

OPIOID ABUSE

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LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Demonstrate how to use a drug identification tool.
- Understand what opioids are - mechanism, side effects, overdose symptoms.
- Identify why opioids are causing an epidemic.
- Examine the prevalence of opioids in fatal car accidents.
- Discover measures you can take in your household and community to help stop the epidemic.
- Reverse an opioid overdose.





**WHAT IF YOU FIND PILLS IN
YOUR CHILD'S ROOM?**



**CONFIDENTIAL, FREE PILL
IDENTIFICATION 24/7**

NLM Pillbox Drugs.com



Pill Identifier

Identify your medication



Interactions Checker

Check for drug interactions



Medical Transcription

Phonetic search assistant

**WHAT IF YOU FIND PILLS IN
YOUR CHILD'S ROOM?**

[Home](#) > [Pill Identifier](#) > [Search](#)

Pill Identifier

Search by Imprint, Shape or Color

Use the pill finder to identify medications by visual appearance or by name, if optional.

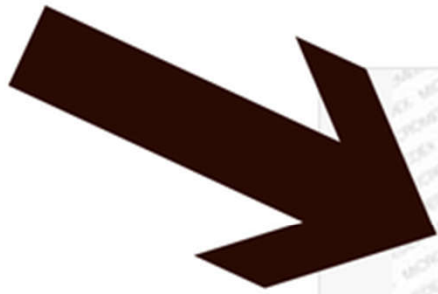


Select Color

Select Shape

Search


WHAT IF YOU FIND PILLS IN
YOUR CHILD'S ROOM?



A 215 3/3 ◀ ▶

Drug: [Oxycodone Hydrochloride](#)
Strength: 30 mg
Pill Imprint: A 215
Color: Blue
Shape: Round

[View Images & Details](#) [Print](#)



MYLAN 2150 1/4 ◀ ▶

Drug: [Meclofenamate Sodium](#)
Strength: 50 mg
Pill Imprint: MYLAN 2150
Color: Red
Shape: Capsule-shape

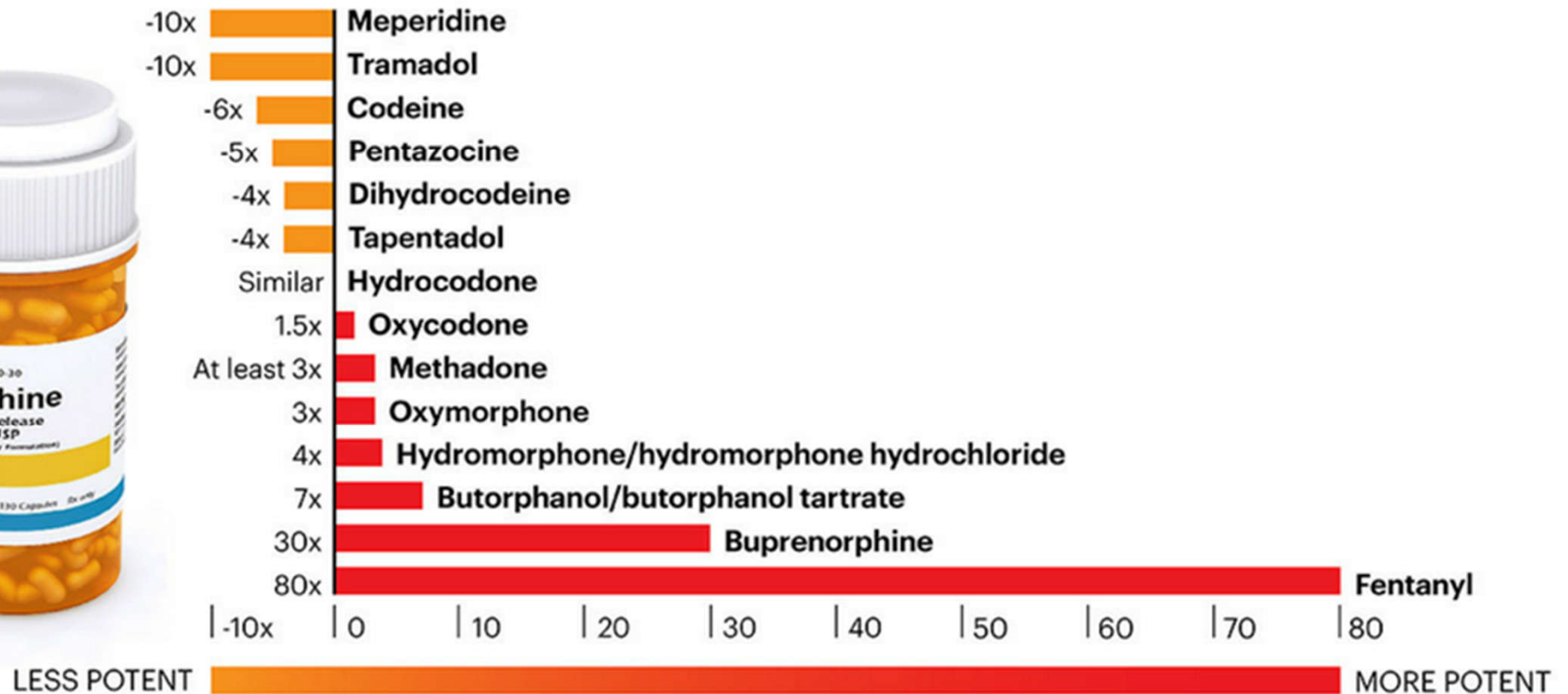
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WHAT IF YOU FIND PILLS IN
YOUR CHILD'S ROOM?



**WHICH PILL IS
COUNTERFEIT?**

OPIOID POTENCY COMPARED WITH ORAL MORPHINE



Carfentanil is approximately 100 times more potent than fentaNYL (and 10,000 times more potent than morphine).

Side effects



- Drowsiness
- Slow down breathing
- Mood changes
- Constipation
- Opioids can also create a sense of euphoria, and they are highly addictive.

