2024 Pennsylvania Emerging Drug Trends Symposium



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Disclosures

- Don Dissinger, CRNP
 - No disclosures
- Bhavna Bali, MD
 - No disclosures
- Taffy Anderson, MD
 - No Disclosures





Objectives

1. Discuss the current drug trends and addiction treatment at Hershey Medical Center's Inpatient Addiction Medicine Consult Service.

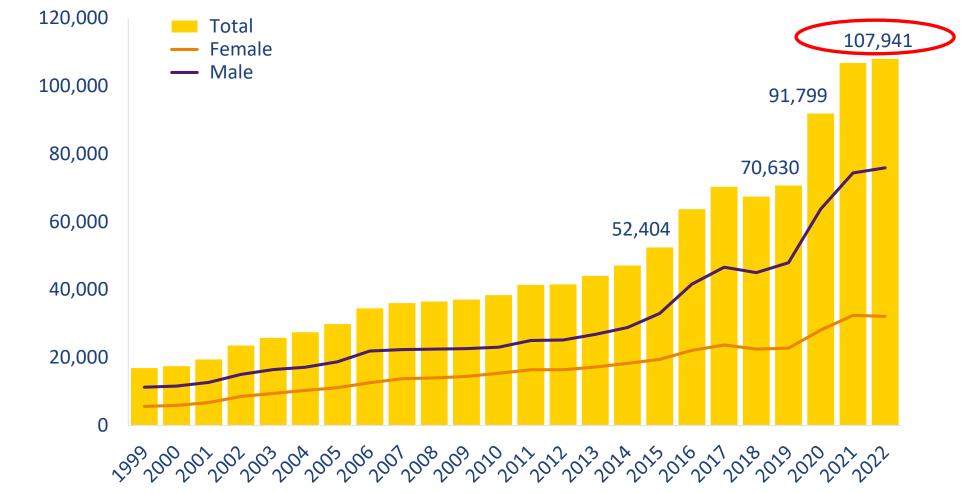
2. Review current drug trends at Penn State Health's Adult outpatient Addiction Services

3. Discuss Penn State Health's new Maternal Substance Use Disorder Program and review current drug trends in pregnant persons.





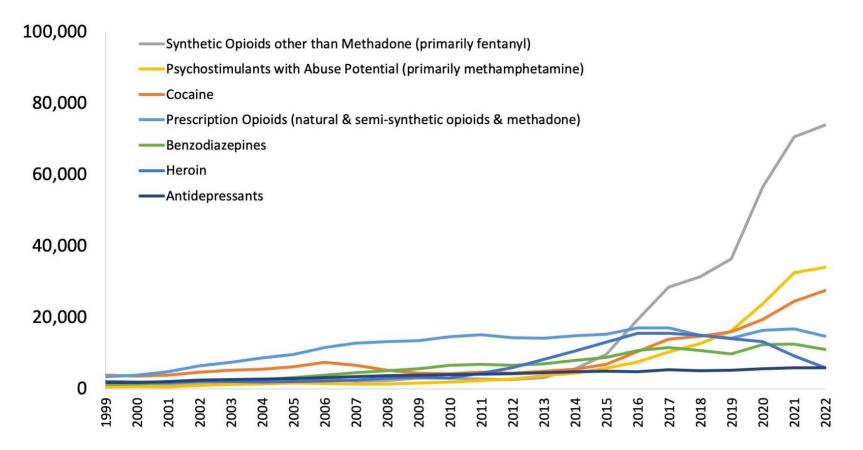
U.S. Overdose Deaths 1999-2022



*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 1999-2022 on CDC WONDER Online Database, released 4/2024.

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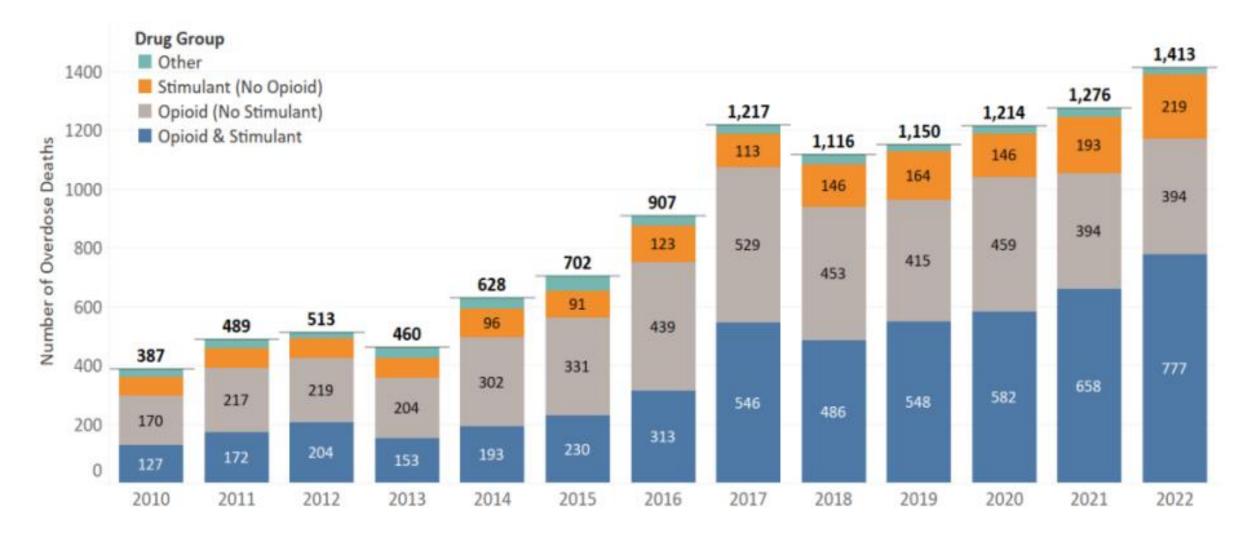
U.S Overdose Deaths Drug Categories 1999-2022



*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 1999-2022 on CDC WONDER Online Database, released 4/2024.



