

# A Brief Introduction to SUD/MAT

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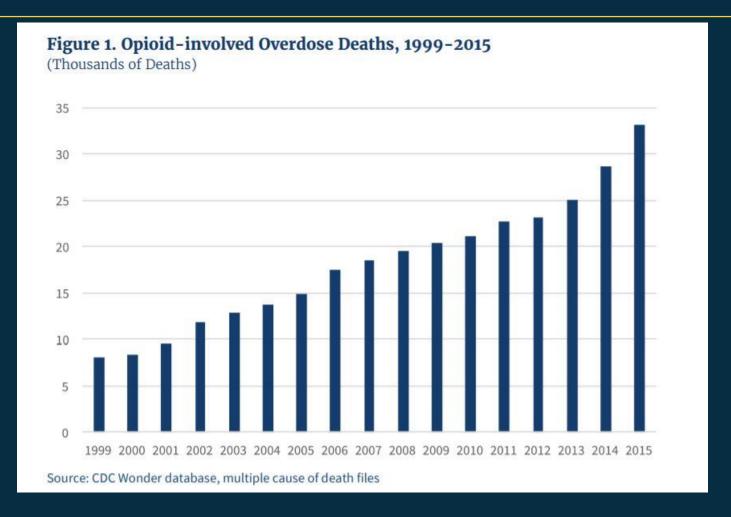


## Why is it a problem?

- 91 Americans die daily from opiate overdose
  - (~130 die daily from colon cancer)
- 1,000 visits daily to ER for not using opiates correctly
- It is a public health epidemic