**OPIOID
EPIDEMIC?**



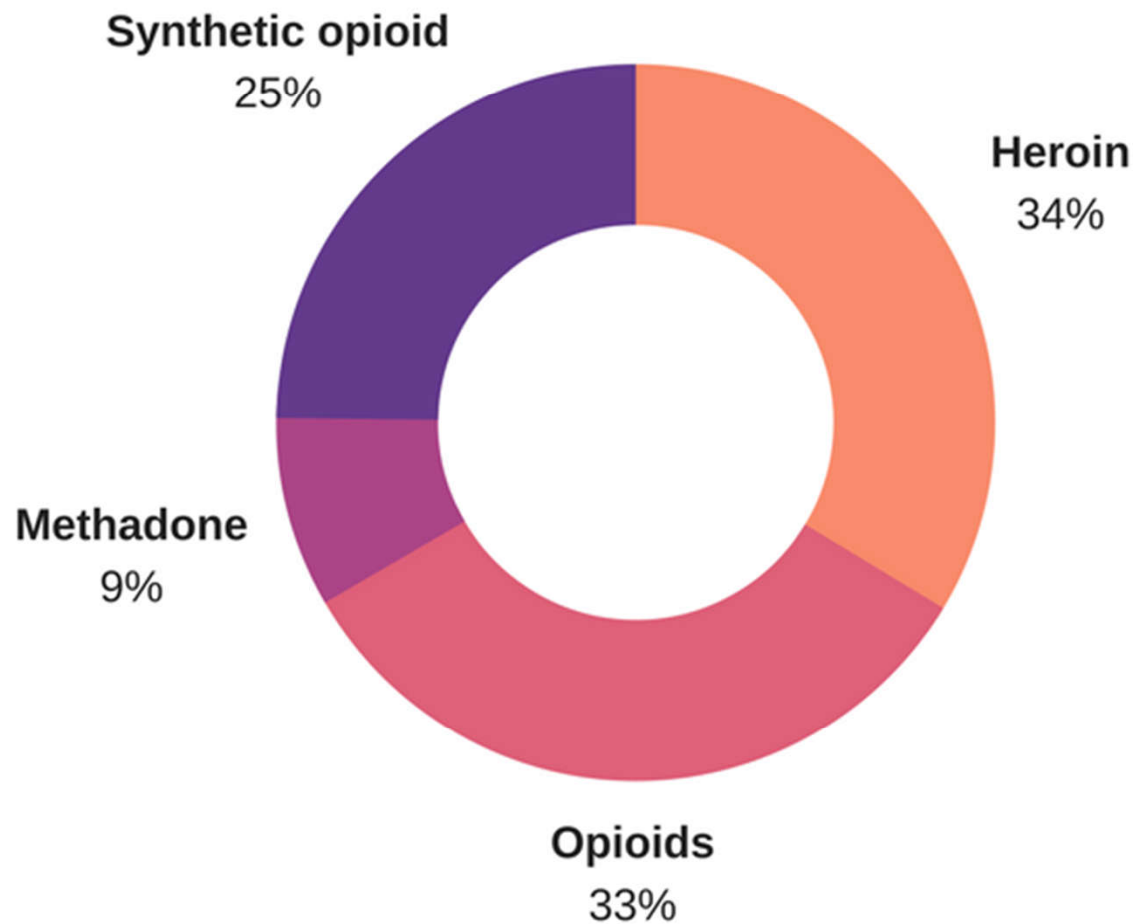


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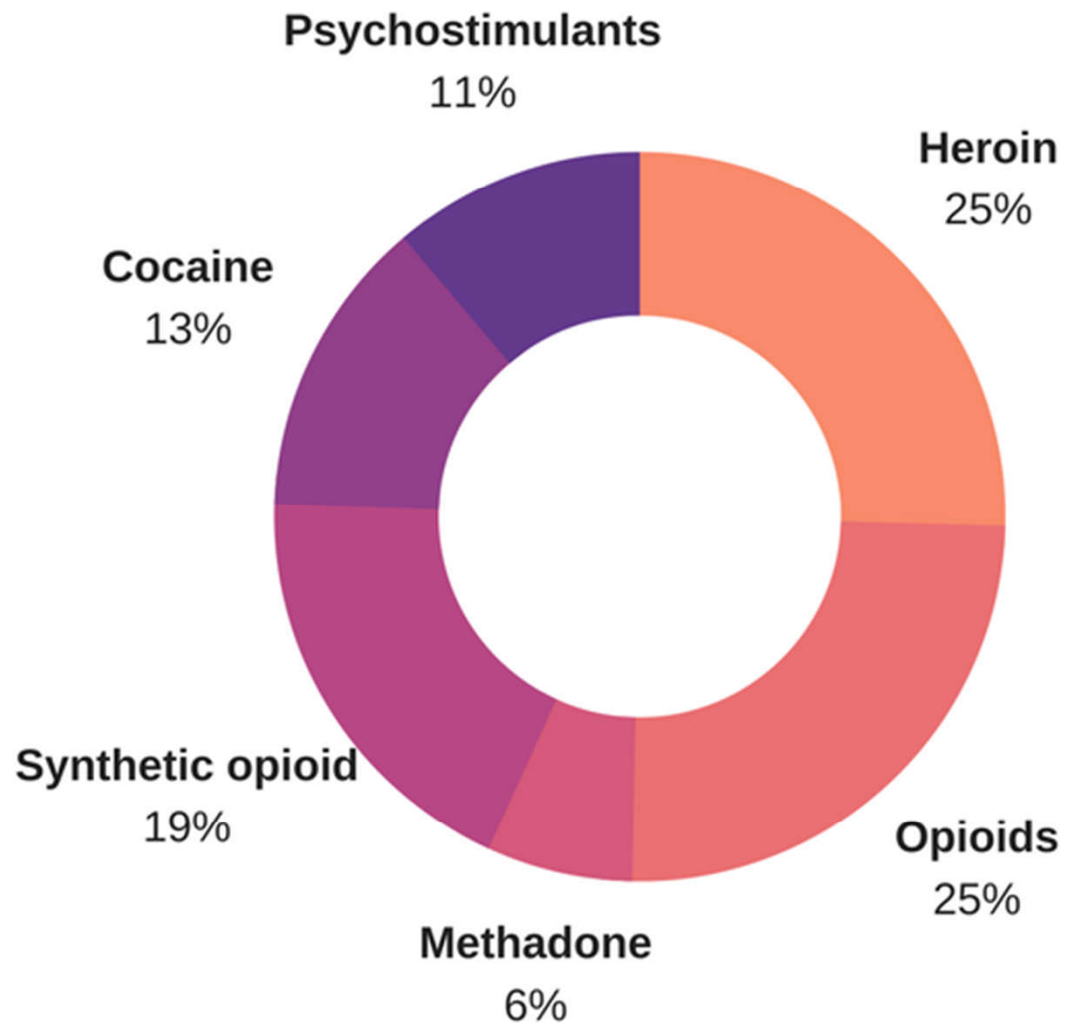
OF ALL OPIOID DEATHS COMING FROM LEGAL DRUGS

Painkillers have fueled a national opioid epidemic, with overdoses now killing more people annually than car crashes.

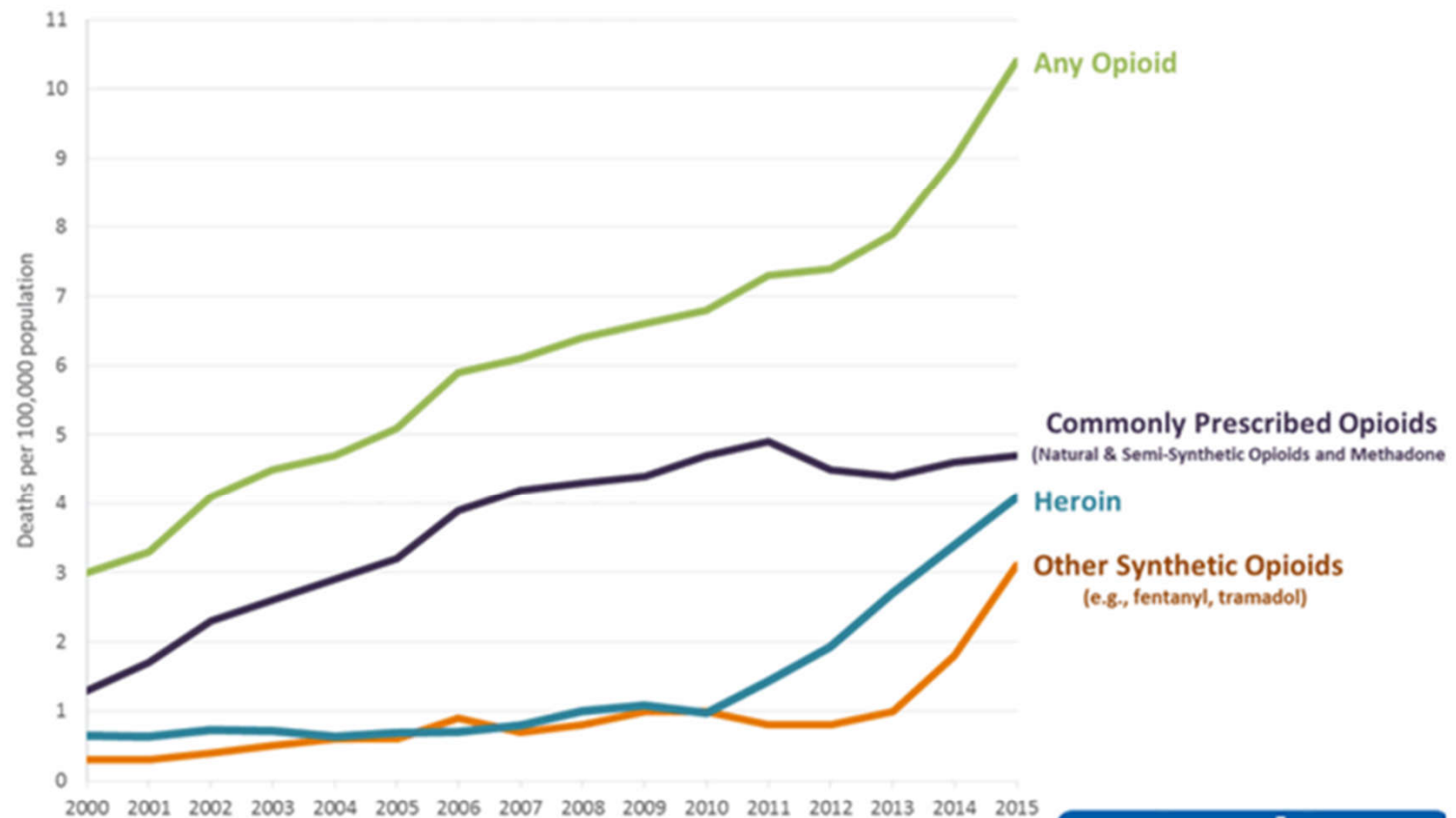
OPIOID DRUG OVERDOSE DEATH, UNITED STATES, 2015



DRUG OVERDOSE DEATHS UNITED STATES, 2015



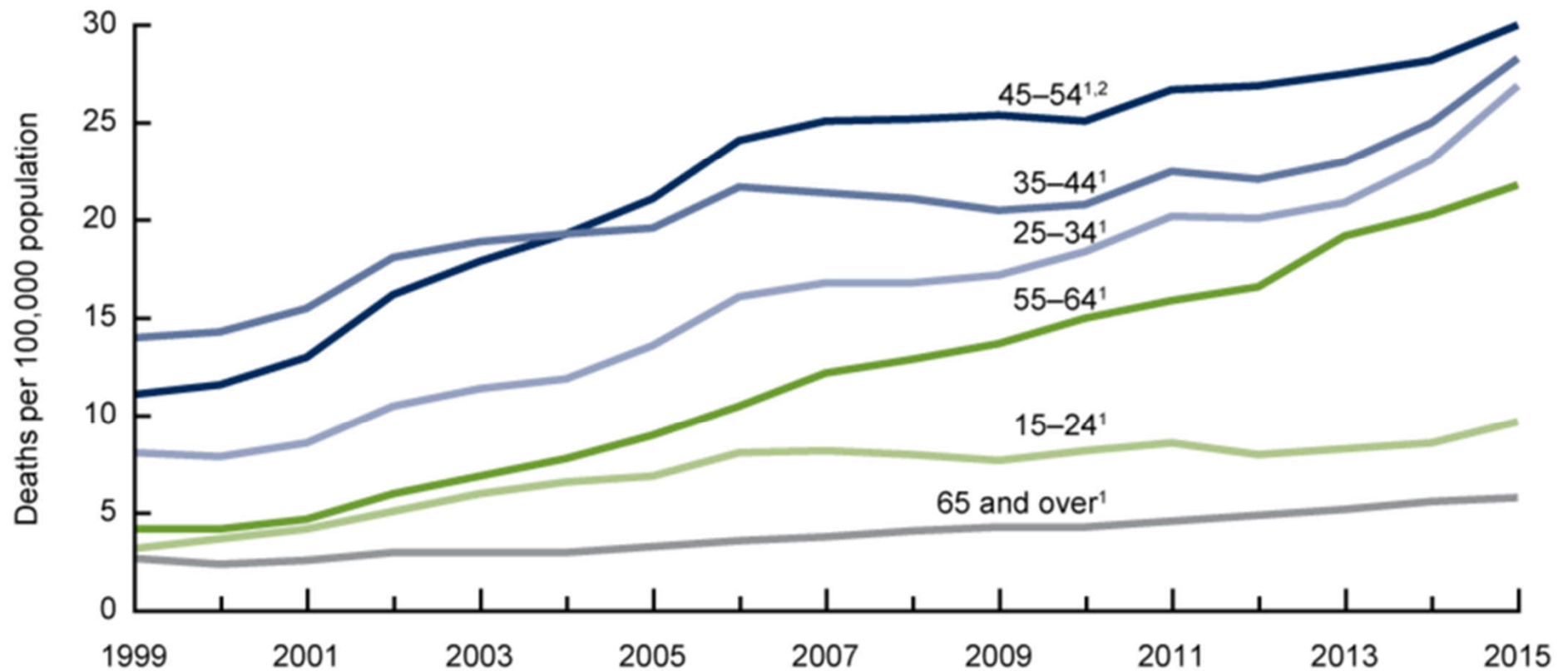
OVERDOSE DEATHS INVOLVING OPIOIDS, US, 2000-2015