Number Of Overdose Death Trends In Philadelphia 2010-2022



N

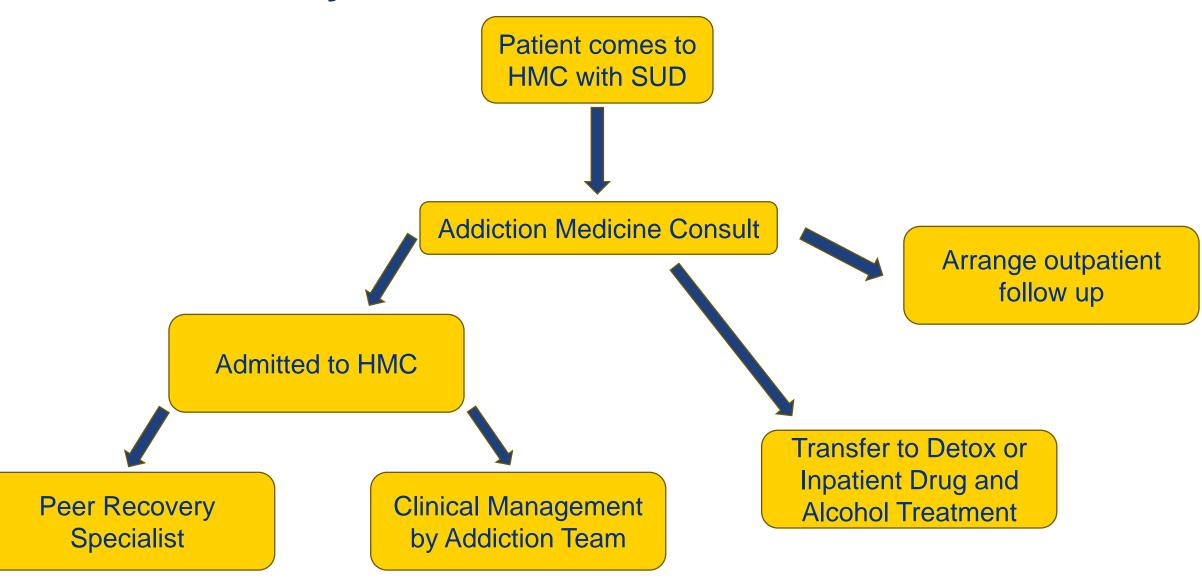
Hershey Medical Center: Inpatient Addiction Consult Services

- Nurse Practitioner, Peer Recovery Specialist, Physicians
- Dauphin County Drug and Alcohol/ Just For Today
- HMC Emergency Room Direct to detox
- Inpatient Trends



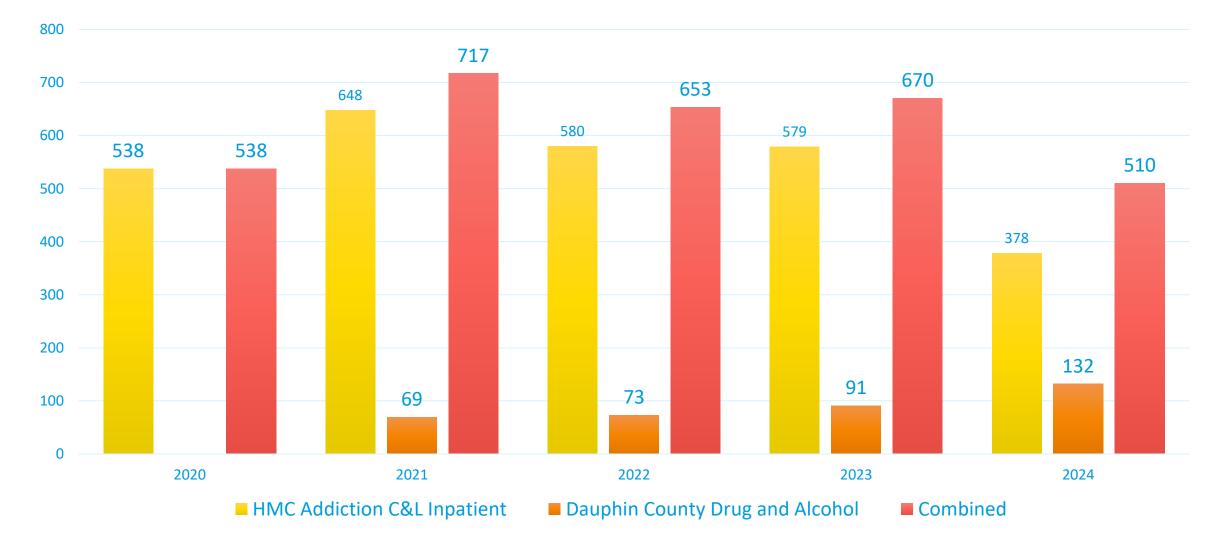


Hershey Medical Center: Direct To Detox





Hershey Medical Center Inpatient Consult Trends





What Is Fentanyl?



Fentanyl

- Synthetic opioid developed in 1959
- Approved in 1972 for analgesia/anesthetic
- 1994: FDA warning about fentanyl patch misuse
- 100x more potent than morphine, 50X more potent that heroin

Pharmaceutical Fentanyl Products

Actiq lozenge (lollipop) Abstral S/L tablet Fentora bucal tablet Onsolis film Subsys S/L spray Lazanda nasal spray Duragesic transdermal patch IV Fentanyl



Illicit Fentanyl

Illicit Fentanyl

- Manufactured in foreign clandestine labs (Mexico, India, China) and smuggled into the US
- 2006: Fentanyl outbreak in Mexico 2013: Fentanyl epidemic began 2014: Counterfeit pills enter the market
- 2015: 19 new fentanyl analogues scheduled by China (Sufentanil, Alfentanil, thiofentanil ect.)
- 2016: Other synthetic opioids identified (U-47700, MT-45, AH-7921)

Counterfeit **Pills** M30 tablets Authentic Adderall Authentic Xanax (oxycodone) Counterfeit **Lethal Dose Fentanyl Capsules** ethal doses of Fentanyl and Carfentanil. relative to a lethal dose of Heroin Heroin Carfentanil Fentany Fatal dose of fentanyl Fatal dose of carfentani (0.02 mg or 20 mcg) (2 mg or 2000 mcg)



Agent	Potency (vs morphine)
Tramadol	0.2
Morphine	1
Oxycodone	1.3
Methadone	4
Heroin	4
Buprenorphine	30
Fentanyl	100
Carfentanil	10,000



Xylazine: Fetty Tranq, Philly Dope, Sleep Cut, Zombie Drug

What is it?