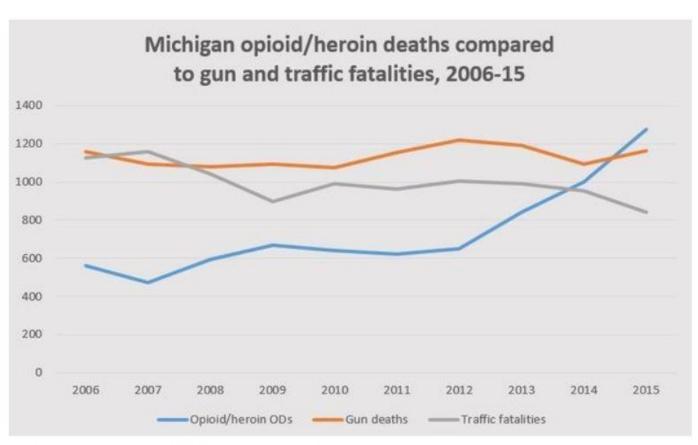


## Opioid Overdose Deaths





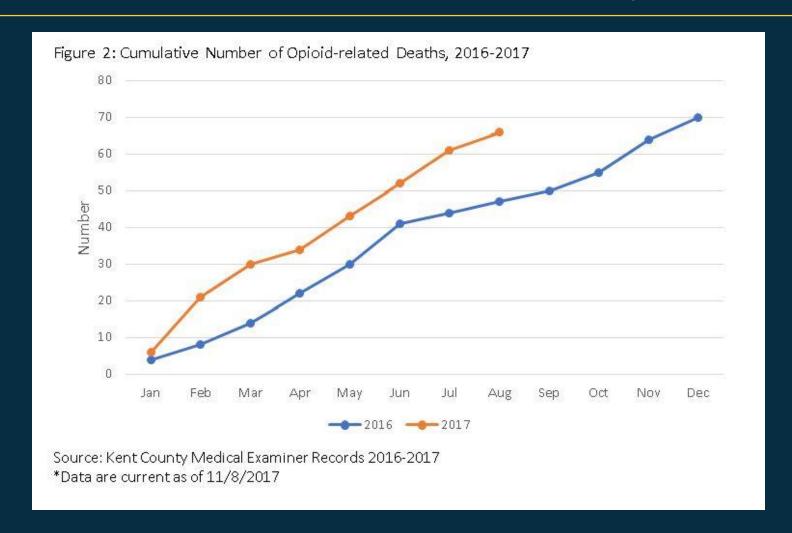
## Deaths in Michigan



Source: Michigan Department of Health and Human Services

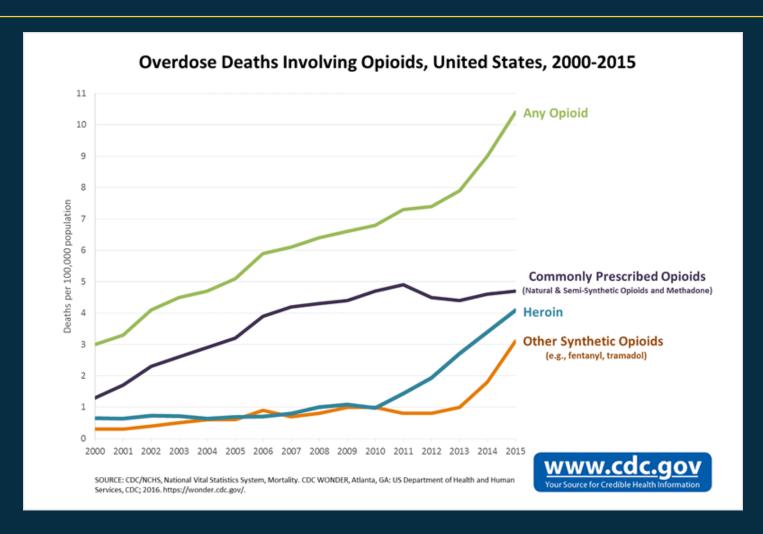


## Deaths from Opioids, Kent County





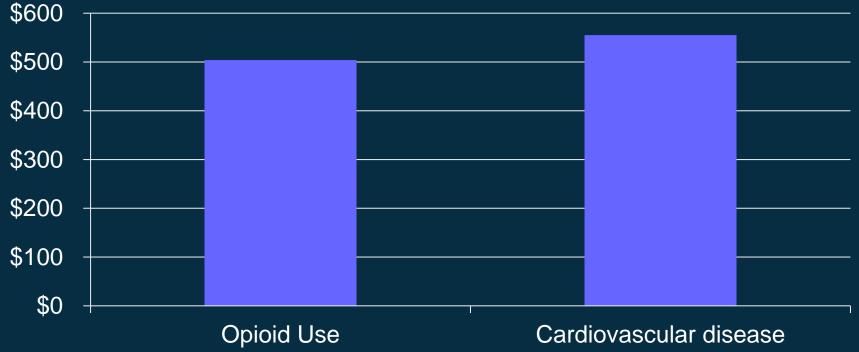
## Opioid Deaths in US





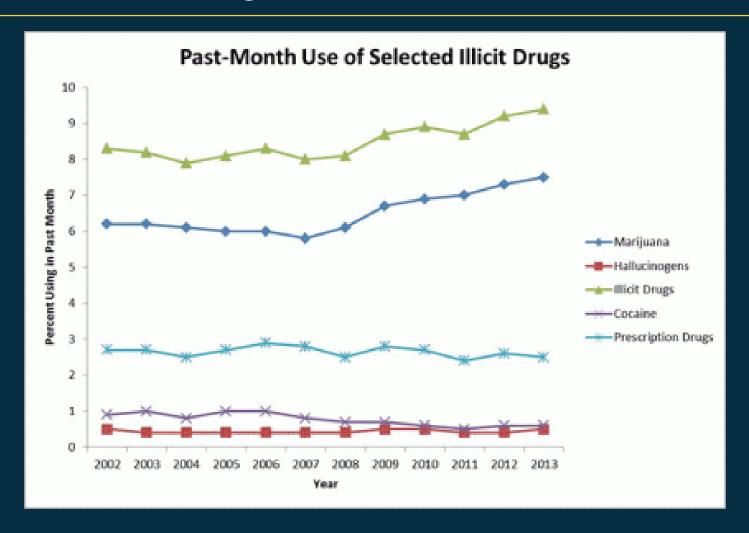