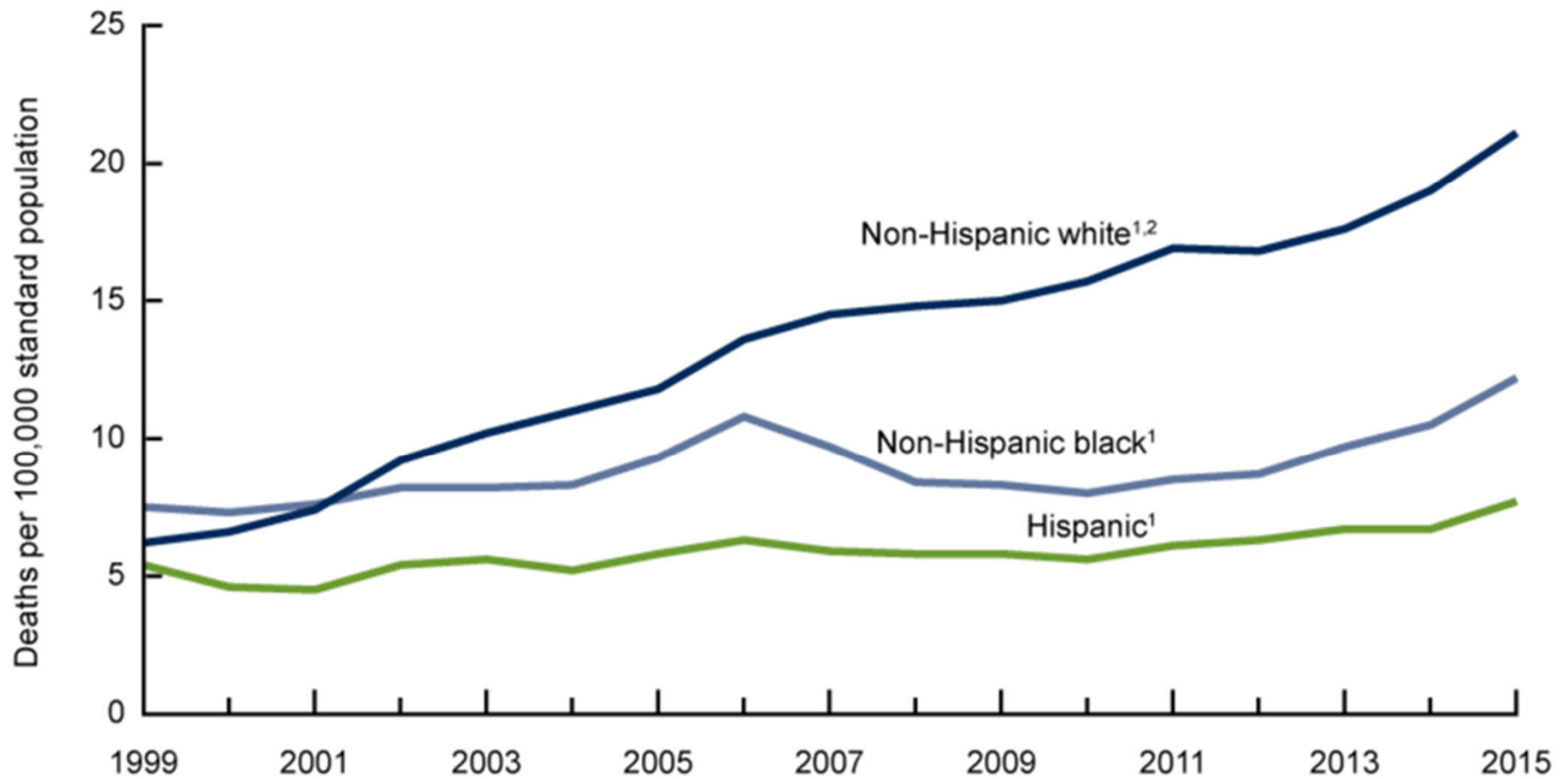
SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Vital Statistics System, Mortality. CDC WONDER, Atlanta, GA: US Department of Health and Human Services, CDC; 2016. <https://wonder.cdc.gov/>.

www.cdc.gov
Your Source for Credible Health Information

DEATH RATES BY AGE GROUP



DEATH RATES BY RACE



JANICE SONS, JUSTICE OF THE PEACE IN WICHITA COUNTY

"A late-stage cancer patient who takes too many prescription drugs could be classified as a natural death by one justice or a prescription drug overdose by another...with medical examiners, it's pretty cut and dried."

LIMITATIONS TO THIS DATA



28 states with high
quality reporting on
death certificates of
specific drugs involved
in overdose deaths.
Texas is not one of
them.

Map of the United States showing state-level data for COVID-19 cases. States are colored in two categories: purple and green. A legend on the right lists states in green boxes: CT, DC, DE, MD, NH, NJ, RI, and others. The CDC logo is in the bottom right corner.

LIMITATIONS TO THIS DATA



At autopsy, the substances tested for and circumstances under which tests are performed might vary by jurisdiction and over time.

LIMITATIONS TO THIS DATA



Nationally, 17% (in 2015) of drug overdose death certificates did not include the specific types of drugs involved.

LIMITATIONS TO THIS DATA



Heroin and morphine are metabolized similarly. Some heroin deaths might have been misclassified as morphine deaths, resulting in underreporting of heroin deaths.

LIMITATIONS TO THIS DATA



Improvements in testing and reporting of specific drugs might have contributed to some observed increases in opioid-involved death rates.



JANICE SONS, JUSTICE OF THE PEACE IN WICHITA COUNTY

"Even when a toxicology screen turns up evidence of an overdose, a process that can take weeks or months, the death certificate has already been filed and often isn't updated."

**I M P A I R E D
D R I V I N G ?**



NARCOTICS INVOLVED?



OCFA PIO
@OCFA_PIO



OCFA in Santa Ana with a vehicle that crashed into the second floor of a small Office building. The vehicle hit the center divider and went airborne and landed into the building. One person self extricated, the other person is still trapped in the vehicle. USAR from OCFA On scene

8:45 AM - Jan 14, 2018

552 7,564 11,659

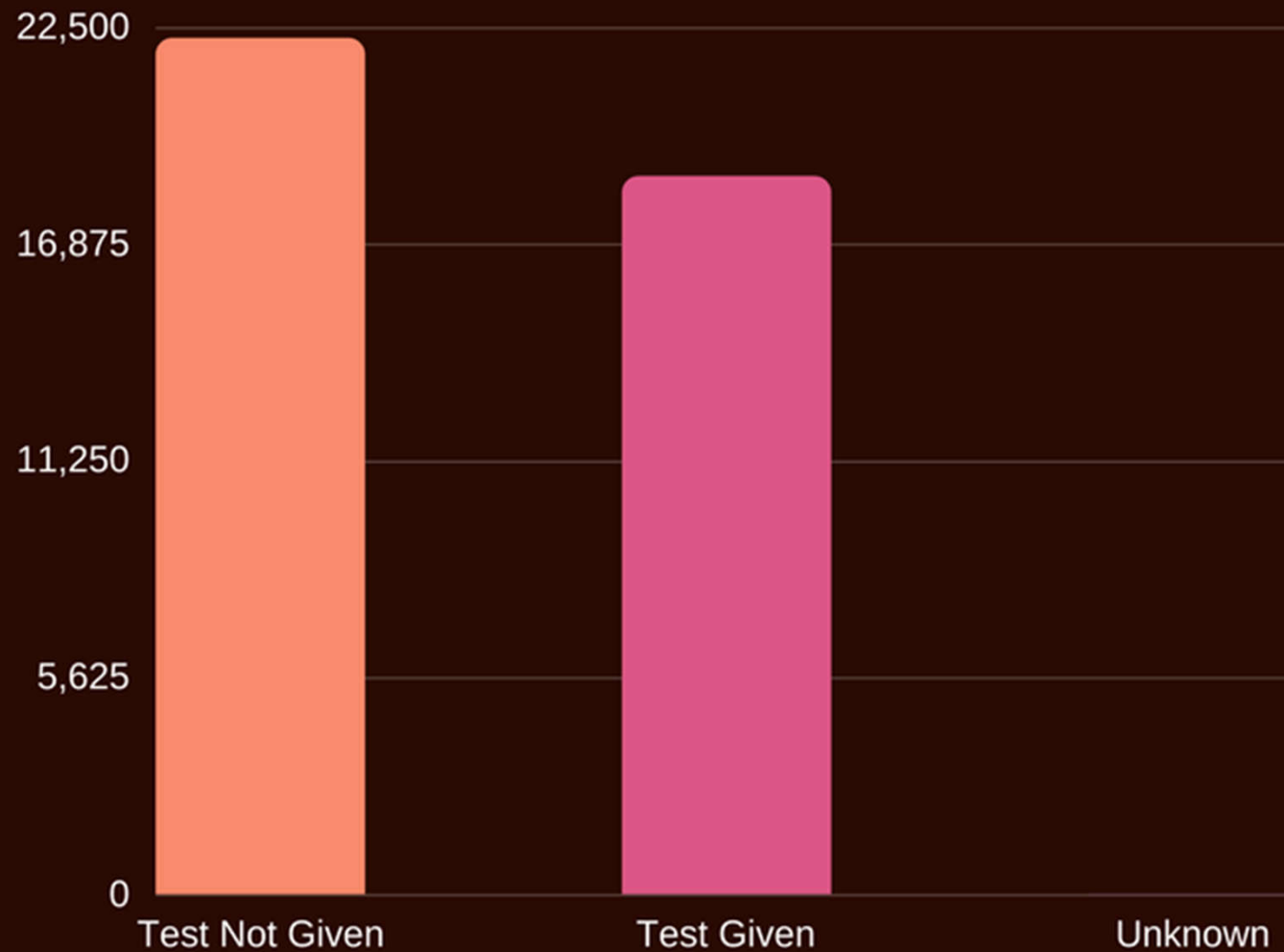


NARCOTICS?

According to the police department, the driver of the car "admitted to using narcotics, and will be admitted to a local hospital for observation."



