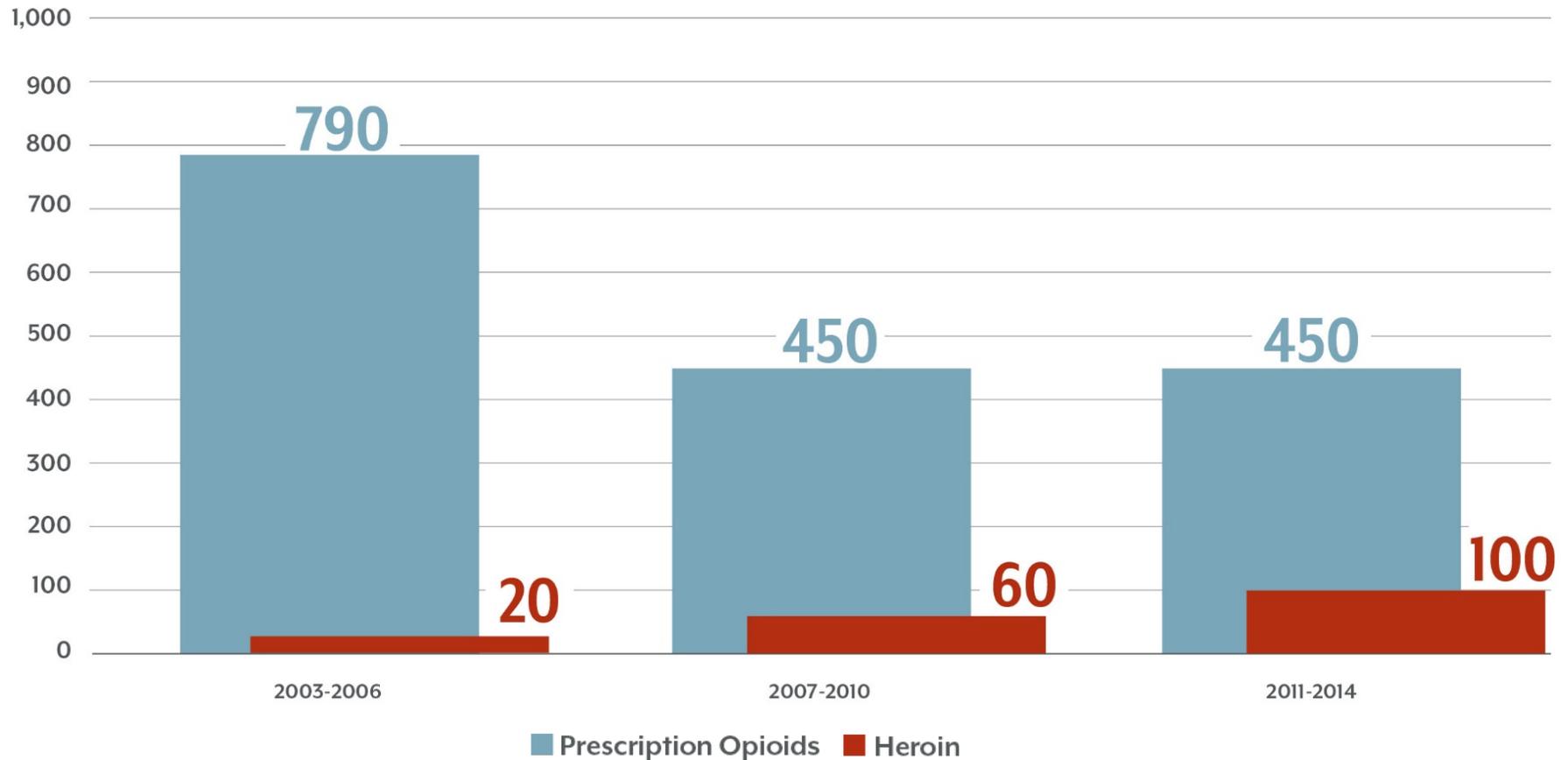
Prescription Opioid and Heroin-Related Death Rates, 1999-2016



Source: Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. Rate per 100,000 people.