 -Non-opioid veterinary tranquilizer not approved for human use
 -Added to illicit substances (MC fentanyl)

-People may or may not be aware

Routes of ingestion: IV, intranasal, smoking, orally, IM, SC

<u>MOA:</u>

 - α₂-agonist (same drug class as clonidine, lofexidine, and dexmedetomidine)
 - Activates presynaptic α-2a and α-2c
 subtypes: sympatholytic effects of sedation
 -Activates α-2b subtype in vascular smooth muscles: vasoconstriction and hypertension

<u>Why add it?</u> -Lengthens euphoric effects -Cheap and easily available -Addictive



Xylazine use symptoms: Sedation, difficulty breathing, hypotension, bradycardia, injection site wounds, CNS depressant, death

Xylazine Withdrawal symptoms: Irritability, anxiety,

restlessness, and dysphoria

Estimated OD Deaths involving Xylazine 2015-2021: -Increased from 2% to 26% in Philadelphia -19% of OD deaths in Maryland -10% OD deaths in Connecticut

How to treat Xylazine OD:

-Narcan dose not reverse xylazine effects, but is recommended to be given in ALL overdoses since it is commonly mixed with opioids

How to treat Xylazine withdrawals:

-Cocktail of medications have been helpful: α₂-agonist, benzodiazepines, precedex, ketamine, opioid w/d comfort meds, NSAIDS, gabapentin















LLE 11/23/22



LUE 1/23/24

Xylazine Wounds

29 Female



LUE 8/22/22

36 Male



RUE

36 Female









RLE 8/2/23

40 Female



LLE 8/2/23



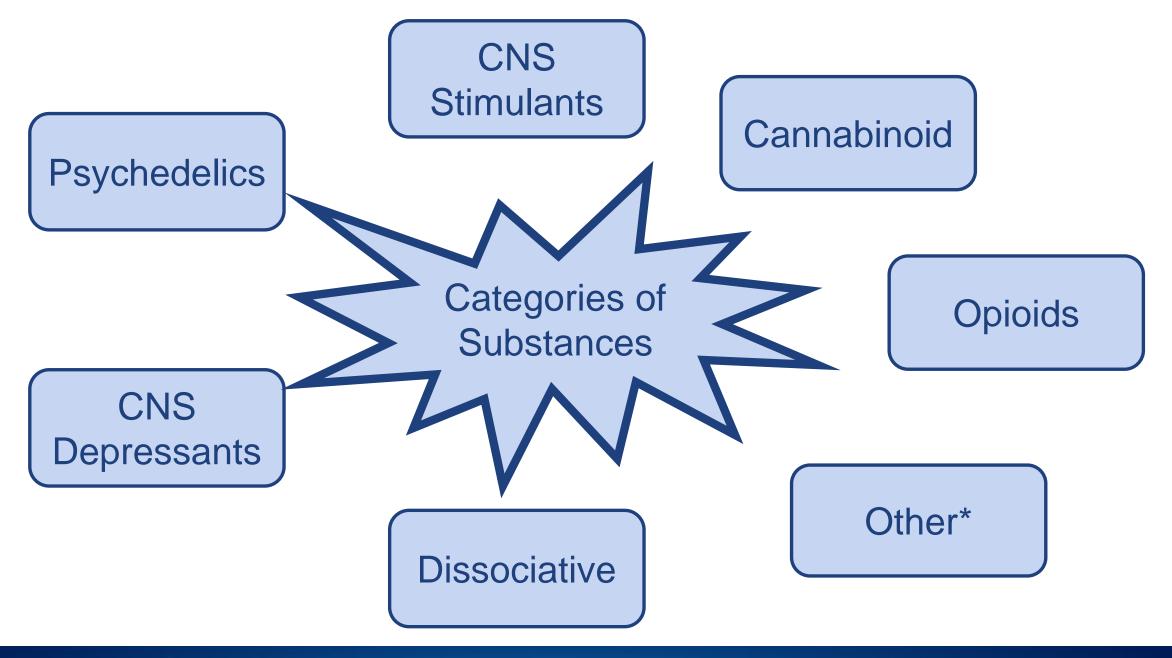
LLE 8/21/23







RLE 7/21/23 RLE 1/9/24

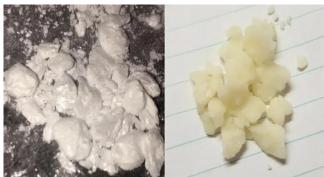






Central Nervous System Stimulants

Cocaine/Crack





Caffeine



Methamphetamine

METH CRYSTALS

Modified and injected



Snorting, ingesting



METH ICE Mainly for smoking Desoxyn



Khat

Amphetamine

Adderall



Methylphenidate QuilliChew ER Aptensio XR **Quillivant XR** Concerta Metadate Ritalin Metadate Methylin Focalin

Bath Salts (Synthetic Cathinone)



Nicotine





Dextroamphetamine

Dexedrine Dextrostat Liquadd

ProCentra Zenzedi Vyvanse

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Methods of Use: Oral, Intravenous, Intranasal, Smoking

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Psychedelics

Lysergic acid diethylamide-LSD (acid)



Mescaline (Peyote cactus)





Ayahuasca

Psilocybin (shrooms)



(contains DMT-Dimethyltryptamine)



MDMA (Ecstasy, Molly)



Methods of Use: Oral, Brewed/Soaked





Central Nervous System Depressants

Lorazepam

(Ativan)

Alcohol



Rx Benzodiazepine



GHB-Gamma hydroxybutyrate



Barbiturates

Chlordiazepoxide

(Librium)



Methods of Use: Oral, Intravenous, Intranasal





Xylazine







Dissociative

Ketamine (anesthetic)

PCP-Phencyclidine (anesthetic)







Nitrous Oxide



Methods of Use: Oral, Intravenous, Smoked





Cannabinoids

Cannabis

K2/Spice (synthetic THC)





Hashish







Methods of Use: Oral, Smoking



Growth Hormone



Modafinil



Other



-

Deca® -Durabolin tandrolone decanoard Viection, USP 300 mg/mL

CELIGAS Injection

Steroids

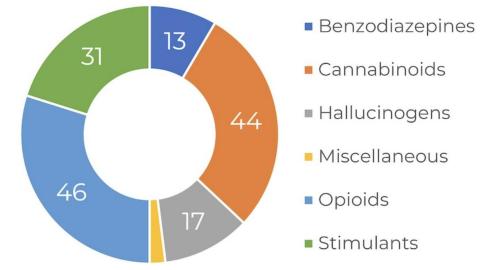
- -Anadrol (oxymetholone)
- -Oxandrin (oxandrolone)
- -Dianabol (methandrostenolone)
- -Winstrol (stanozolol)
- -Deca-Durabolin (nandrolone Decanoate)
- -Durabolin (nandrolone
- phenproprionate)
- -Depo-testosterone (testosterone cypionate)
- -Equipoise (boldenone undecylenate)
- -Tetrahydrogestrinone (THG)

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Novel Psychoactive Substances-NPS

NPS OPIOIDS

N-Pyrrolidino Protonitazene **N-Propionitrile Chlorphine** N-Desethyl Protonitazene N-Pyrrolidino Metonitazene N-Desethyl Metonitazene N-Pyrrolidino Etonitazene N-Desethyl Isotonitazene 5-Methyl Etodesnitazene Etodesnitazene Metodesnitazene Bromofentanyl **Ortho-Methylfentanyl** Methyltetrahydrofuranylfentanyl Isotonitazene **Brorphine** Chlorphine **Metonitazene** Protonitazene Carfentanil