NATIONAL RATE OF DRUG TESTS IN FATAL CAR ACCIDENTS, 2012

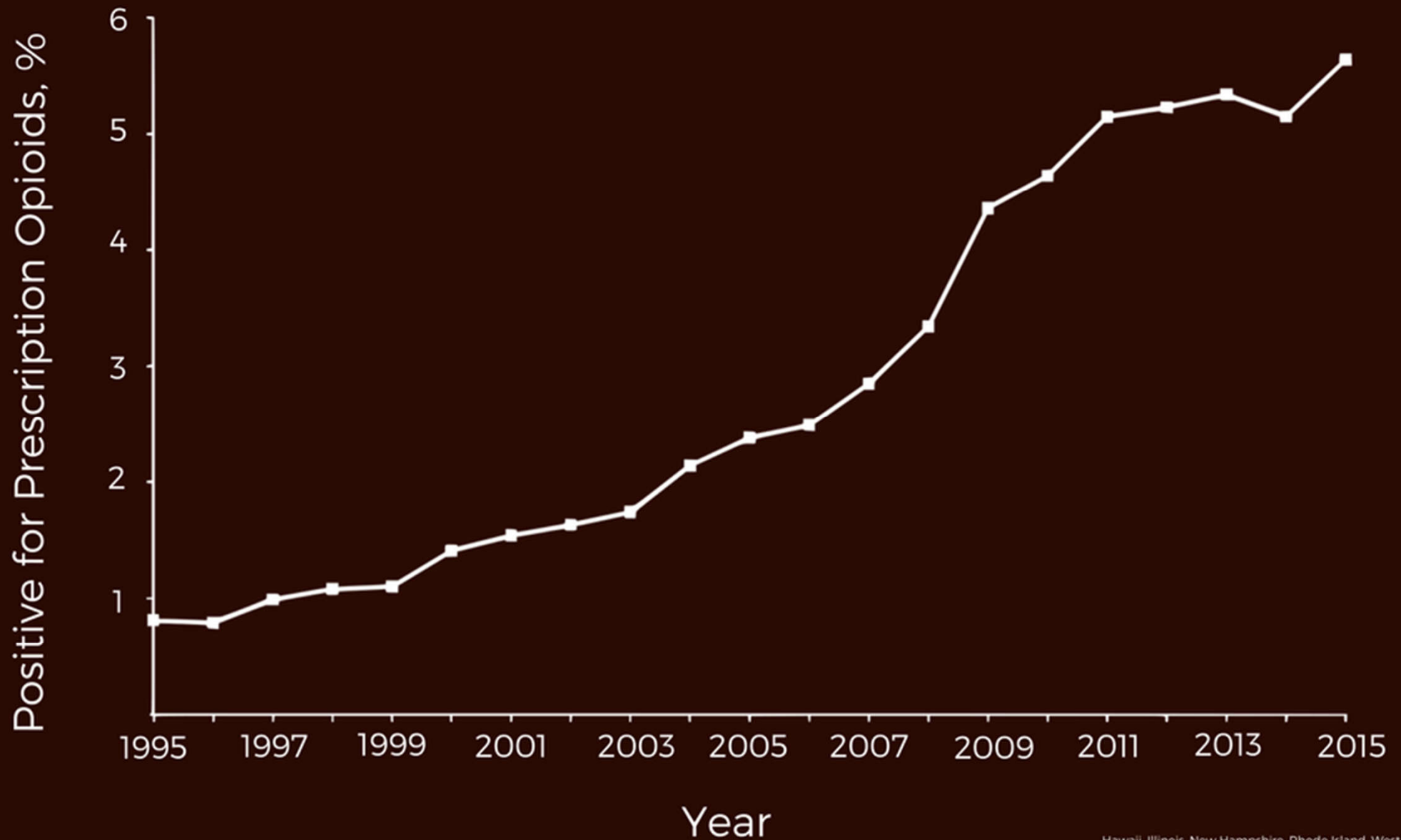


LIMITATIONS TO THIS DATA

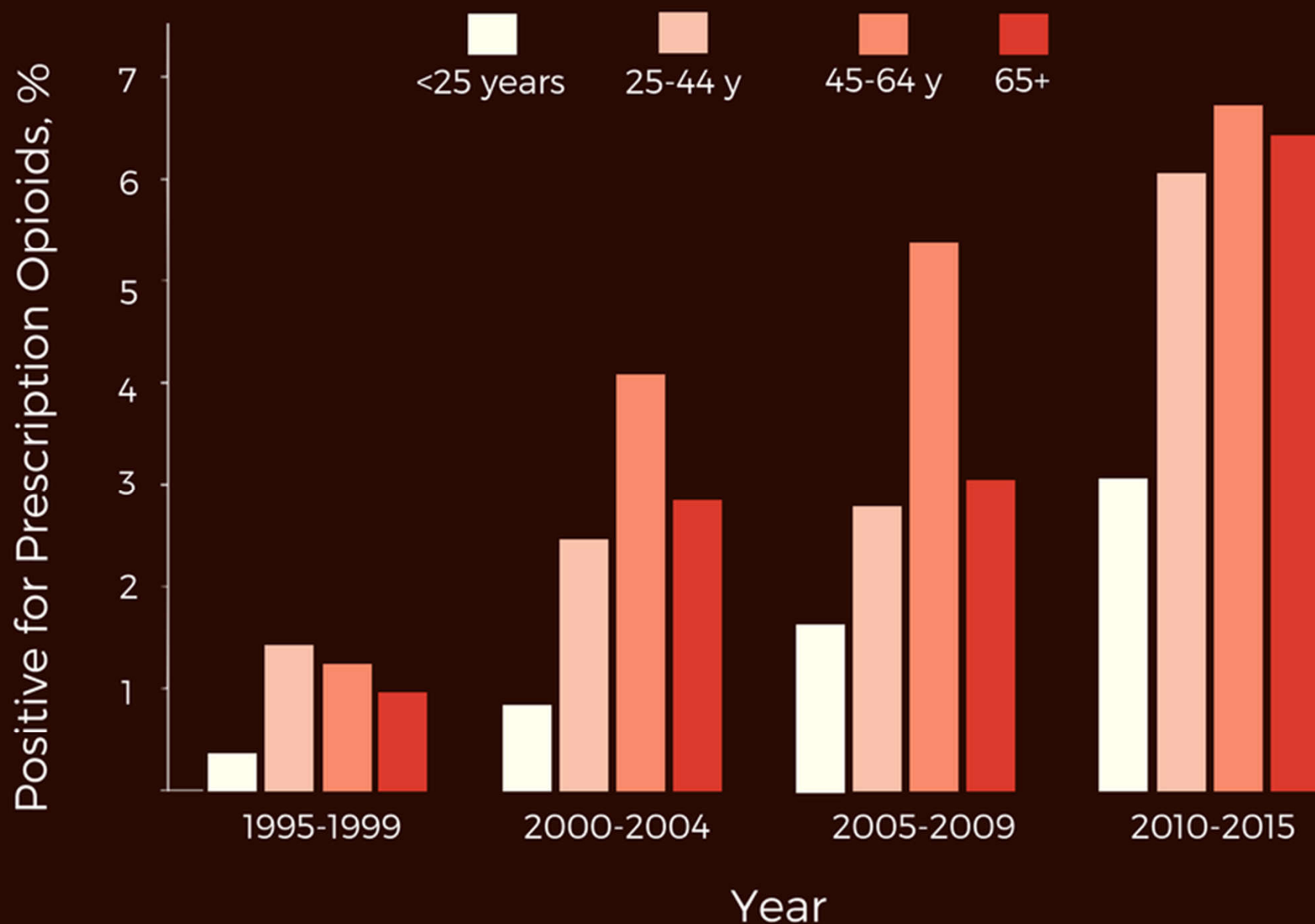


No consistent policy or set of procedures between, or sometimes even within, states for drug testing.

OPIOIDS DETECTED IN FATAL CAR ACCIDENTS-5 STATES



OPIOIDS DETECTED IN FATAL CAR ACCIDENTS BY DRIVER AGE



DO NARCOTICS IMPAIR DRIVING?