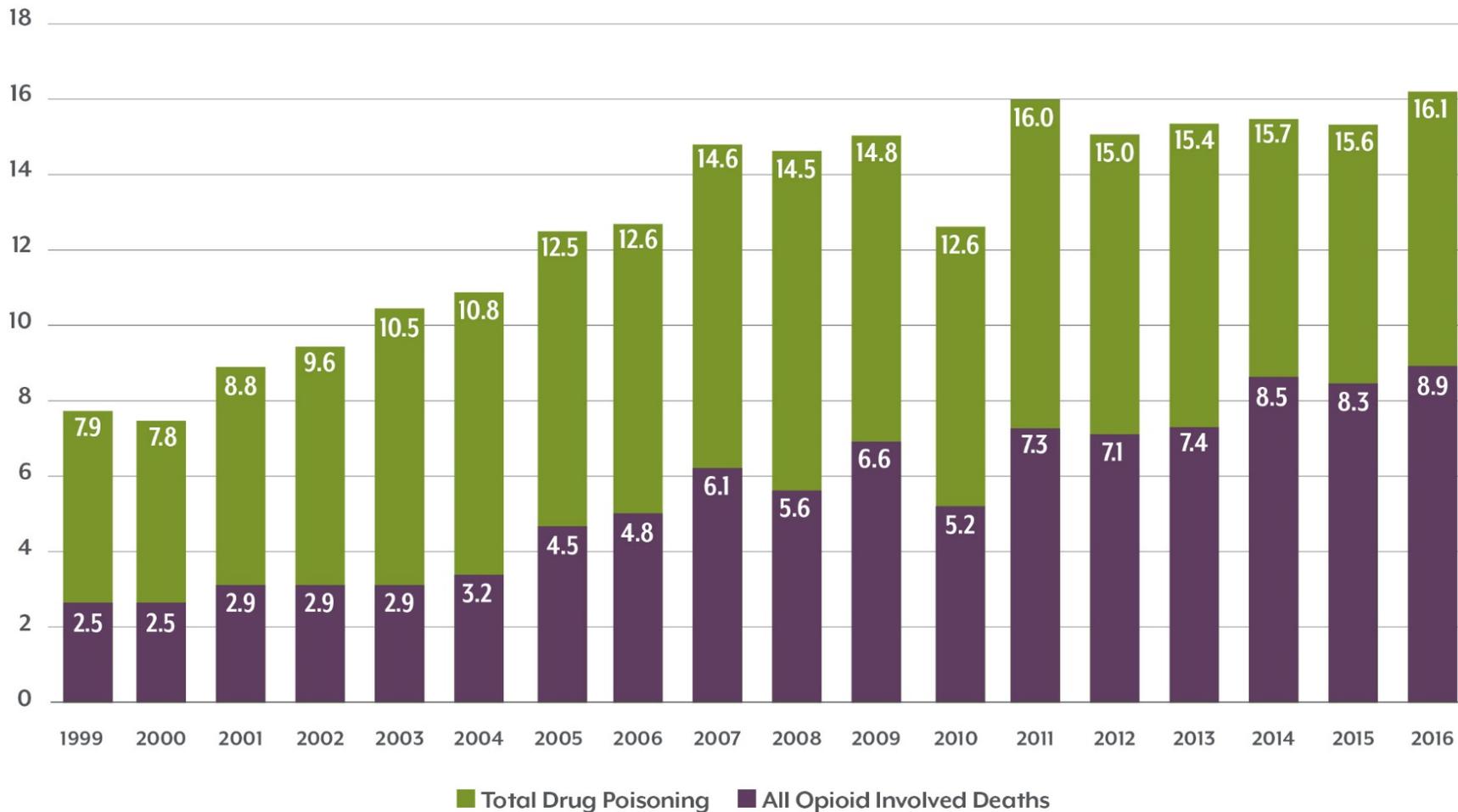
Past Year Abuse or Dependence on Prescription Opioids or Heroin, 2003-2014



Source: National Survey on Drug Use and Health. Rate per 100,000 people ages 12 or older.