Breakdown by subclass of newly discovered NPS, 2018-2023

SYNTHETIC CANNABINOIDS CHO-4Me-5Br-FUBOXPYRA ADB-BINACA ADB-INACA MDMB-4en-PINACA MDMB-BINACA MDMB-INACA 5F-MDMB-PINACA MDMB-4en-PINACA

NPS BENZODIAZEPINE

Etizolam Desalkylflurazepam Flualprazolam Flubromazepam Phenazolam Desalkylgidazepam Bromazolam Clonazolam Diclazepam

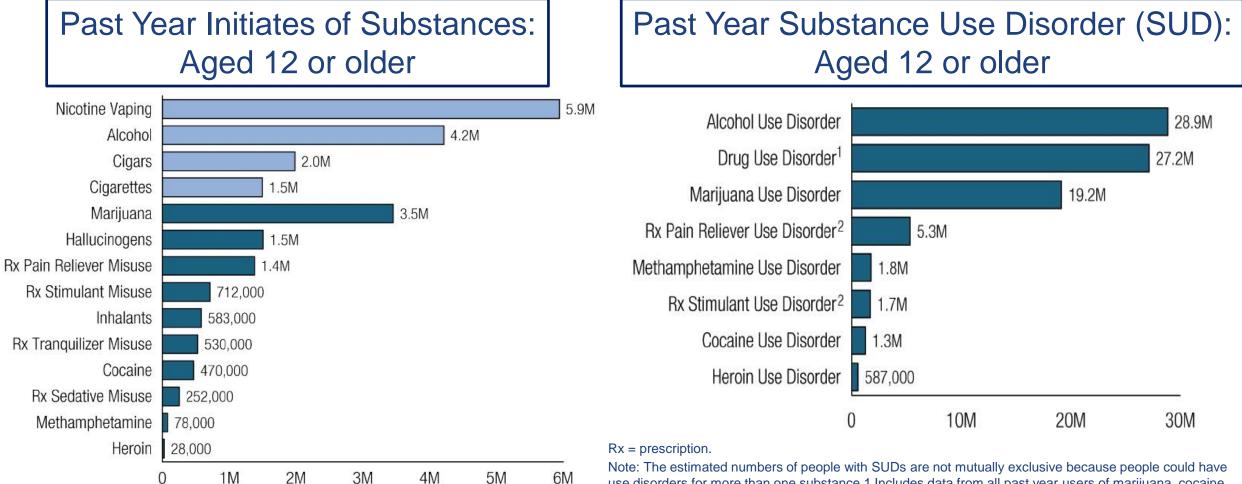
NPS STIMULANTS AND HALLUCINOGENS

Methylone MeO-PCP Deschloroketamine N-Isopropyl Butylone N-ethyl pentylone N-cyclohexyl methylone Chloromethcathinone 2C-C 2C-B Alpha-PHP-Alpha-PiHP Methylmethcathinone N,N-Dimethylpentylone 2F-2-oxo PCE /Fluorexetamine





National Drug Overdose Trends 2023



Note: The estimated numbers of people with SUDs are not mutually exclusive because people could have use disorders for more than one substance.1 Includes data from all past year users of marijuana, cocaine, heroin, hallucinogens, inhalants, methamphetamine, and prescription psychotherapeutic drugs (i.e., pain relievers, tranquilizers, stimulants, or sedatives).2 Includes data from all past year users of the specific prescription drug.

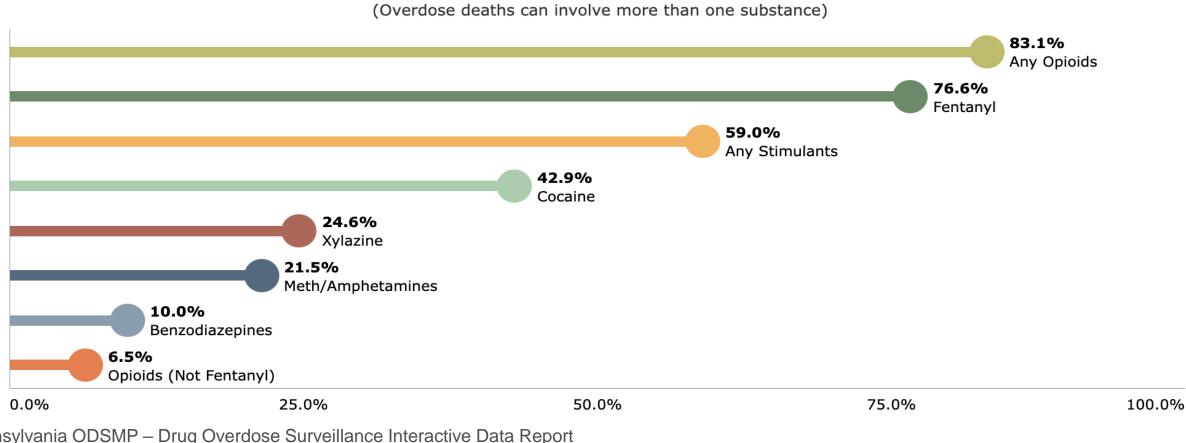




Drug Overdose Surveillance In Pennsylvania

2023 | Trends in drug(s) contributing to cause of death for the 4,722 overdose deaths in Pennsylvania

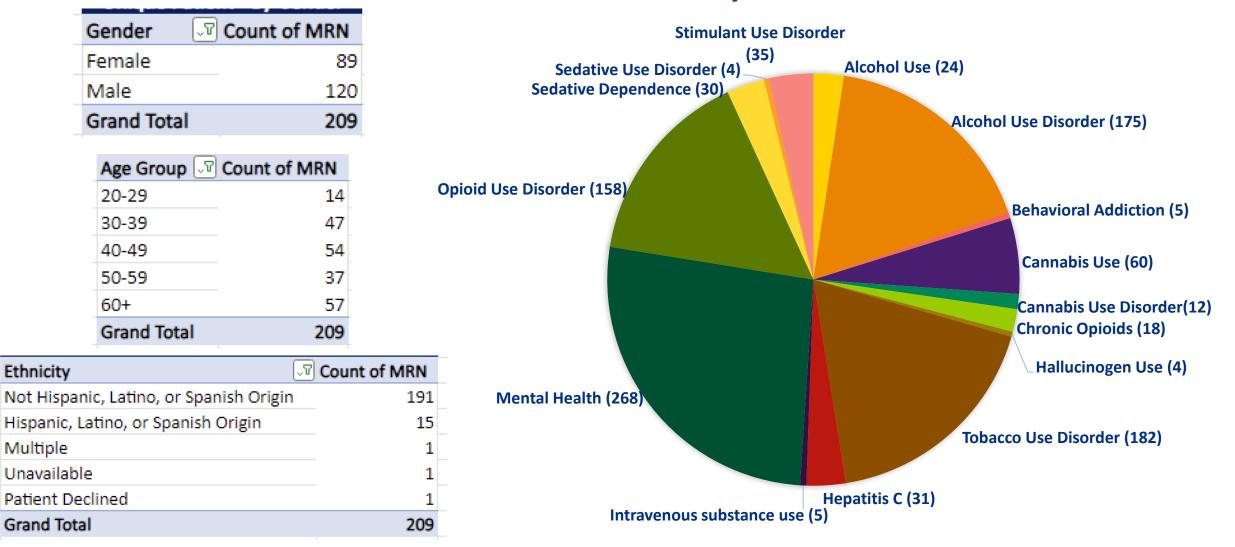
Most common drug classes contributing to cause of death, 2023



