WHAT ARE OPIOIDS?

- Rx Drugs
  - Oxycodone, hydrocodone, morphine

OPIOIDS

- Fentanyl
- Heroin

Newest Drug Overdose Threat

- also known as “tranq”
- a non-opioid veterinary tranquilizer not approved for human use
- has been linked to an increasing number of overdose deaths nationwide
- Research has shown xylazine is often added to illicit opioids, including fentanyl
Polysubstance Use

- The use of more than one drug has become very common. This includes when two or more substances are taken together or within a short time period, either intentionally or unintentionally.
- Intentional polysubstance use occurs when a person takes a drug to increase or decrease the effects of a different drug or wants to experience the effects of the combination.
- Unintentional polysubstance use occurs when a person takes drugs that have been mixed or cut with other substances, like fentanyl, without their knowledge.
- The dangers of polysubstance use also apply to prescription drugs.
- In Mississippi during 2011, polysubstance use was recorded in 17.9% of all overdose fatalities. In 2020, this percentage was 53% – over half of all overdose fatalities had documented multiple drug use.

Mississippi Drug Overdose Deaths

Figure 2. 12 Month-ending Provisional Number of Drug Overdose Deaths by Drug or Drug Class: Mississippi

Legend for Drug or Drug Class

- Crack (140.8)
- Heroin (140.9)
- Methamphetamine (140.3)
- Natural & semi-synthetic opioids, excl. methadone (140.0, 140.8)
- Synthetic opiate, excl. methadone (140.0)

Reported Value

O Predicted Value
MISSISSIPPI

In 2022:

462
People died of Overdoses

The proportion of opioid-related deaths that involved fentanyl increased from 34% in 2019 to 73% in 2020, and 74.8% in 2021

Rx Drugs: 50 Synthetic: 259 Heroin: 43
(2020 Rx Drugs: 52 Synthetic: 192 Heroin: 80)

Mississippi Opioid and Heroin Data Compilation Provisional
Report, May 10, 2023

PERSONS MOST AT RISK OF AN OPIOID OVERDOSE

STANDUP MISSISSIPPI
PERSONS MOST AT RISK OF AN OPIOID OVERDOSE

- In 2020 and 2021, 33% of all drug overdose deaths were among people younger than 35 years of age. During this same time period 21% of all drug overdose deaths were among African Americans (MS).
- Fatal drug overdoses in people under the age of 35 nearly doubled from 2019 to 2020. (MS)
- The proportion of male overdose deaths has been increasing. In 2020, nearly two-thirds of overdose deaths were among males. (MS)
- Nationally In just one year, overdose death rates (number of drug overdose deaths per 100,000 people) increased 44% for Black people and 39% for American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) people.
- People who use/misuse drugs (prescription or illicit)
- People who take prescription drugs not prescribed to them.
- People who purchase drugs illegally.

Symptoms of an opioid overdose

- Unusual sleepiness and you are not able to awaken the person with a loud voice or by rubbing firmly on the middle of their chest (sternum).
- Inability to speak
- Skin is pale or grayish in color
- Lips and nails are blue, purple or dark in color
- The black circle of the colored part of the eye (pupil) is very small (pinpoint) in someone who will not awaken
- Breathing problems – Listen for the “death rattle” — an exhaled breath with a very distinct, labored sound coming from the throat.
Steps to assist someone experiencing an Opioid overdose?

**FIVE ESSENTIAL STEPS:**
1. Evaluate for signs of an opioid overdose.
2. Administer Naloxone
3. CALL FOR HELP (DIAL 911)
4. Support the person’s breathing.
5. Monitor the person’s response.

Chasing the Dragon: The Life of an Opiate Addict
Successful Strategies for Preventing Opioid Overdose

1. Targeted Naloxone Distribution
2. Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT)
3. Academic Detailing
4. Eliminating Prior-Authorization Requirements for Medications for Opioid Use Disorder
5. Screening for Fentanyl in Routine Clinical Toxicology Testing
6. 911 Good Samaritan Laws
7. Naloxone Distribution in Treatment Centers and Criminal Justice Settings
8. MAT in Criminal Justice Settings and Upon Release
9. Initiating Buprenorphine-based MAT in Emergency Departments
10. Syringe Services Programs
Prevention and Recovery Services

- Prevention, treatment and recovery education and training, provided through DMH and the Mississippi Public Health Institute
- Training is free to DMH-certified providers
- Perinatal High-Risk Management/Infant Services System partnership with MSDH
- TeleMAT- Telemedicine program through University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC) to link individuals with OUD in rural areas to medication-assisted treatment (MAT).
- Trainings and staff provided through grant as needed
- Naloxone distribution to law enforcement, first responders and CMHCs
- New Stand Up, Mississippi education initiatives

Find Treatment

Map of Mississippi showing different regions with varying shades indicating availability of services.
RESOURCES

Websites
- National Institute on Drug Abuse - Xylazine: https://nida.nih.gov/research-topics/xylazine
- Narcan: https://www.rbnsights.com/company/intent-murma

References:

Data Analysis: The data for this report were obtained from the Office of Vital Records at the Mississippi State Department of Health. Only Mississippi residents were included in the analyses.

Drug overdose deaths were identified by International Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision (ICD-10) underlying cause-of-death codes: X40-44 (accidental drug poisoning), X60-X64 (intentional self-poisoning), X85 (suicide by drug poisoning), Y10-Y14 (drug poisoning by undetermined intent). Specific drug categories and multidrug use were identified by: T40.0-T40.4, and T60.0 (opioids), cocaine (T30.5), T30.7 (heroin), T30.8 (psychoactive), T40.9 (other and unspecified psychoactive), T43.8 (psychostimulants with abuse potential), T42.2-T42.8 (antiepileptic, sedative-hypnotic and antipsychotic), and T50.9 (unspecified).


QUESTIONS

We Are Brave, Bold, and Better Together
Thank You!

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STACEY’S STORY

"If you make a huge difference in people’s lives in the restaurant industry and people come to you, it would be like a god-Tommie Wilson. He wanted to help young people get into the food industry and teach them how to work. He wanted to show them that they could make a difference and make a great living doing what they love. I’m truly grateful to have been a part of his life and to have learned so much from him."

ZACH’S STORY

"I’ve been very fortunate to have been blessed with the people I’ve worked with. They always pushed me to be better and inspired me to be the best version of myself."

EKOKO’S STORY

"I’ve been working at this restaurant since I was 17. It’s been a great experience and I’ve learned so much. I’ve learned to be patient, to work hard and to never give up. The restaurant has become like a second home to me."

"I’m grateful to be a part of something so meaningful and to have the opportunity to make a difference in people’s lives."

"I hope to continue my work in the food industry and to make a positive impact on the community."

"I want to thank Tommie Wilson for everything he has done for me and for inspiring me to be the best version of myself."