Drug Poisoning Death Rates in Colorado, 1999-2016



Source: Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. Rate per 100,000 people.



Evidence-Based Solutions for Slowing the Epidemic: Treatment



Work to Do: 1 of 10 Coloradans Lack Access



Evidence-Based Solutions for Slowing the Epidemic: Harm Reduction



Evidence-Based Solutions for Slowing the Epidemic: Prevention

Practice Name
Prescriber Name
DEA #1234567 LIC #0123456789
Street Address
City, State Zip
Tel: 800-207-1234 Fax: 800-207-3214

Name _____ Age _____
Address _____ Date _____

R

Label

Refill _____ times PRN NR

SCRIPT

8.1.17



**HOT
ISSUES
IN HEALTH**

2017

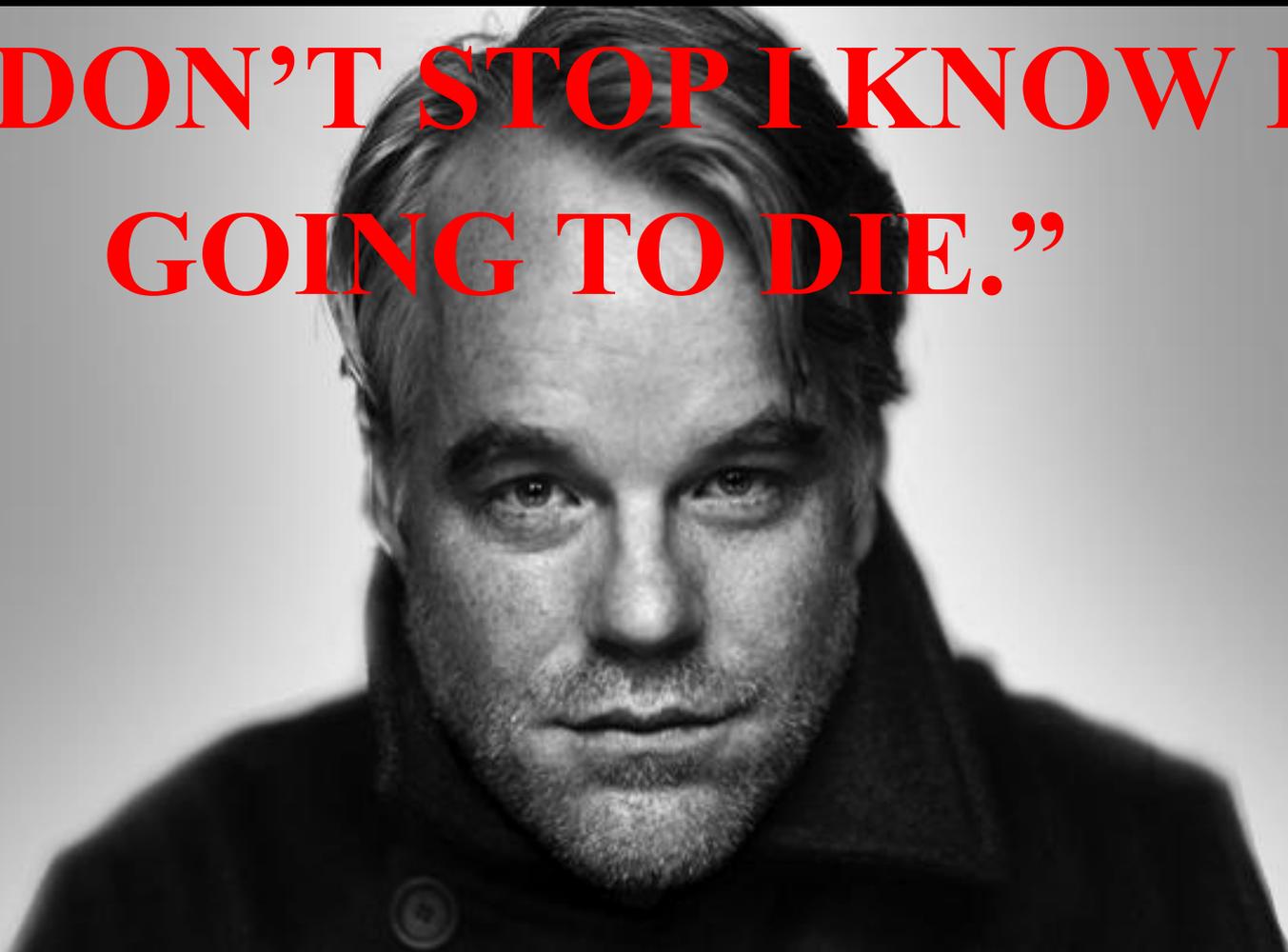
A FRONT LINE PERSPECTIVE ON THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC & HOW TO END IT