## Cost of the Opioid Epidemic

## Chronic Disease Costs (billions)



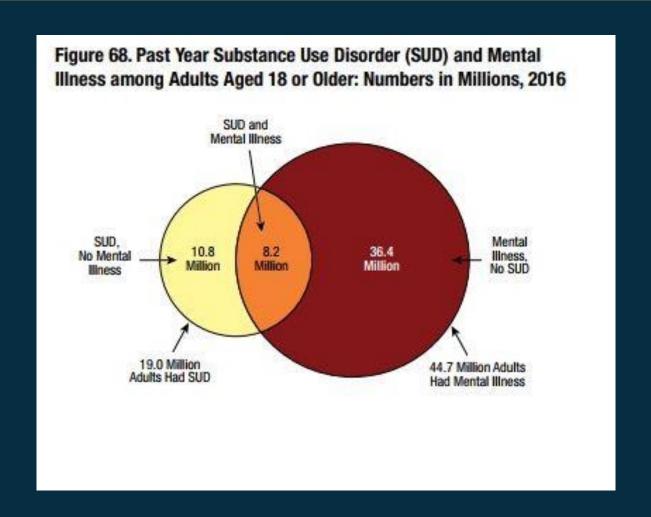


## Use of Illicit Drugs



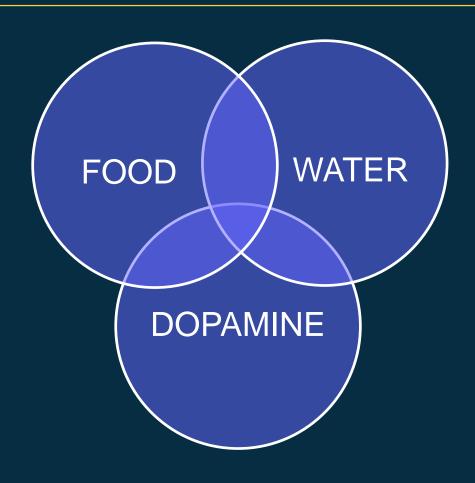


#### Prevalence of Substance Use Disorders





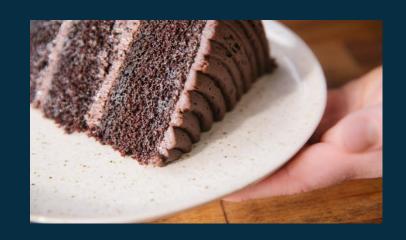
## Survival



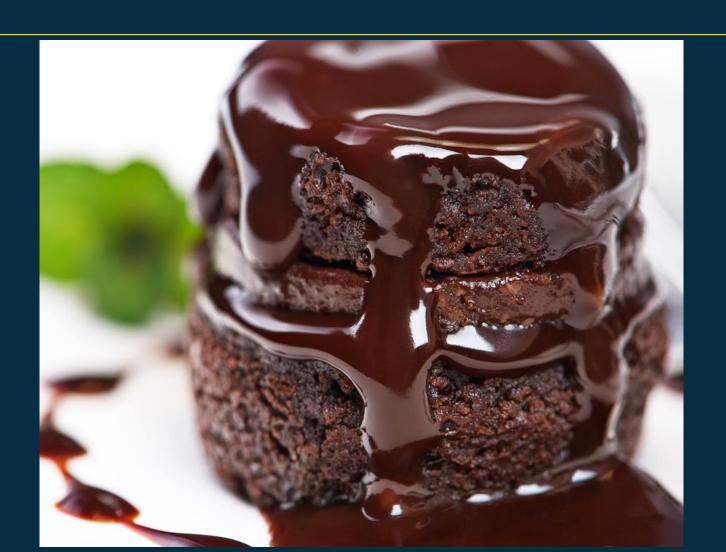


## Responses to Dopamine

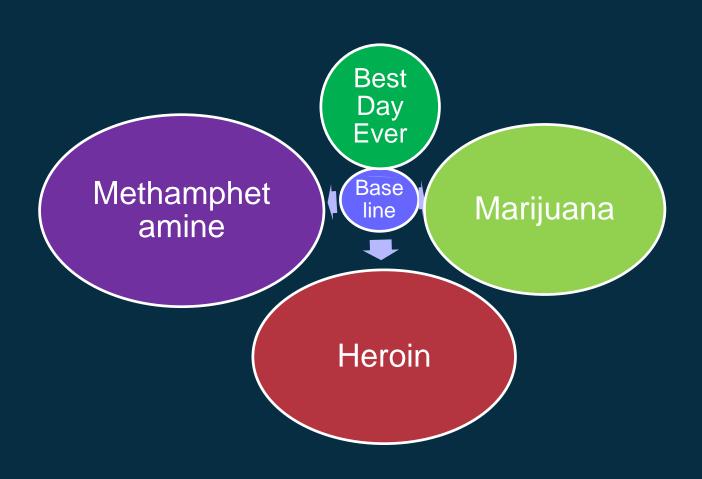
- Motivation and Drive
- Pleasure
- Food, Water,
- Chocolate