Presence of
drug



Impaired
driving

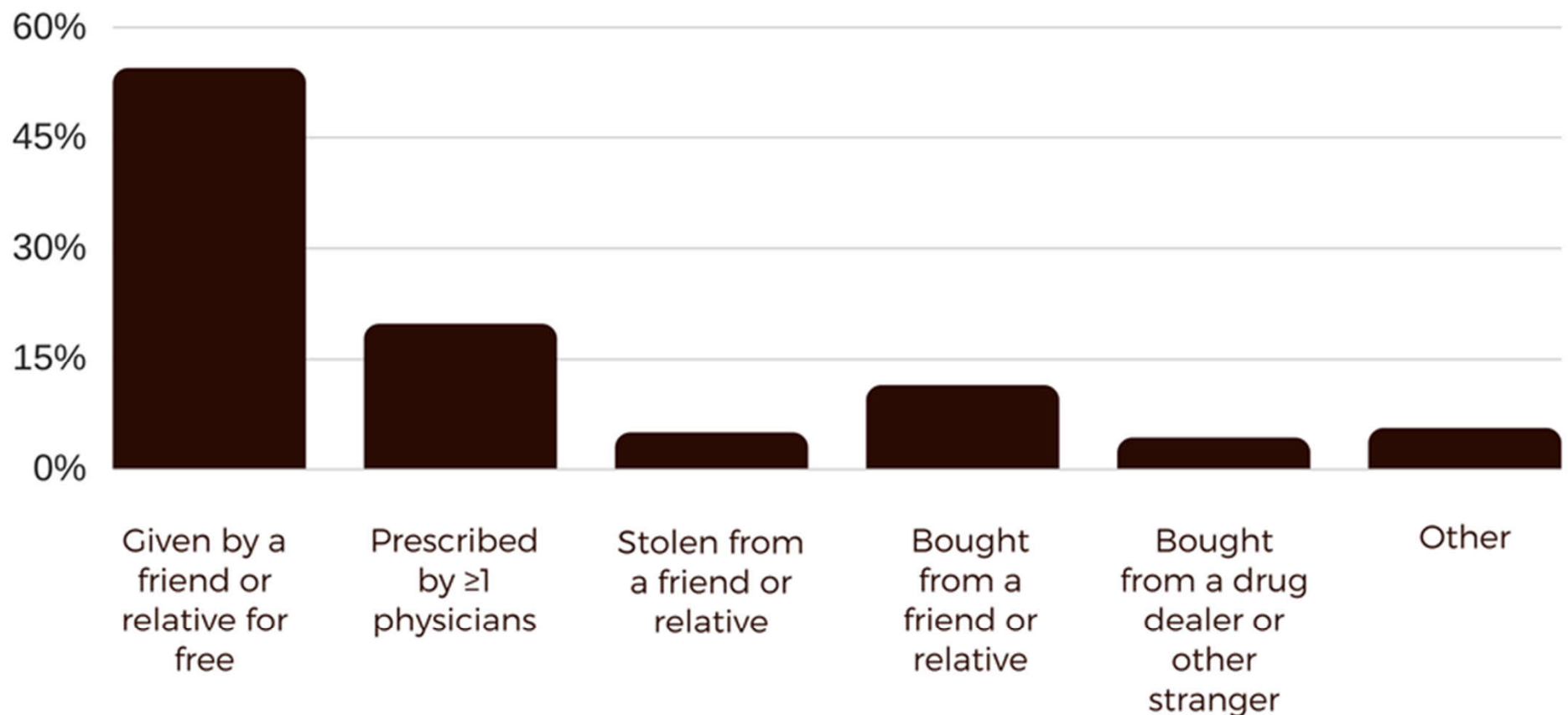
IMPROPER USE & ABUSE

Taking
someone else's
medication to
self-medicate

Taking a
prescription
medication in
a way other
than
prescribed

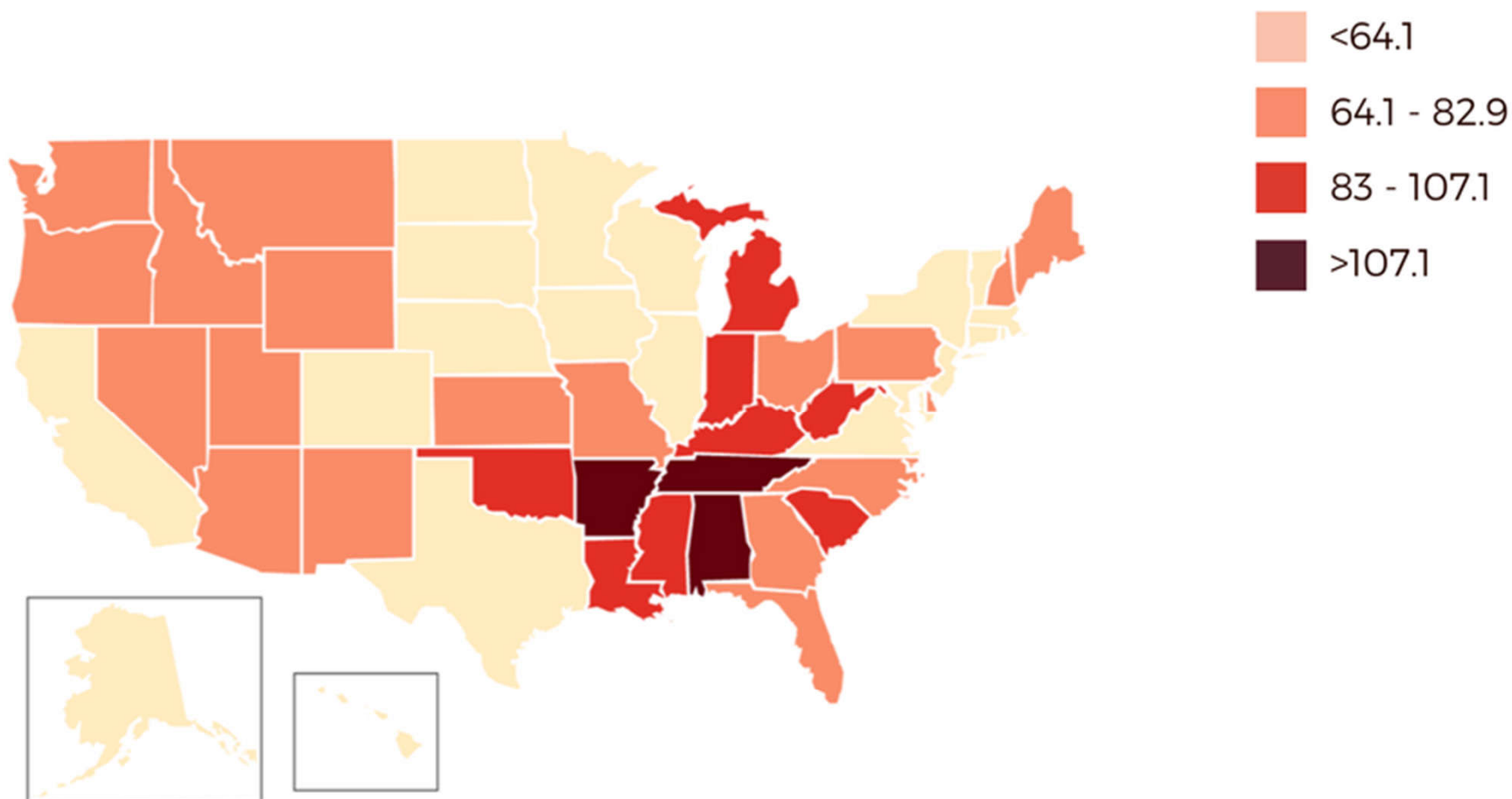
Taking a
medication to
get high

HOW DO PEOPLE GET PRESCRIPTION OPIOIDS THAT ARE NOT PRESCRIBED TO THEM?