Don Stader, MD FACEP



ADDICTION:

**“IF I DON’T STOP I KNOW I’M
GOING TO DIE.”**



**ADDICT. BAD PERSON. A CHOICE.
A MORAL FAILING. WASTE OF TIME**

ADDICTION:

ENDORPHINS
DYNORPHINS
DOPAMINE
REWARD
SYSTEM
MALFUNCTION



**BRAIN
FAILURE**

A MEDICAL DISEASE.

USE TO:

GET HIGH



FEEL
NORMAL



NOT FEEL
SICK

DRUG SEEKING IS COMPULSIVE. DIFFICULT TO CONTROL.
ADDICTION > CONSEQUENCE.
RELAPSING & REMITTING.

COLORADO DATA 2016

912 People Died of Overdose
504 Involving opioids

Rx opioid deaths down slightly (329 in 2015, 300 in 2016)

Heroin deaths (160 in 2015, 228 in 2016)

Fentanyl deaths (41 in 2015, 49 in 2016)

Methadone deaths (34 in 2015, 56 in 2016)

Net Gain for all Opioids
472 in 2015 vs 504 in 2016

A COLORADO TALE

DP Son of Nashville mayor dies of overdose in...

Son of Nashville mayor dies of overdose in Jefferson County

Max Barry was 22, and a recent graduate of the University of Puget Sound



1 of 3

In this Sept. 25, 2015, photo, Nashville Mayor Megan Barry, center, is seen in her office in Nashville, Tenn. A statement released Sunday, July 30, said her son died in Denver from an apparent drug overdose. (Mark Humpal)

By TOM MCGHEE | tmcghee@denverpost.com | The Denver Post
PUBLISHED: July 30, 2017 at 12:16 pm | UPDATED: July 30, 2017

The son of Nashville, Tenn. Mayor Megan Barry, died Saturday evening in the



From left to right, James, Jonathan, and Mary Winnefeld at the University of Denver campus

Courtesy of James Winnefeld

Eric Bolling's Son Was Very Proud of His Dad's Job at Fox News Before His Death. College Friend

10:00 AM EDT

EMAIL



Red Fox News host Eric Bolling's son committed suicide - as some

No Family Is Safe From This Epidemic

As an admiral I helped run the most powerful military on Earth, but I couldn't save my son from the scourge of opioid addiction.