## Why is it a problem?

Binge drinking in the last month

Men: 30.2%

Women: 16.0%

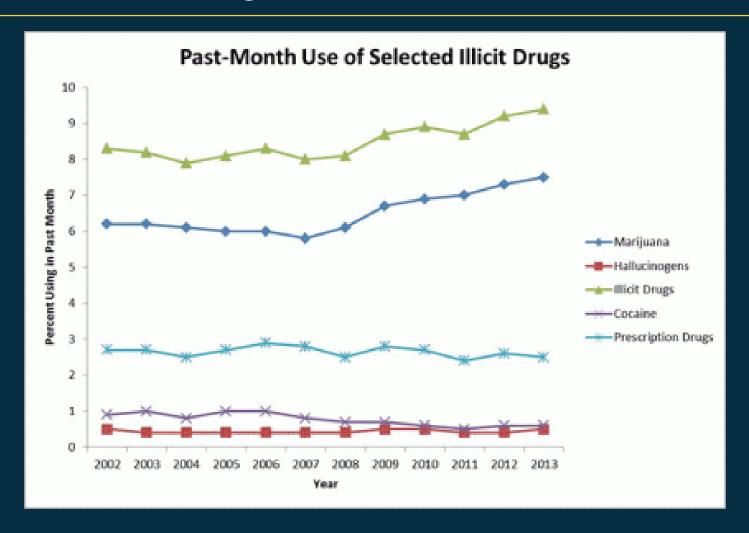
Heavy ongoing alcohol use

Men: 9.5%

Women: 3.3%



## Use of Illicit Drugs



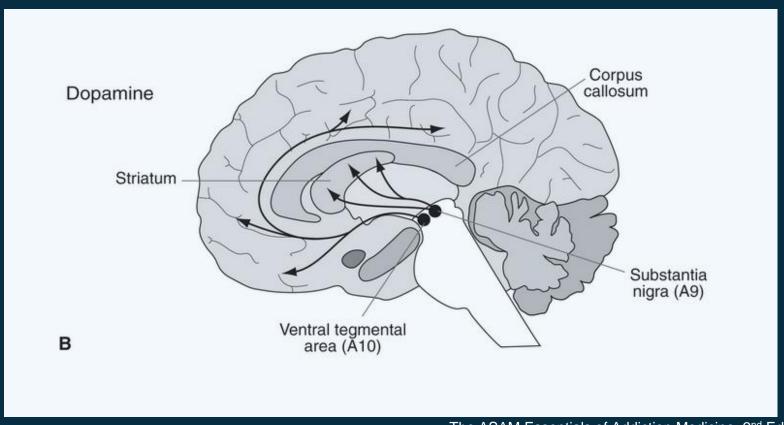


## Biopsychosocial model of SUD

- Biologic
- Psychological
- Social



## Dopamine Reward Pathway



The ASAM Essentials of Addiction Medicine, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed.



## Pharmacotherapy for SUD

#### **Alcohol**

- Naltrexone (PO &IM)
- Topamax
- Acamprosate
- Disulfiram

#### **Opiates**

- Suboxone
- Methadone
- Naltrexone

#### **Stimulants**

Citalopram

#### **Marijuana**

- N-acetyl cysteine
- Chantix (?)
- Bupropion (?)

#### **Cocaine**

Citalopram (?)



## Acamprosate

#### Mechanism of Action

- Not fully understood.
- Thought to stabilize brain chemistry by binding to GABA receptors and inhibiting NMDA (glutamate) receptors.

#### **Dosing Range**

666mg three times daily (oral tablet).





#### Disulfiram

#### Mechanism of Action

- Alcohol abuse deterrent medication
- Blocks the breakdown of alcohol which triggers unpleasant reaction (e.g. vomiting, upset stomach)

#### **Dosing Range**

- 500mg once daily for first two weeks (oral tablet).
- 250mg once daily after first two weeks as





#### **Naltrexone**

#### Mechanism of Action

Not fully understood.

May prevent excessive dopamine release be blocking the binding of beta-endorphins, to mu-opioid receptors.

#### **Dosing Range**

- 50mg daily (oral tablet).
- 380mg monthly (extended release injection).





#### Methadone

#### Mechanism of Action

Full mu agonist.

#### **Dosing Range**

80-120mg daily.

#### Monitoring

- Administered by licensed Methadone Treatment Program (MTP).
- Daily dosing at the MTP in the beginning.
- Take home dosing when





## Buprenorphine (Suboxone)

#### Mechanism of Action

Partial mu agonist.

#### **Dosing Range**

 2/0.5mg–24/6mg (divided up to 4x daily).

#### Monitoring

- Physician must have DEA authorized "x-license."
- Physician limited to number of clients prescribed at a given time.





## Buprenorphine (Suboxone)

- CARA 2016: Non-physician prescribers eligible for buprenorphine waiver
- 24 hours of training
- Submit application
- Can treat 30 patients in first year
- Submit waiver application after first year to treat up to 100 patients.





## Methadone vs. buprenorphine

- Availability
- Location
- Stigma
- Frequency of visits
- Diversion potential



## Addiction is a Chronic Relapsing Disorder

Similar to diabetes, asthma, hypertension

Key factors for all four:

- Adherence to treatment recommendations
- Family and social support
- Poverty factors

Stigma influential in determining attitudes towards addiction (e.g, re-occurrence vs relapse)

(McLellan et al, JAMA, 2000)



## Relapse

- Low rates (50%) of continuous abstinence at 3 months following treatment
- Common context: social situation, peer influence, negative intra- or interpersonal states
- Access to treatment is a key



#### **Motivational Enhancement**

- Motivation is amenable to clinical intervention (vs "come back when you are ready")
- Assess stage of motivation and select intervention accordingly
- Remember that motivation is a variable state, not a fixed trait
- Combination of internal motivation and external pressure is helpful



### Questions?

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