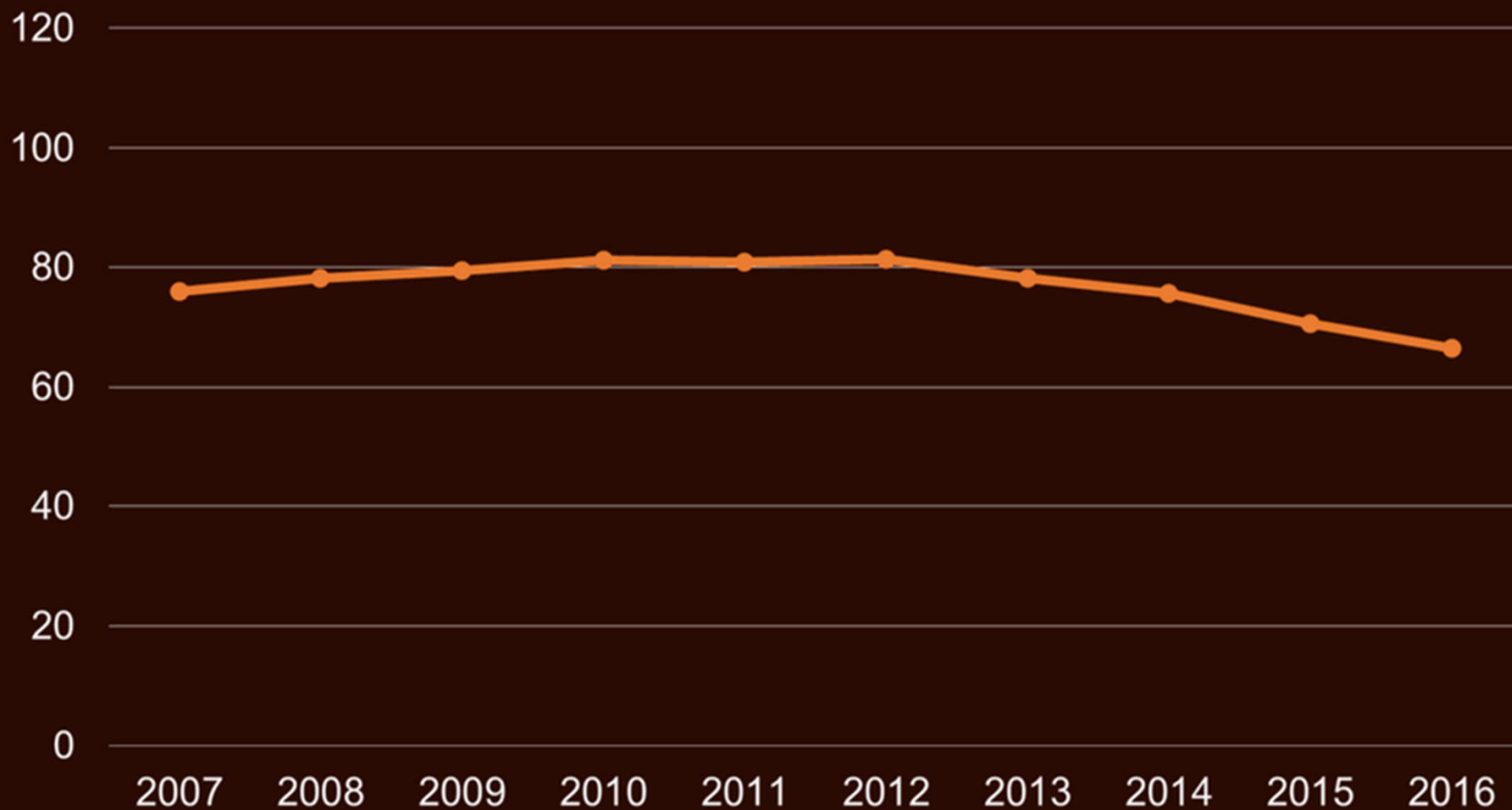


2016 PRESCRIBING RATE PER 100 PEOPLE

NATIONAL DATA

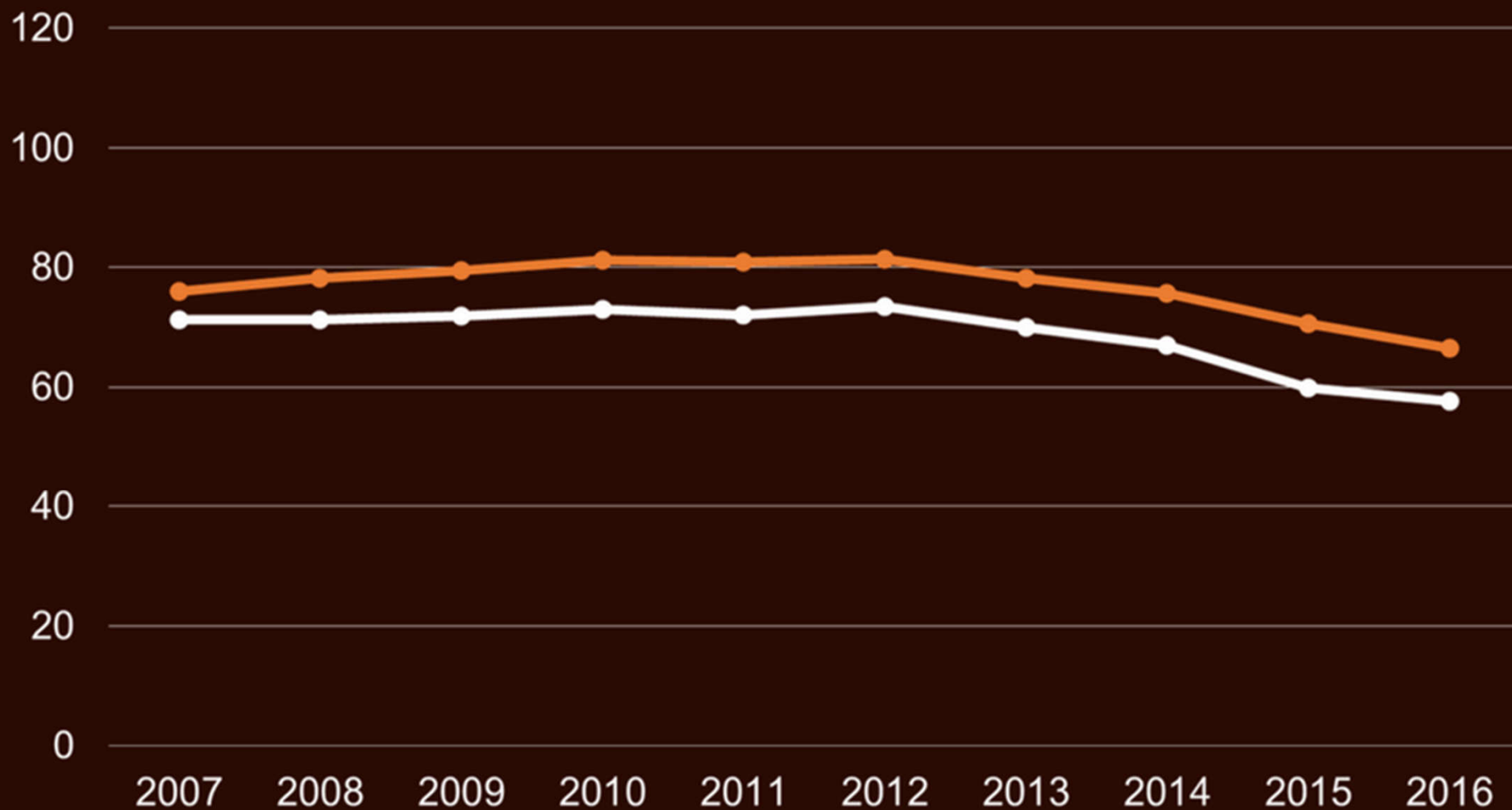


NATIONAL DATA - ORANGE



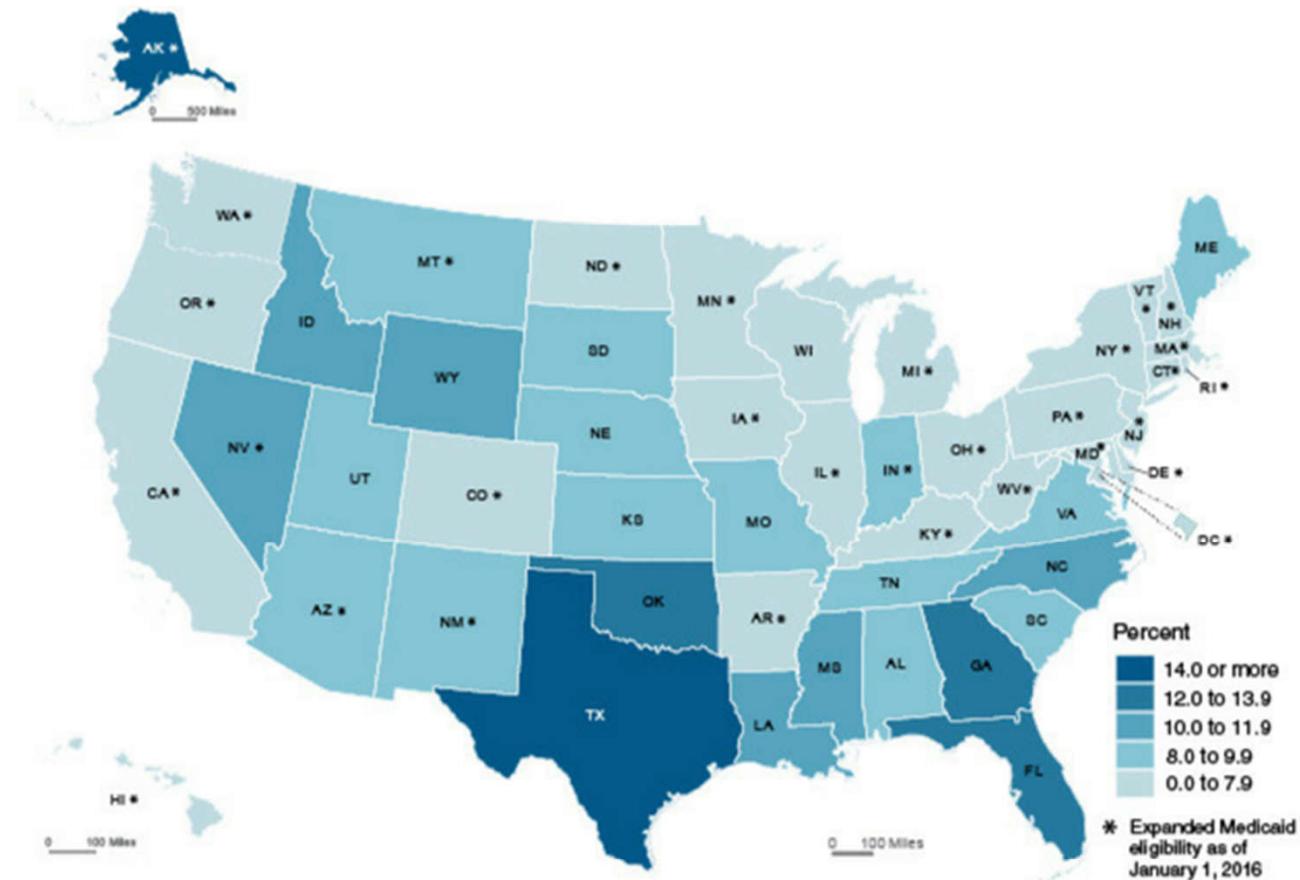
OPIOID PRESCRIBING RATE PER 100 PEOPLE

TEXAS - WHITE



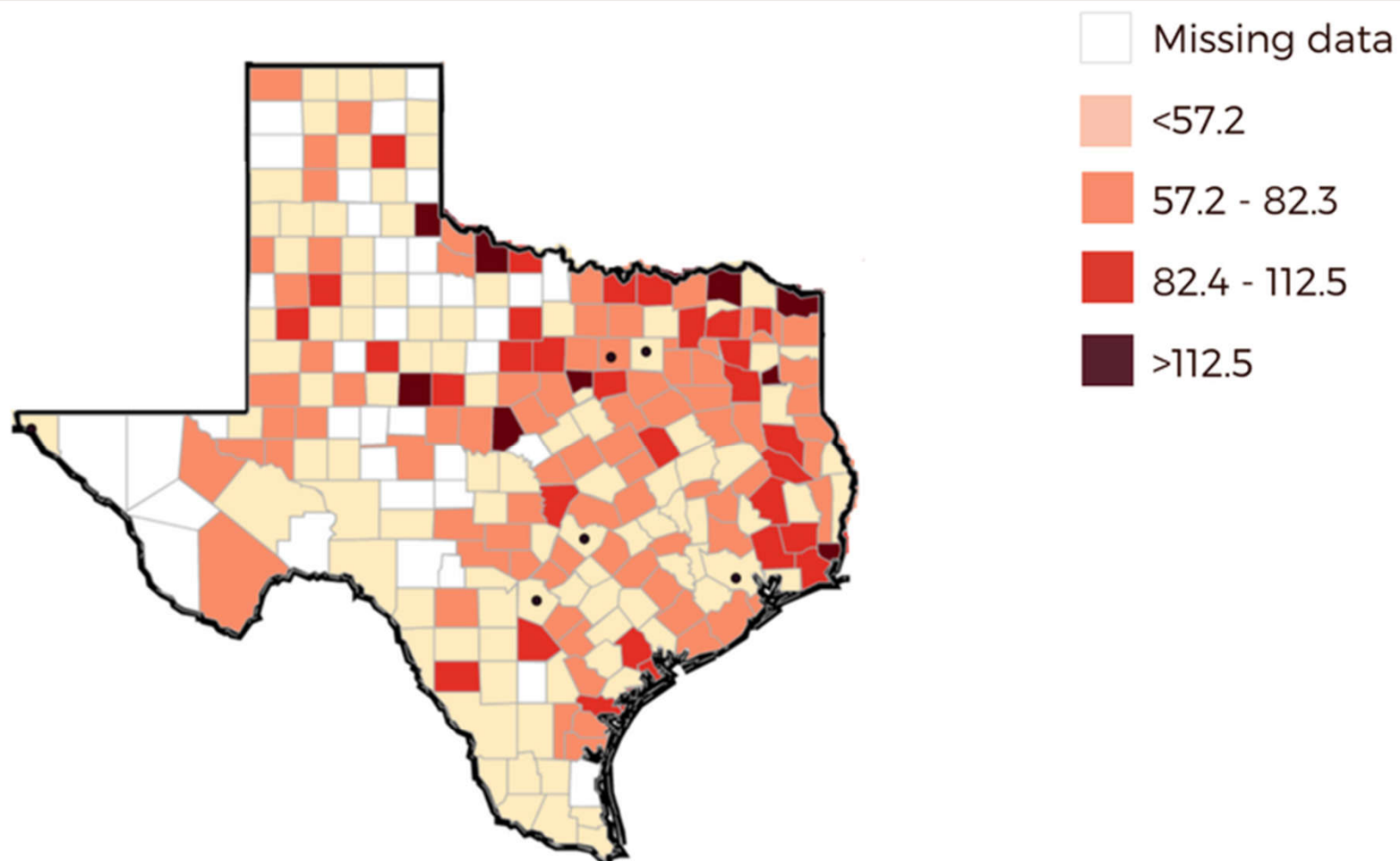
OPIOID PRESCRIBING RATE PER 100 PEOPLE

PERCENTAGE OF PEOPLE WITHOUT HEALTH INSURANCE



2016 PRESCRIBING RATE PER 100 PEOPLE

COUNTY DATA





3 OF 4

**NEW HEROIN USERS REPORT
ABUSING PRESCRIPTION
OPIOIDS PRIOR TO USING
HEROIN.**

Increased availability, lower price,
and increased purity of heroin

<https://www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/epidemic/index.html>

Muhuri PK, Gfroerer JC, Davies C. Associations of nonmedical pain reliever use and initiation of heroin use in the United States. CBHSQ Data Review, 2013.
Cicero TJ, Ellis MS, Surratt HL, Kurtz SP. The changing face of heroin use in the United States: a retrospective analysis of the past fifty years. JAMA Psychiatry 2014;71:821-6.

Jones CM. Heroin use and heroin use risk behaviors among nonmedical users of prescription opioid pain relievers – United States, 2002-2004 and 2008-2010. Drug Alcohol Depend 2013;132:95-100.