JAMES WINNEFELD | NOV 29, 2017 | HEALTH

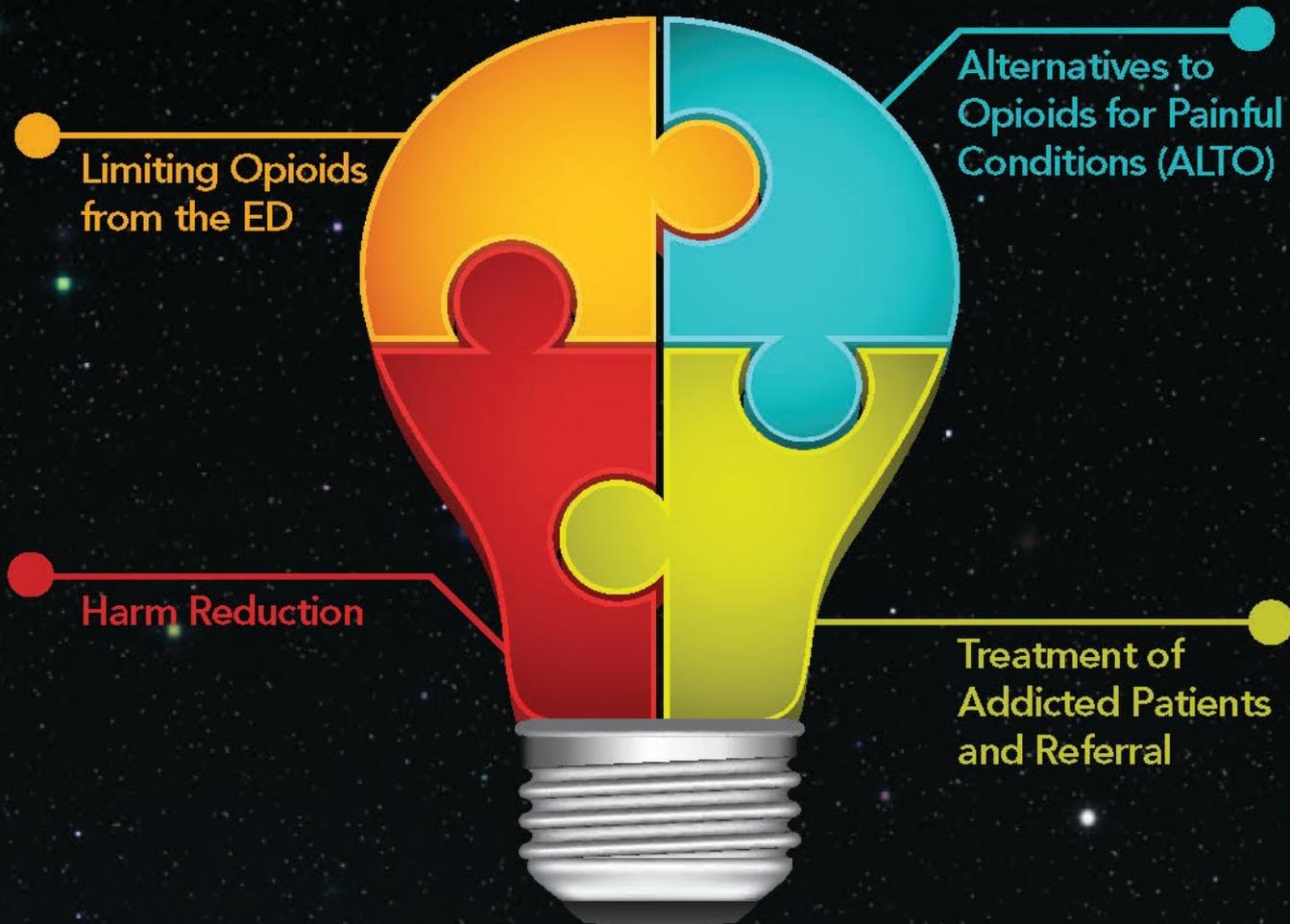


solution loading...