Pennsylvania ODSMP – Drug Overdose Surveillance Interactive Data Report Updated October 22, 2025

PennState Health College of Medicine

Penn State Health OBAT (Office Based Addiction Treatment) Clinic





Kratom: Ketum, biak-biak, ithan, thom, kakuam



 Made from (*Mitragyna speciosa* Korth., Rubiaceae) a tropical coffee tree indigenous to SE Asia.



• Used for centuries in Europe and North America for its diverse effects as an energy booster, increasing focus and alertness, and mood enhancing.



 Currently, kratom and/or its metabolites <u>have</u> <u>not</u> been approved as safe and effective medicines for any therapeutic use



Kratom: Ketum, biak-biak, ithan, thom, kakuam

Formulations:

- Raw leaves: Chewed, smoked, or boiled to make a tea (SE Asia)
- Dried leaves: Adulterated to make capsules, powder, and extracts/tinctures that can be smoked or vaporized, commonly found in smoke shops and gas stations (Western countries)

<u>Low doses (< 5 g)</u>: Mild stimulant-like properties. <u>High doses (5-15 g)</u>: Anxiolytic effects, analgesic properties <u>Very high doses (>15 g)</u>: Sedating effects

Over 40 alkaloids identified

- MG is most prevalent (66%), 7HMG most active (2%)- pure kratom products
- 7-HMG is 46 x more potent than MG, 13 x more potent than morphine







Kratom: Ketum, biak-biak, ithan, thom, kakuam

Kratom Toxidrome

TABLE 1: Report of adverse/toxicological effects of kratom.

Short time use effects	Nausea, constipation, sleep problems, temporary erectile dysfunction, itching, or sweating
Long time use effects	Anorexia, dry mouth, problems in diuresis, darker skin, and hair loss
Infrequent effects	Seizures (individuals using high doses of kratom, either alone or combined with other drugs), intrahepatic cholestasis, psychotic symptoms, Adult Respiratory Distress Syndrome, and hypothyroidism
Fatalities	Kratom mixed with other substances: O-desmethyltramadol; propylhexedrine; over-the-counter cold medications and benzodiazepines; venlafaxine, diphenhydramine, and mirtazapine; zopiclone, citalopram, and lamotrigine

Kratom Withdrawals

- Similar to opioid withdrawals: diarrhea, anxiety, insomnia, restlessness, mood changes, muscle aches, anger, anorexia, weight loss
- Symptoms may last 3-10 days from last dose, but can be longer in chronic users
- Case reports of pregnant mothers who used kratom giving birth to neonates with signs of NOWS

Treatment Kratom Addiction

- Data largely from case reports: MOUD becoming common
- Reversal with naloxone? Case reports of response usually with polysubstance use, unclear if kratom alkaloids inhibited by naloxone in animal studies

Tianeptine: Zaza, Tianna Red, Gas station dope, TD red, Pegasus

- Atypical tricyclic antidepressant developed in the 1980s to treat MDD (Europe, Asia, Latin America)
- Sold as "cognitive enhancers"- nootropics, "dietary supplements" or to treat opioid withdrawals/anxiety
- Commonly sold online and retail locations (gas stations, smoke shops, bodegas)









Tianeptine: Zaza, Tianna Red, Gas station dope, TD red, Pegasus

- Formulations: salt, powder, or pill/capsule
- MDD dosing (25-50 mg), recreational use (> 1000 mg)
- Low doses weak pain relief (mu and delta), high doses increased risk opioid induce euphoria due to dopamine release
- Mixed data on stimulation of serotonin reuptake and action on serotonin receptors
- Stabilized glutamine release-antidepressant effects

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Tianeptine: Zaza, Tianna Red, Gas station dope, TD red, Pegasus

Tianeptine Toxidrome

- <u>Side effects:</u> GI upset, headaches, dizziness, and changes in dreaming
- Increased doses: Drowsiness, confusion, difficulty breathing, irritable bowel syndrome, stomach aches

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Tianeptine Withdrawals

- Like opioid withdrawals: Loss of appetite, anxiety, nausea, vomiting, fever, confusion, cramps, depression, dizziness, worsening depression, headaches, moodiness, insomnia, moodiness, suicidal ideation, tremors, diarrhea, yawning
 - Case reports of NOWS has occurred with tianeptine dependence during pregnancy



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Treatment Tianeptine Addiction

Data from case reports:

 Suboxone, Tianeptine overdoses successfully treated with Narcan (intranasal and infusion)

Phenibut: Citrocard, and Phenybut, Anvifen, Fenibut, Noofen



- Anxiolytic developed in Russia to treat anxiety, depression, PTSD, and insomnia.
- USA sold as nootropic supplement for depression and anxiety, banned sales as dietary ingredient.
- Not regulated in USA (Alabama schedule II drug). Legal to buy, sell, and use.
 - Controlled substance in Australia, France, Hungary, Italy, Lithuania, and Germany

- Formulations: tablets, solution for infusion
 - Doses typically between 500-1500 mg







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Phenibut: Citrocard, and Phenybut, Anvifen, Fenibut, Noofen

- Targets GABA A and B (higher affinity) receptors → causing increased relaxation and sedation
- Case reports of tolerance developing with in a week of use (increased risk of dependance)
- Pub med systematic review (January 2010-October 2023): 13 cases of reported phenibut withdrawals.
 - <u>Reason for use:</u> Overcome substance misuse or to treat psychological conditions. Average ingestion amount 13.6 g daily for 8.2 months





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Phenibut: Citrocard, and Phenybut, Anvifen, Fenibut, Noofen

Phenibut Toxidrome

- Side effects: relaxation, sedation, somnolence, confusion, nausea, irritability, agitation, anxiety, dizziness, euphoria, headache
- Higher doses: loss motor coordination, loss of balance,delirium, seizure, unconsciousness
- Overdose(>7 g): nausea, vomiting, hypotension, renal and liver impairment, uncociousness