JANICE SONS, JUSTICE OF THE PEACE IN WICHITA COUNTY

"Many of those new heroin users are former prescription opioid users driven to a black-market alternative by the government's crackdown on painkiller prescriptions. That switch exposed them to much higher risks."

**HYDROCODONE NOW A CII
WHAT HAPPENED?**

**WITHIN 12 MONTHS OF
RESCHEDULING HYDROCODONE**



Hydrocodone
combination
prescriptions decreased
by 23 million



Number of hydrocodone
combination tablets
dispensed decreased
by 1.1 billion

ANONYMOUS OPIOID USER

“I used to take just the pills, and then I started doing dope, the heroin, only when I could get it, when it was cheap, but I don’t prefer it because you never know what you’re getting. It’s scary.”

WHAT ARE HEALTH PROFESSIONALS DOING?

- Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP)
- Enhancing opioid prescribing guidelines
- Other pain management modalities - physical therapy, psychiatry
- Mental health treatment of substance abuse disorder and more effective forms of rehab.

1

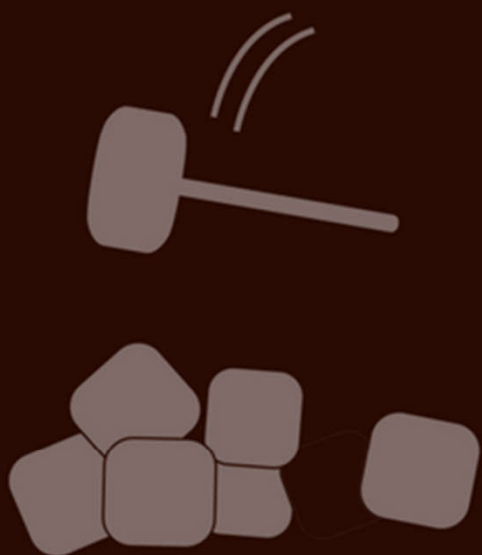
WHAT CAN YOU DO?



- Use opioids only when benefits are likely to outweigh risks.
- Consider non-opioids for pain management.

2

WHAT CAN YOU DO?



Do not crush or break pills. as this can alter the rate at which the medication is absorbed and lead to overdose and death.

3

WHAT CAN YOU DO?



- Don't mix opioids with alcohol, antihistamines, barbiturates, or benzodiazepines.
- All of these substances slow breathing and their combined effects could lead to life-threatening respiratory depression.

3

WHAT CAN YOU DO?



Inform your health care professional about any past history of substance abuse.



Find treatment.

HOW DO I FIND A LOCATION FOR TREATMENT?



Talk with your physician

SAMHSA
findtreatment.samhsa.gov
1-800-662-HELP

drugabuse.com

Narcotics Anonymous
<https://www.na.org/>

5

WHAT CAN YOU DO?



Get rid of excess opioid prescriptions. Do not leave unneeded meds in medicine cabinet.



**HOW DO I GET RID OF
MEDICATIONS?**

OPTION 1: DISPOSE MEDS



Anonymously dispose of unused/expired prescription medications.

<https://nabp.pharmacy/initiatives/awarex/dispose-safely/>

Law enforcement drop boxes

Look for Community Coalition Partnerships

DEA National Prescription Drug Take Back Day

OPTION 2: TRASH YOUR MEDS



MIX medicine (do not crush tablets or capsules) with an unpalatable substance such as dirt, kitty litter, or unused coffee grounds



PLACE the mixture in a container such as a sealed plastic bag



THROW the container in your household trash



SCRATCH OUT all personal information on the prescription label of your empty pill bottle or empty medicine packaging to make it unreadable, then dispose of the container.



Lock up your
medications!



Keep track of how many
pills are in each bottle
so you will know if some
are missing.

6

WHAT CAN YOU DO?



Don't share or reuse needles!

Most pharmacies will not require a prescription.

Dirty needles increase risk of getting and transmitting HIV, viral hepatitis and other blood borne infections.

7

WHAT CAN YOU DO?



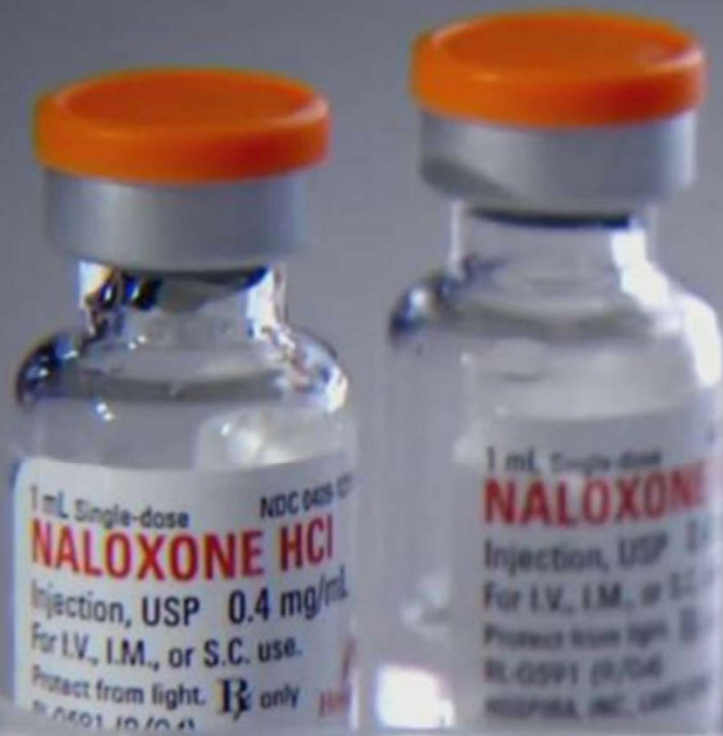
Consider purchasing naloxone.

Teach your family + friends how to respond to an overdose



Can we reverse it?

Naloxone only
reverses opioids!!



OVERDOSE SYMPTOMS



ARE THEY BREATHING?

Slow or shallow breathing
Gasping for air when sleeping or weird snoring
Slow heartbeat, low blood pressure



WHAT'S THEIR COLOR?

Pale or bluish skin



ARE THEY RESPONSIVE?

Won't wake up or respond (rub knuckles on sternum)



1

STEP 1: CALL 911



“Someone is unresponsive and not breathing.”

Give clear address and location.

What if you have illegal drugs on you?

"Greg Abbott vetoed House Bill 225, which would have established a "Good Samaritan" law so that someone calling 911 to report an overdose wouldn't be prosecuted for possessing a small amount of drugs.

Abbott issued a statement saying the bill could have been misused by drug dealers and habitual abusers."



2

STEP 2: CPR



Make sure nothing is inside the person's mouth.

Start CPR if appropriate.

3

STEP 3: NALOXONE



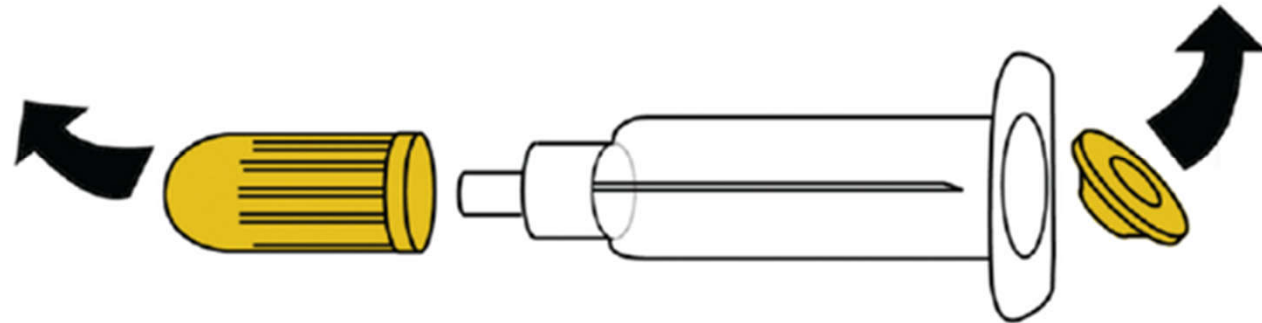
Can you get naloxone and prepare it quickly enough that they won't go for too long without your breathing assistance?



HOW TO ASSEMBLE NALOXONE MAD DEVICE

STEP 1:

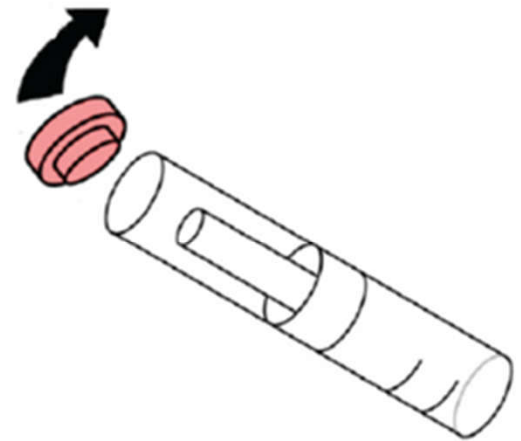
Pry or pull off yellow caps.



HOW TO ASSEMBLE NALOXONE MAD DEVICE

STEP 2:

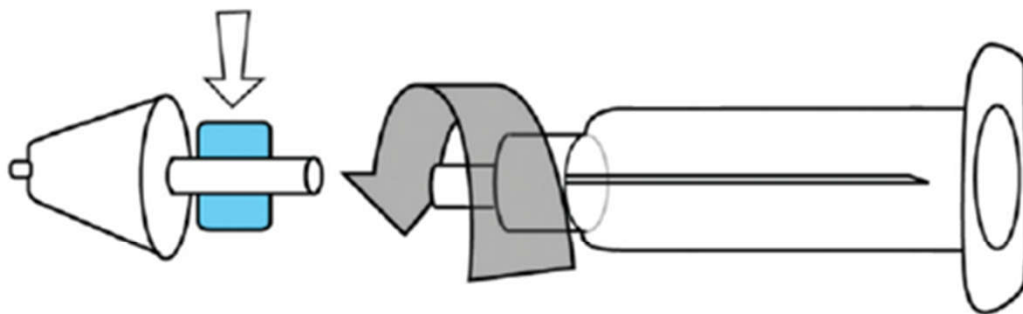
Pry off red cap.