"DILIGENT RESEARCH...WILL BRING TO LIGHT THINGS WHICH NOW LIE HIDDEN." — SENECA

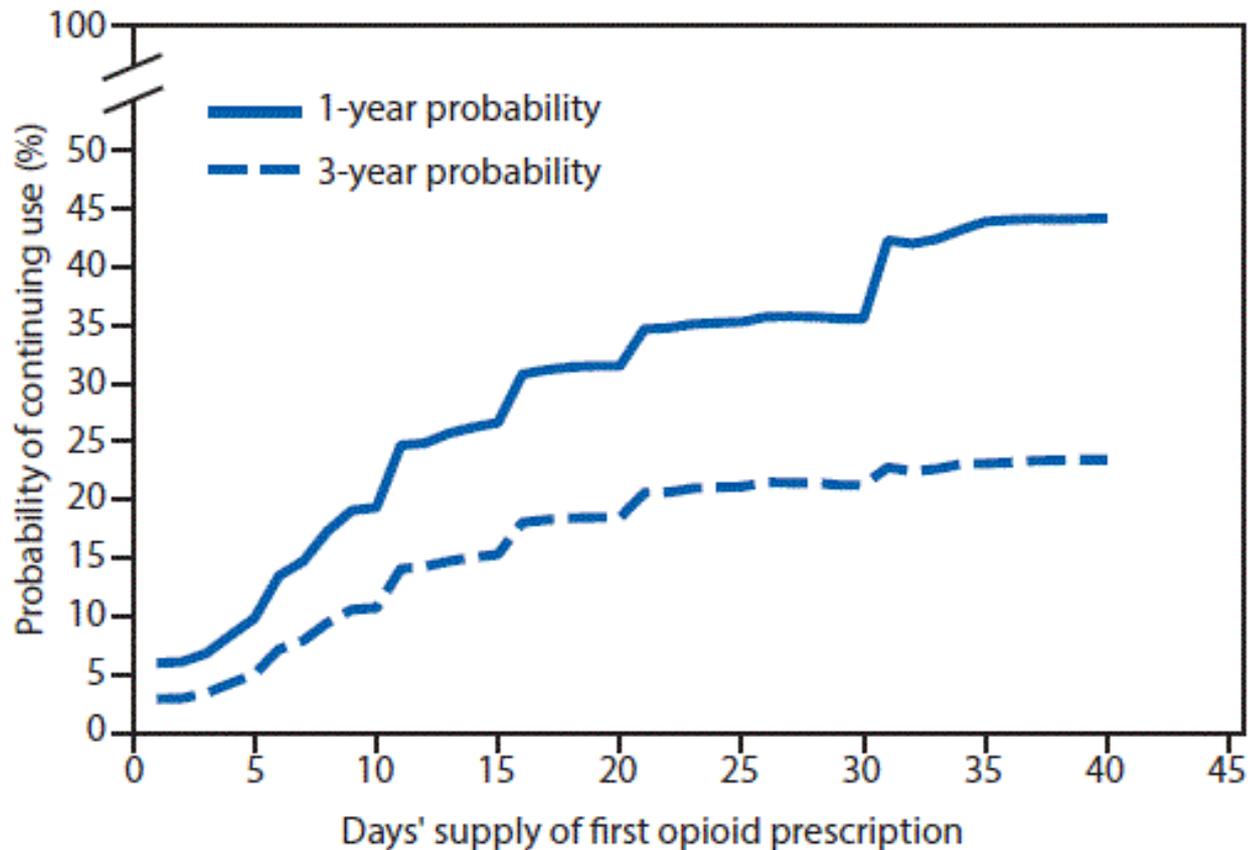
HOW TO ADDRESS THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC





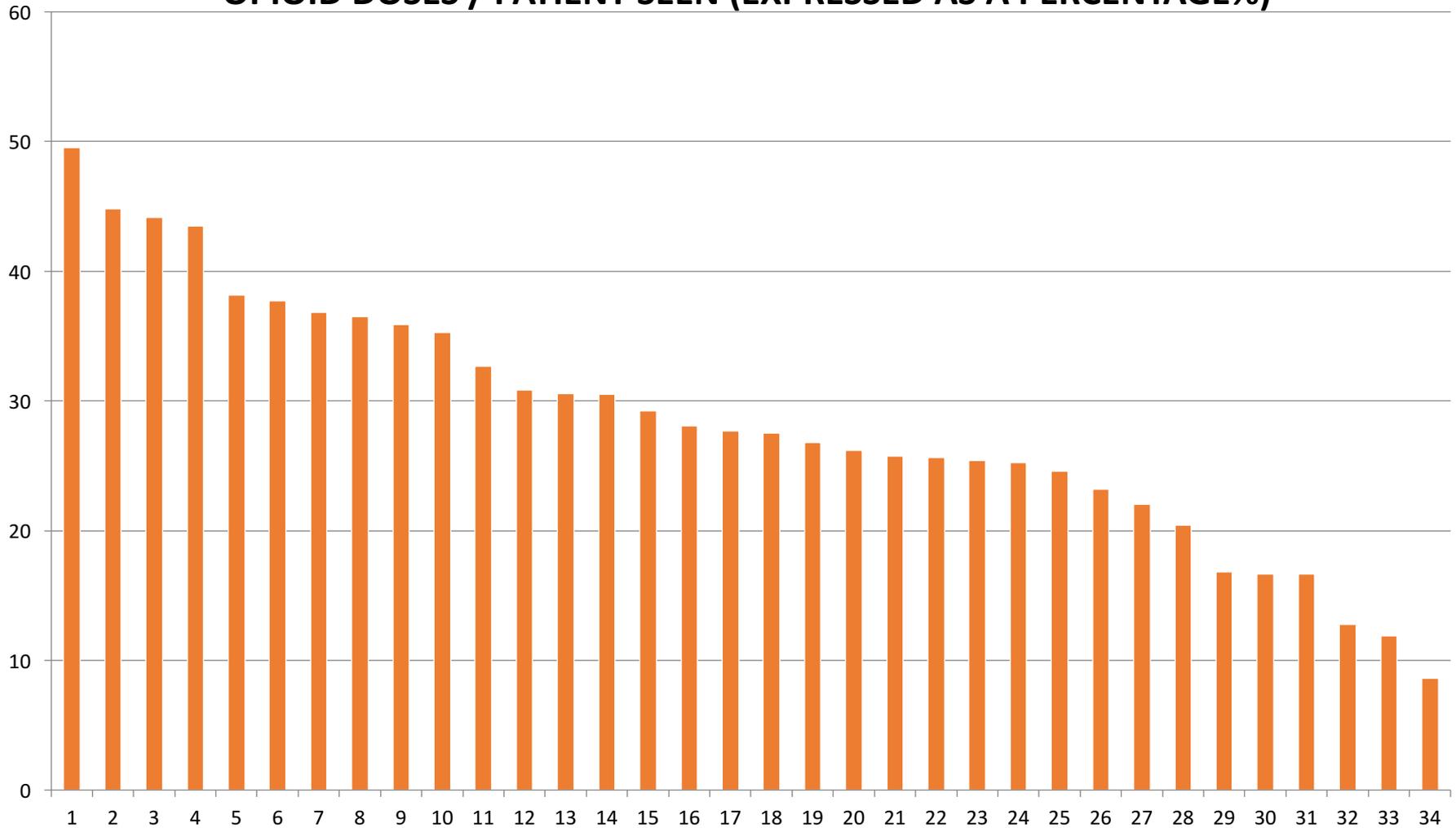
Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (*MMWR*)

Characteristics of Initial Prescription Episodes and Likelihood of Long-Term Opioid Use – United States, 2006–2015



SWEDISH DATA Circa 01/2016

OPIOID DOSES / PATIENT SEEN (EXPRESSED AS A PERCENTAGE%)





An E.R. Kicks the Habit of Opioids for Pain

Instead of opioids, an E.R. in New Jersey now treats many pain patients with alternatives like laughing gas, trigger-point injections and even a therapy harp.