Phenibut Withdrawals

- Similar to alcohol withdrawals
- Severe rebound anxiety, anger, insomnia, irritability, agitation, visual and auditory hallucinations,
- Case reports of withdrawal symptoms of self harm, psychomotor agitation, and acute psychosis

Treatment Phenibut Addiction

Case reports baclofen and benzodiazepine taper

US Trends in Drug Overdose Mortality Among Pregnant and Postpartum Persons, 2017-2020

- Drug overdose deaths increased approximately 81% from 2017 to 2020.
- Increases in drug overdose deaths were more pronounced in 2020, consistent with the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Pregnancy-associated overdose deaths were characterized by synthetic opioid and psychostimulant involvement.
- Although steady increases in pregnancy-associated overdose deaths were observed from 2007 to 2019, the increase observed in 2020 was more pronounced than in previous years.
- During the pandemic were there barriers to accessing drug treatment, due to health care shutdowns, stress due to mental health, financial and domestic concerns?

Bruzelius E, Martins SS. US Trends in Drug Overdose Mortality Among Pregnant and Postpartum Persons, 2017-2020. JAMA. 2022;328(21):2159–2161. doi:10.1001/jama.2022.17045



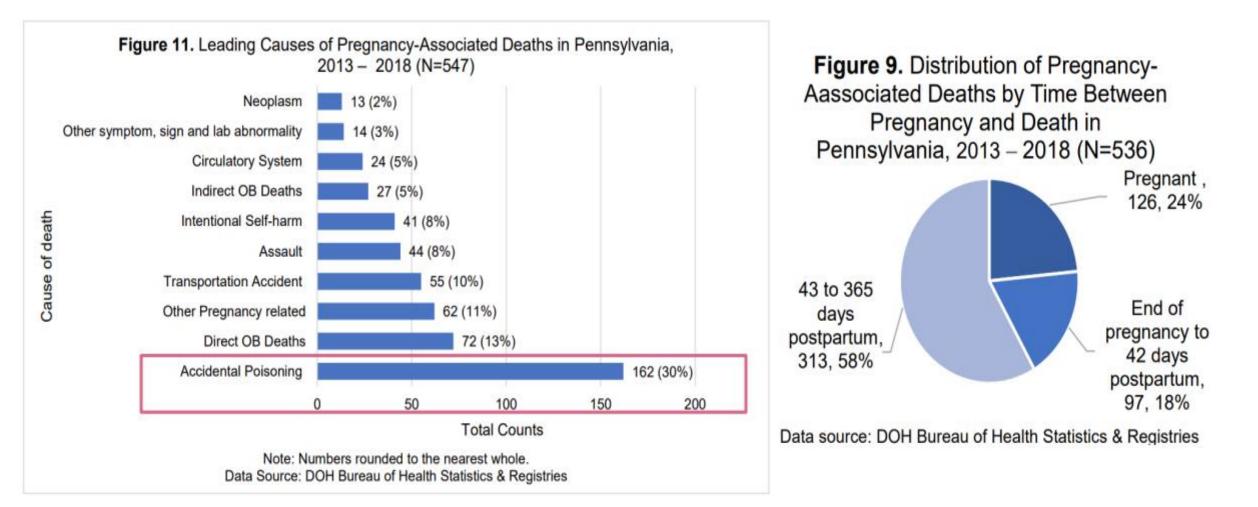
HMC Maternal Substance Use Disorder Program



Dr. John Dougherty Medical Director Maternal Substance Use Disorder Program Penn State Health, Milton S. Hershey Medical Center



Pregnancy Associated Deaths In Pennsylvania



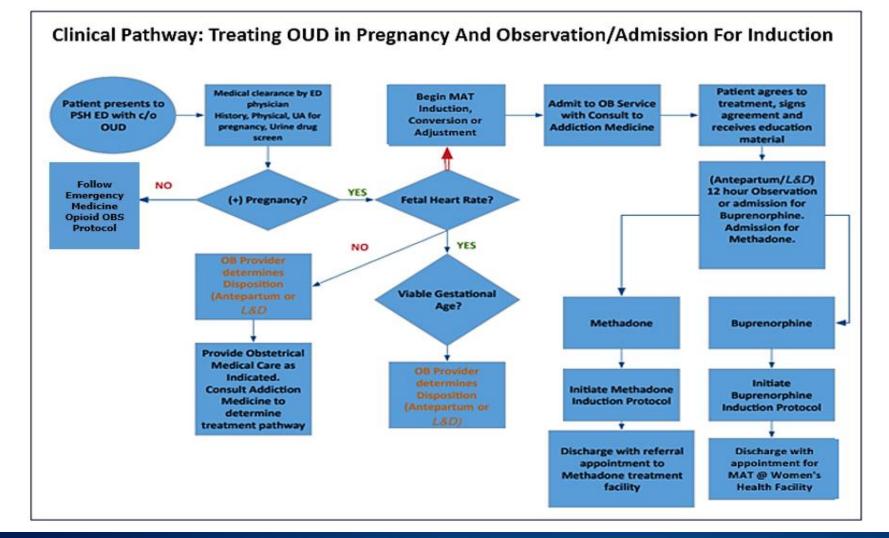
https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/Documents/Diseases%20and%20Conditions/Pregnancy%20Associated%20Deaths%202013-2018%20FINAL.pdf

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Phase 1: Inpatient Program With A Multidisciplinary Team Approach To Treat Women With OUD At HMC



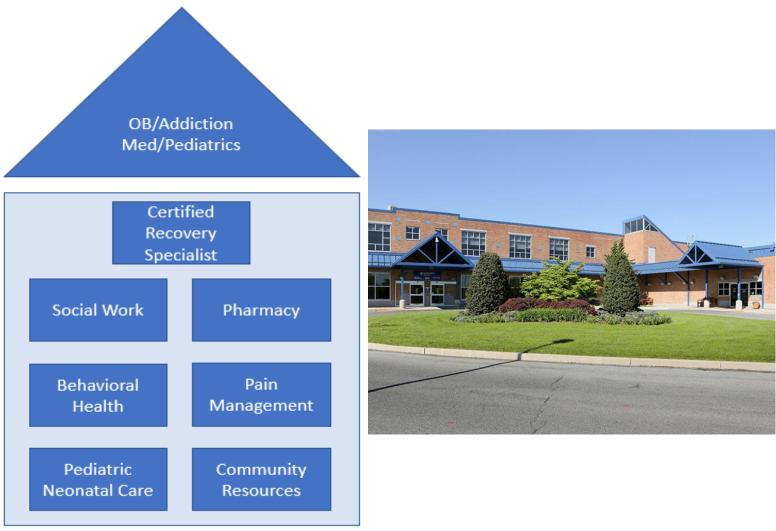
Multidisciplinary Team:

- Obstetrics/Gynecology
- Addiction Medicine
- Neonatal Care (NICU)
- Psychiatry/Behavioral Health
- Pain Management
- Certified Recovery Specialist
- Social Services/Case Management

Phase 2: Outpatient Maternal Opioid Use Disorder Clinic

Multidisciplinary Team:

- Obstetrics/Gynecology
- Addiction Medicine
- NICU Neurodevelopmental Follow-Up Clinic, General Pediatrics & Addiction Medicine Fellowship
- Certified Recovery Specialist
- Social Services/Case Management
- Psychiatry/Behavioral Health
- Pharmacy
- Pain Management
- Community Resources



Colocation of Services ("1-stop shop)

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Phase 3: Postpartum and Beyond

Crucial areas of focus for treatment and support:

Delivery

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- NOWS (Neonatal opioid withdrawal syndrome)
 - Assess newborn's needs for NOWS
- Plan of Safe Care

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- Confirm the family has a plan and supports in place to ensure a safe discharge for mom and baby
- Provide treatment postpartum, up to 1 year

F/U NICU Developmental Follow-Up Clinic x 2-5yrs



HMC Drug Trend in Obstetrics

- Cannabis is the primary drug of choice. Most patients that are using cannabis, even with a medical card, do not believe the data that cannabis should be avoided in pregnancy.
- Heroin has been replaced with Fentanyl/Xylazine.
- An increase in polysubstance use -fentanyl, xylazine, stimulants (methamphetamine) and cannabis.
- Transition to MOUD is extremely difficult and uncomfortable compared to heroin, due to the higher potency of fentanyl, polysubstance and xylazine, it requires inpatient hospital care to transition to MOUD and higher medication doses.
- Higher doses of MOUD (buprenorphine or methadone) may be required for MOUD maintenance.



PSH Obstetric Drug and Mental Health Trends

Pregnant Females With Substance Use Disorders and Mental Health Disorders



Pregnant Females With Substance Use Disorders and Mental Health Disorders

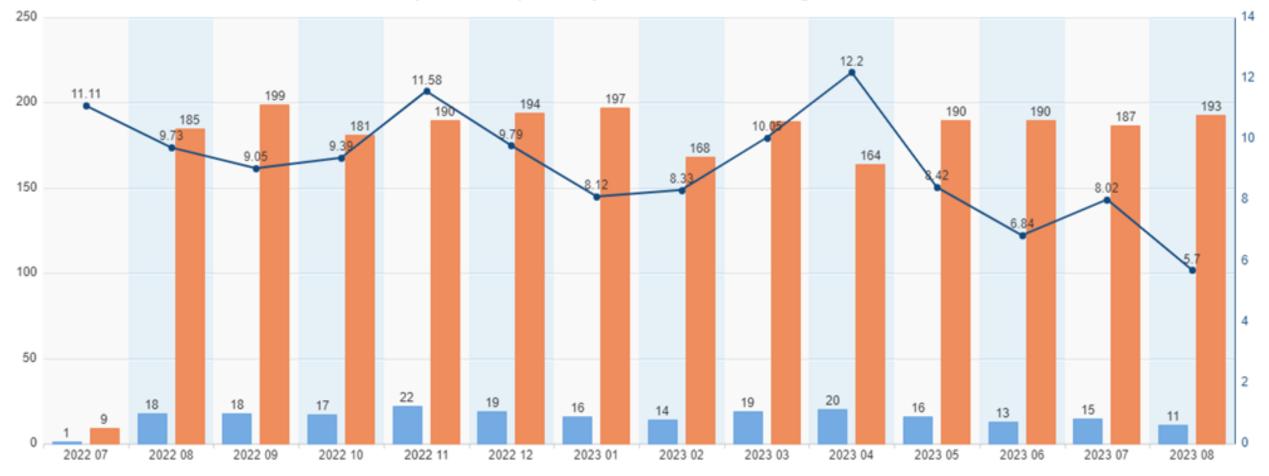


PSH Obstetrical Drug Trends 2020-2023

	2020	2021	2022	2023
Substance use disorder				
F19	31	41	20	24
alcohol use F10	14	17	10	14
opioid use F11	56	60	33	33
cannabis use F12	82	119	79	67
stimulant use F15	10	8	7	11
sedative use F13	1	1	1	1

Positive Screens by 5Ps or Universal Screening Assessment II 7/2022- 8/2023

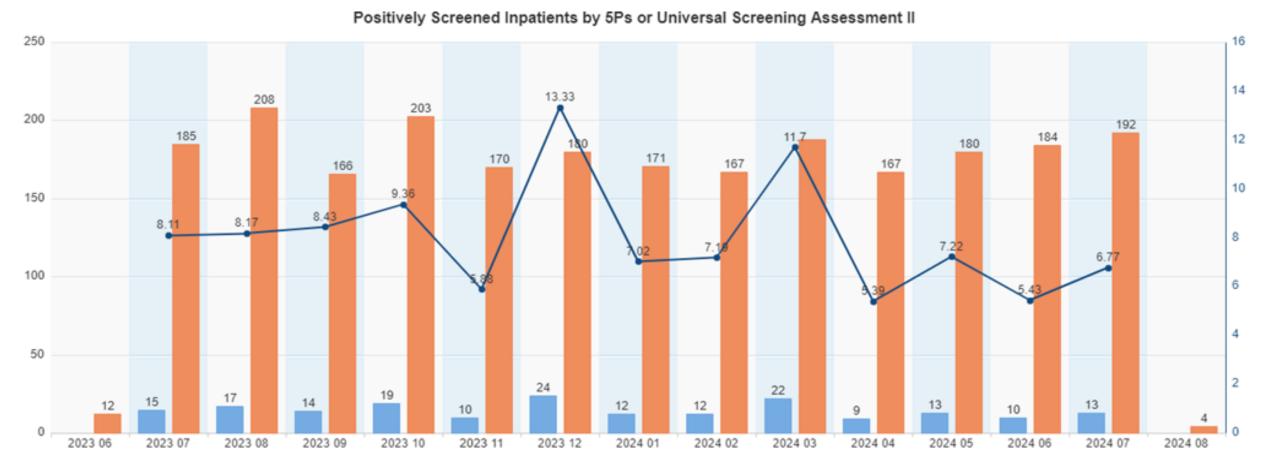
Positively Screened Inpatients by 5Ps or Universal Screening Assessment II



Patients Positively Screened By Either Tool # Patients Screened By Either Tool • % Inpatients Positively Screened By Either Tool