HOW TO ASSEMBLE NALOXONE MAD DEVICE

STEP 3:

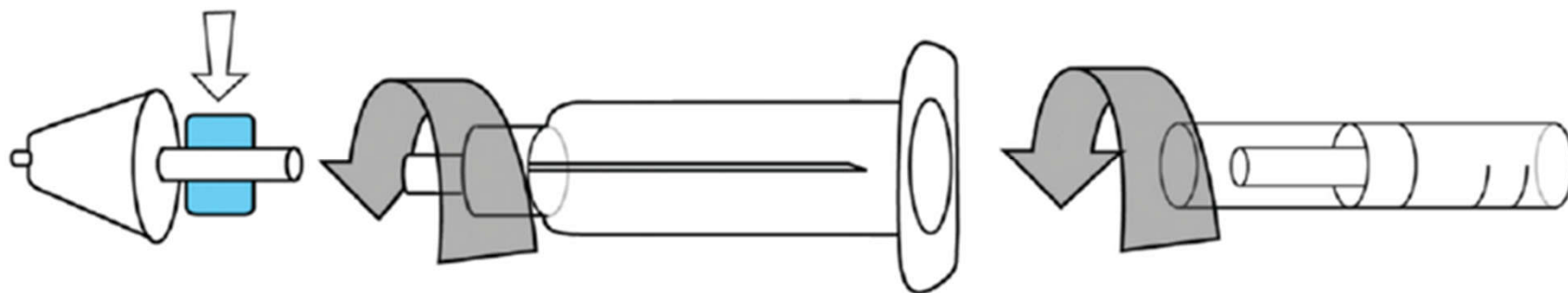
Grip plastic wings and twist.



HOW TO ASSEMBLE NALOXONE MAD DEVICE

STEP 4:

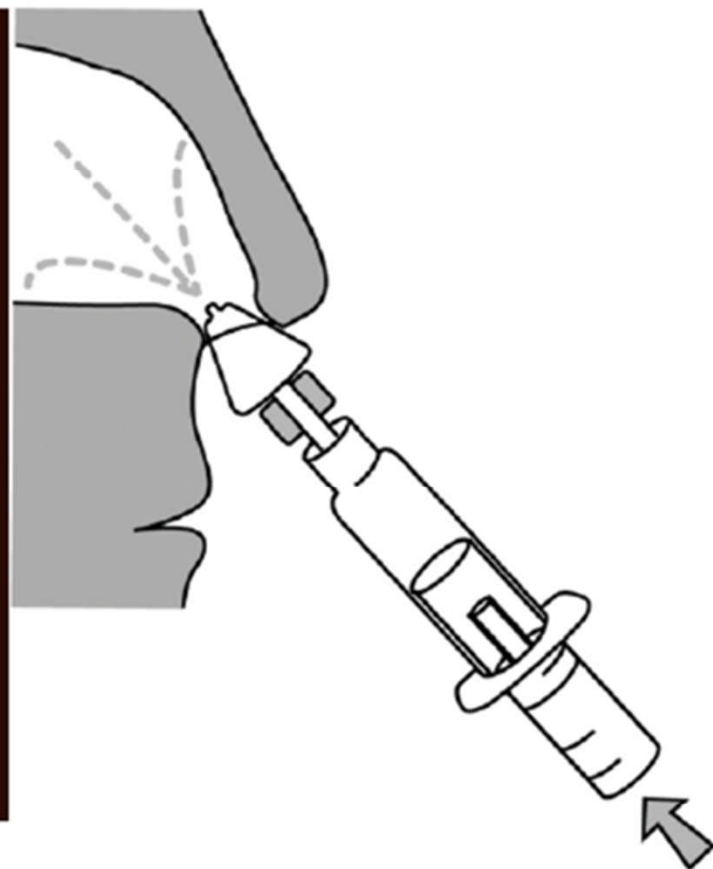
Gently screw capsule of naloxone into barrel of tube.



HOW TO ADMINISTER NALOXONE MAD DEVICE

STEP 5:

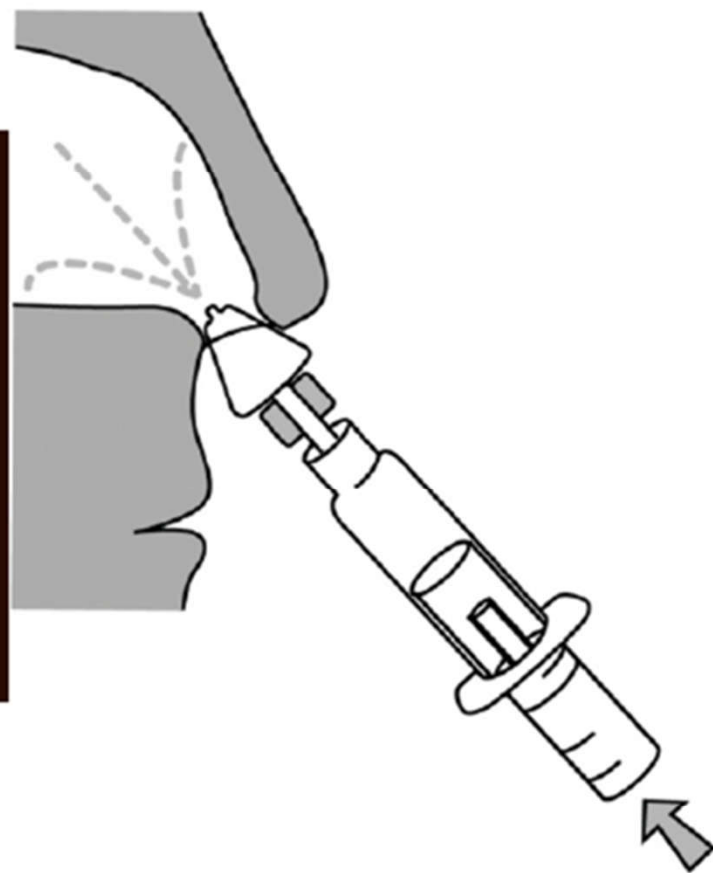
Insert white cone into nostril; give a short, vigorous push on end of capsule to spray naloxone into nose: one half of the capsule into each nostril.



HOW TO ADMINISTER NALOXONE MAD DEVICE

STEP 6:

If no reaction in 3 minutes, give the second dose.



Any other options?

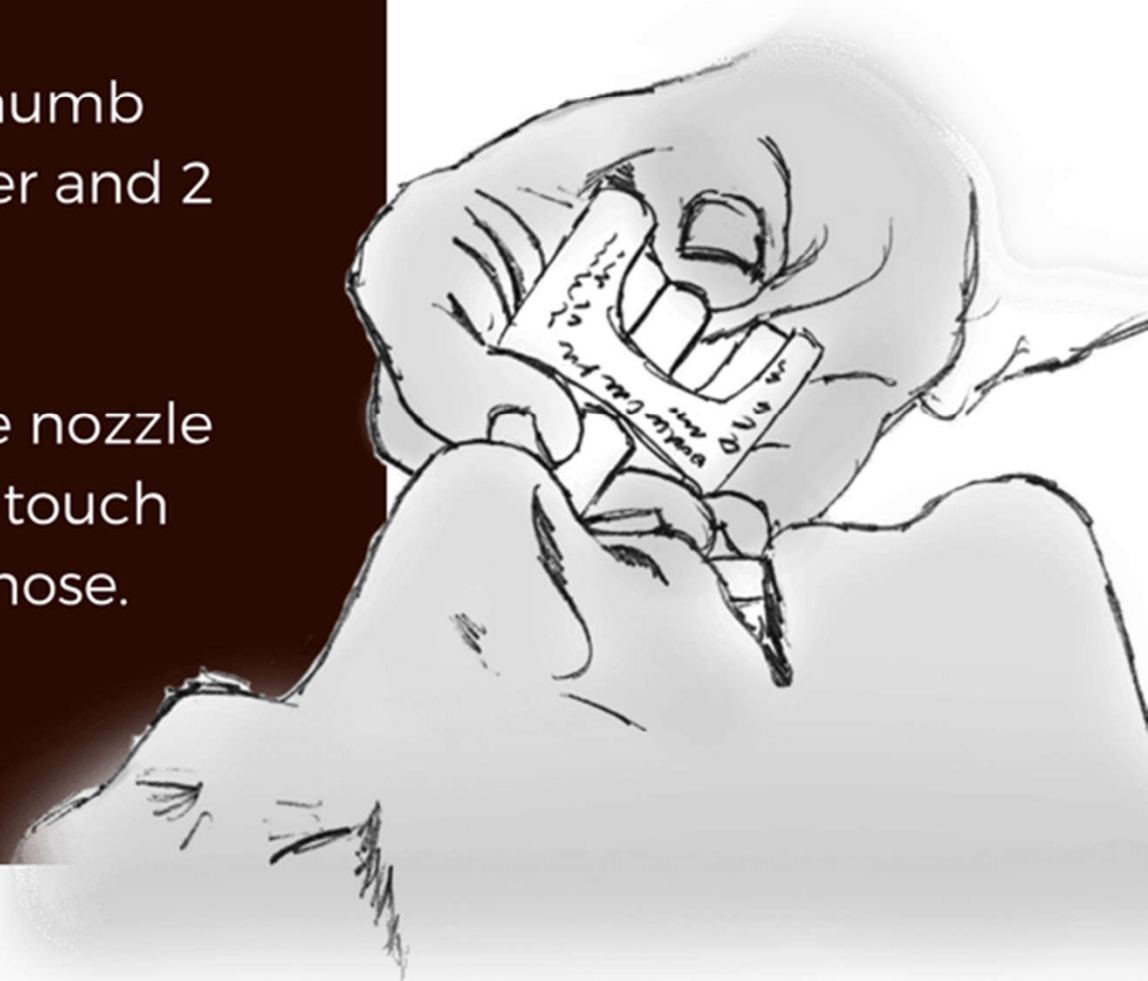


HOW TO ADMINISTER NARCAN[®]

STEP 1: PLACE

Hold the device with your thumb on the bottom of the plunger and 2 fingers on the nozzle.

Place and hold the tip of the nozzle in a nostril until your fingers touch the bottom of the patient's nose.



HOW TO ADMINISTER NARCAN[®]

STEP 2: PRESS

Press the plunger firmly to release the dose into the patient's nose.



HOW TO ADMINISTER NARCAN[®]

STEP 3: WAIT AND SEE

If breathing does not return to normal or if breathing difficulty resumes, after 2-3 minutes, give an additional dose of NARCAN[®] Nasal Spray using a new device in the alternate nostril.





WHITE HOUSE COMMISSION ON COMBATING DRUG ADDICTION AND THE OPIOID CRISIS

"We have an enormous problem that is often not beginning on street corners; it is starting in doctor's offices and hospitals in every state in our nation"