ALTERNATIVE TREATMENTS TO OPIOIDS FOR PAINFUL CONDITIONS (ALTO)

MY OUT PT GO TO FOR
SEVERE PAIN

TYLENOL 1GRAM /
IBUPROFEN 400MG Q
6HRS

TRAMADOL 50MG OR
OXYCODONE 5MG
BREAK THROUGH X 10
PILLS

How many of us prescribe
alternatives for pain?

- Ketamine
- Toraldol
- Haldol
- Gabapentin
- Trigger-point injections
- Lidocaine drips/Lidoderm patches
- DDAVP
- Nitrous oxide
- Nerve blocks
- Physical Therapy Acupuncture
- TENS Units
- Cognitive Behavioral Therapy



Harm Reduction

Science > Stigma

Understanding > Judgement

Doing Better > Status Quo

TREATMENT OF ADDICTED PATIENTS AND REFERRAL

We can do more to
stop the epidemic.

- Does your ED have a SBIRT program?
- How well do we facilitate MAT referrals?
- How many of us have initiated Suboxone in the ED?
- Do we do a good job helping our addicted patients?
- PCP – Manage Addiction, RX Suboxone

IN HOSPITALS

- Start patients on MAT – Suboxone Waiver?
- Have Special Rules for OUD Patient – No Opioids! No Procedures
- Hospitals – Start patients on MAT

POLITICS > COLORADO LEGISLATURE

For Colorado's opioid crisis, lawmakers endorse prescription limits and possibility of safe-injection sites

Bipartisan panel advances proposals to be introduced when General Assembly returns in January



Andy Cross, The Denver Post

A panel of Colorado lawmakers — five Republicans and five Democrats — on Tuesday endorsed a series of proposals to mitigate the state's opioid crisis.



ch|a

Colorado Hospital Association

COLORADO CHAPTER



American College of
Emergency Physicians®

ADVANCING EMERGENCY CARE 

POWER IN NUMBERS

- Community-based, nonacademic study
- 8 participating hospitals across Colorado
- One of the largest opioid research efforts in the US.

DREAMLAND

in Denver

Confronting the Opioid Epidemic in the Mile High City



A one-of-a-kind evening of education and inspiration

January 24, 2018, 6 to 9 pm

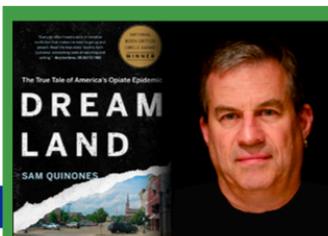
University of Colorado School of Medicine
Anschutz Medical Campus, Education 2 South Auditorium

Tickets on sale starting 12/1

Admission includes
heavy hors d'oeuvres and drinks

More information at emergencymedicalminute.com

100% of Proceeds
will be donated
To Nonprofits
Fighting
the Opioid Epidemic
in Colorado!



SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER

Award-Winning Journalist
Sam Quinones

Joined by Leading Medical Experts
and Addiction Survivors

Save the Date



Colorado Opioid Safety Summit

8 a.m. – 3:45 p.m. | Thursday, Jan. 25, 2018

Denver Marriott South at Park Meadows, Lone Tree, CO

To register [CLICK HERE](#)

Discover the new, innovative strategies Colorado hospitals are using to combat the opioid epidemic. This program will cover efforts to reduce opioids across the continuum of care, from minimizing the initial exposure in the emergency department to utilizing medication-assisted treatment to help those with an existing substance use disorder. Participants will receive a variety of tools, resources and best practices.

Registration Fee: \$25 per person



COLORADO
Office of Behavioral Health
Department of Human Services





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