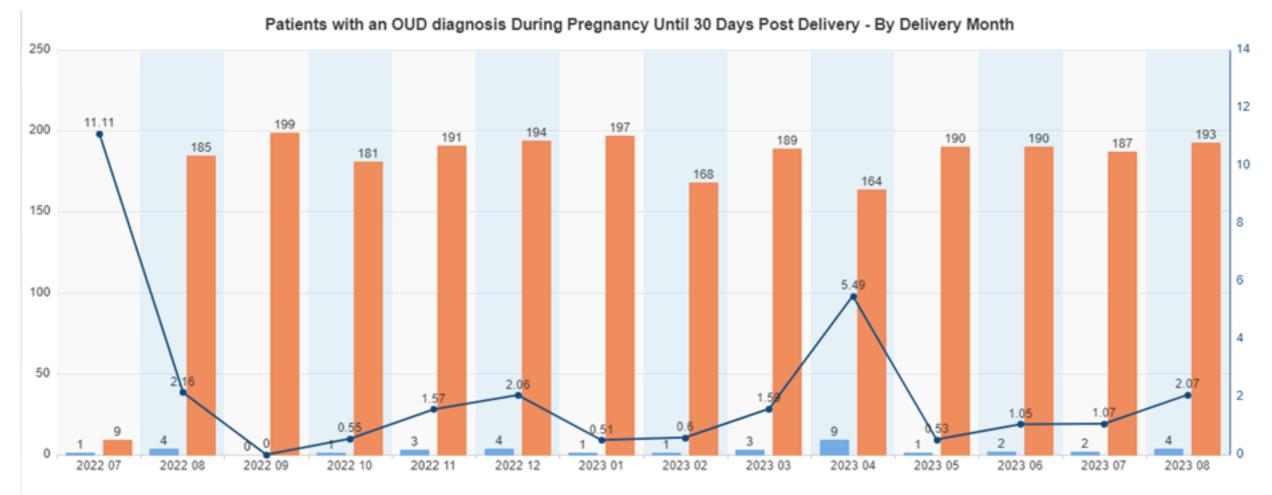
Positive Screens by 5Ps or Universal Screening Assessment II 6/2023- 7/2024



📕 # Patients Positively Screened By Either Tool 📕 # Patients Screened By Either Tool 🔹 % Inpatients Positively Screened By Either Tool



FY23 OUD Diagnosis During Pregnancy Until 30 days Post Delivery (July 2022-August 2023)



OUD +30 Patients # Patients • % Patients OUD Dx Flag +30 Days



FY24 OUD Diagnosis During Pregnancy Until 30 days Post Delivery (June 2023-August 2024)



Patients with an OUD diagnosis During Pregnancy Until 30 Days Post Delivery - By Delivery Month

OUD +30 Patients # Patients • % Patients OUD Dx Flag +30 Days



Benefits of Medications For Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD) in Pregnancy with Buprenorphine or Methadone

Maternal:

- 70% reduction in overdose related deaths
- Decrease in risk of HIV, HBV, HCV
- Increased engagement in prenatal care and recovery treatment

Infant:

- Reduces fluctuations in maternal Opioid levels; reducing fetal stress
- Decrease in intrauterine fetal demise
- Decrease in intrauterine
 growth restriction
- Decrease in preterm delivery



Consequences of Not Treating Opioid Use Disorder Pregnancy

- Maternal
 - Lack of prenatal care
 - Overdose & or maternal death
 - Placental abruption
 - Premature delivery
 - STD's (HIV, HBV, HCV)

- Infant
 - Maternal overdose causing the death of the baby
 - Intrauterine growth restriction
 - Premature Infant
 - Neonatal Opioid Withdrawal Syndrome (NOWS)





Summary

- In 2020, only 6.5 percent of people with SUD's received treatment. Atypical substances are increasingly becoming common substances of addiction.
- There is an increase of fentanyl and xylazine in illicit drug supply across PA and the US.
- The presence of novel psychoactive substances in the drug supply make starting medications for substance use disorders challenging.
- Pregnancy and postpartum drug overdose deaths increased approximately **81%** from 2017 to 2020 highlighting the need for healthcare facilities to have maternal SUD treatment programs.



What Outpatient Addiction Services Are Available At PSH?



Maternal Substance Use Disorder Clinic

Treats all substance use disorders (Methadone not given) 35 Hope Drive, Suite 202/204, Hershey, PA, 17033 717-531-3503



Adolescent Medicine Eating Disorder and Substance Use Disorder (STAR clinic)

PSH Briarcrest Medical Group

Treats all substance use disorders (Methadone not given)

905 W Governor Rd Ste 200, Hershey, PA 17033

717-531-2099



What Outpatient Addiction Services Are Available At PSH?



Office Based Addiction Treatment (OBAT) Clinic-Cocoa Outpatient Center

- Treats all substance use disorders (Methadone not given) 1150 Cocoa Avenue,
 - Hershey, PA, 17033
 - 717-531-6015



Pennsylvania Psychiatric Institute AIR Program

Treats all substance use disorders (Methadone OTP) 2501 N 3rd Street, Harrisburg, PA, 17110 717-782-6844



Inpatient Addiction Services At Penn State Health



Inpatient Addiction Consult Service (under Psychiatry)

Monday to Friday 8-5 pm

Evening and weekends JFT will come to the hospital and get patients into detox/residential treatment

(no medical recommendations)

PennState Health College of Medicine



Penn State Health Reproductive and Behavioral Health Program For your health and wellness



Do you often feel depressed or anxious? Maybe you struggle with chronic pelvic pain or issues with addiction, trauma or harmful childhood experiences. Penn State Health has a supportive team that specializes in reproductive behavioral health – because medical and emotional issues can affect you in many ways.

Our team of experts provides care to individuals 18 and older experiencing mental health concerns associated with pain, trauma, substance use disorders and infertility. We also support women during and after pregnancy. Our commitment to you is timely and complete care for your well-being.

For more information: Call 717-531-3503

Penn State Health Obstetrics and Gynecology Milton S. Hershey Medical Center 35 Hope Drive, Suites 202/204 Hershey, PA 17033



Questions?



References

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- <u>https://nida.nih.gov/research-topics/trends-statistics/overdose-death-rates</u>
- DEA https://www.dea.gov/engage/operation-engage-Philadelphia
- Xylazine threatens pregnant women battling addiction and their fetuses : NPR
- <u>https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/Documents/Diseases%20and%20Conditions/Pregnancy%20Associated%20Deaths%202013-2018%20FINAL.pdf</u>
- Bruzelius E, Martins SS. US Trends in Drug Overdose Mortality Among Pregnant and Postpartum Persons, 2017-2020. JAMA. 2022;328(21):2159–2161. doi:10.1001/jama.2022.17045
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