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We will get started shortly!







Opioid Use Disorder Management in Nursing Facilities

September 28, 2023



## **Today's Event Host**

#### Nikki Harris, MA, CBHC-BS

#### **COE-NF TRAINING AND EDUCATION LEAD**

- For the past 20 years, Nikki has provided program implementation, development, management, external and internal trainings, policy development, quality assurance, and managed training coordination and technical support throughout the southeast region.
- Previously, she served as the program manager for the Division of Behavioral Health and Substance Use Services within the South Carolina Department of Corrections.
- She has a B.A. in psychology from the University of South Carolina, a M.A. in counseling from Webster University and is a certified behavioral specialist.



## **Today's Presenter**

#### Jenn Azen, MD, MPH

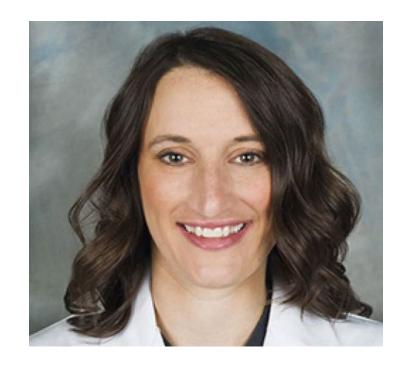
CLINICAL ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON SCHOOL OF MEDICINE, DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE, DIVISION OF GENERAL INTERNAL MEDICINE
ATTENDING PHYSICIAN, UW MEDICINE POST-ACUTE CARE SERVICE
MEDICAL DIRECTOR, UW MEDICAL CENTER ADDICTION MEDICINE CONSULT SERVICE
PRIMARY CARE PHYSICIAN AND PHYSICIAN EDUCATOR, UW MEDICINE PRIMARY CARE CLINICS

Jenn Azen is a general internist who has practiced in the primary care and post-acute care setting. Her primary care practice is focused on medically complex and geriatric patients. She provides in-home visits to medically fragile patients in private homes, adult family homes, and assisted living.

She currently works in post-acute care with Harborview Medical Center's Bed Readiness Program where she cares for patients with social complexity including substance use disorder. The Bed Readiness Program is designed to improve bed capacity within the hospital by partnering with local skilled nursing facilities.

She previously managed the UW Medical Center Post-Acute Care Consult Service and is now the medical director of the UW Medical Center Addiction Medicine Consult Service.

During her career, she has focused on removing silos within the healthcare system and better integrating care so patients can gain access to care that best meets their needs. She believes post-acute and long-term care is vital to our health care system and believes innovation will improve patient and staff experience.



### **Financial Disclosures**

#### **CVS stockholder:**

My husband is a home infusion pharmacist with CVS and participates in the employee stock plan.





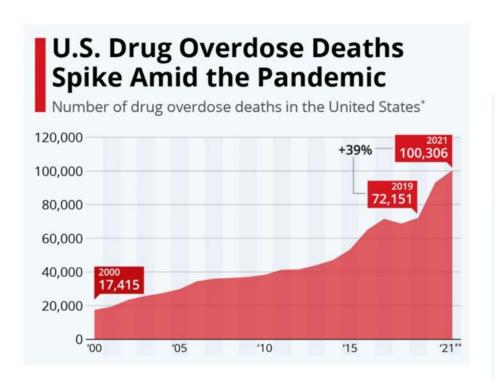
## **Learning Objectives**

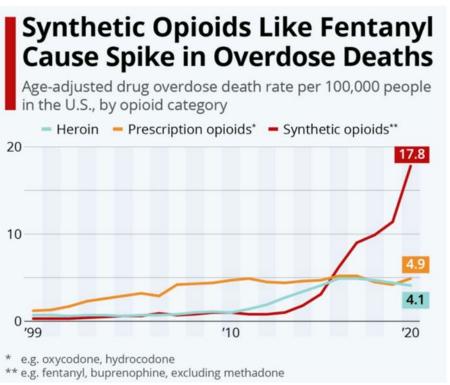


- Review Epidemiology of Opioid Use Disorder (OUD)
- Review Diagnostic Criteria of OUD
- Review Medications for OUD and how they work
- Logistics for Buprenorphine
- Logistics for Methadone
- Logistics for Naltrexone
- Behavioral Treatment for OUD
- Testing for Opioid Use Disorder



## Epidemiology of Substance Use and Opioid Use Disorder

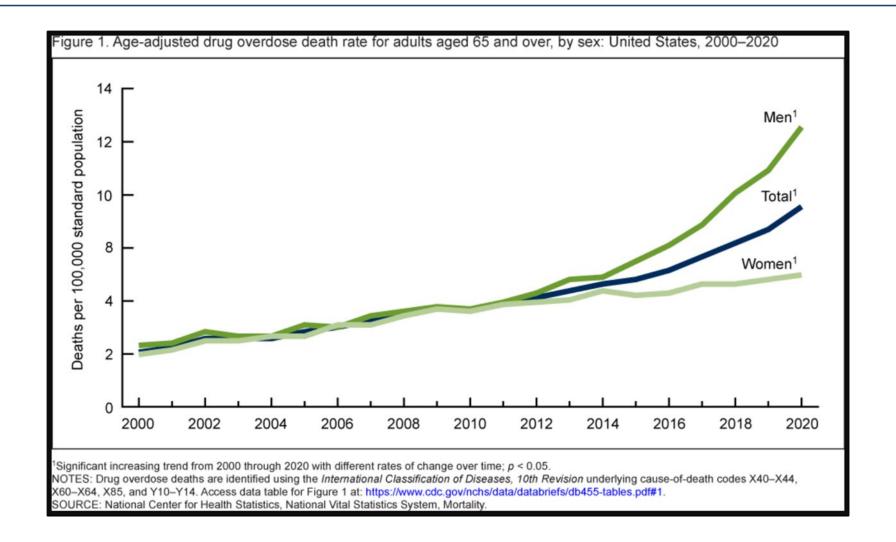




Source: CDC.gov (National Center for Health Statistics)

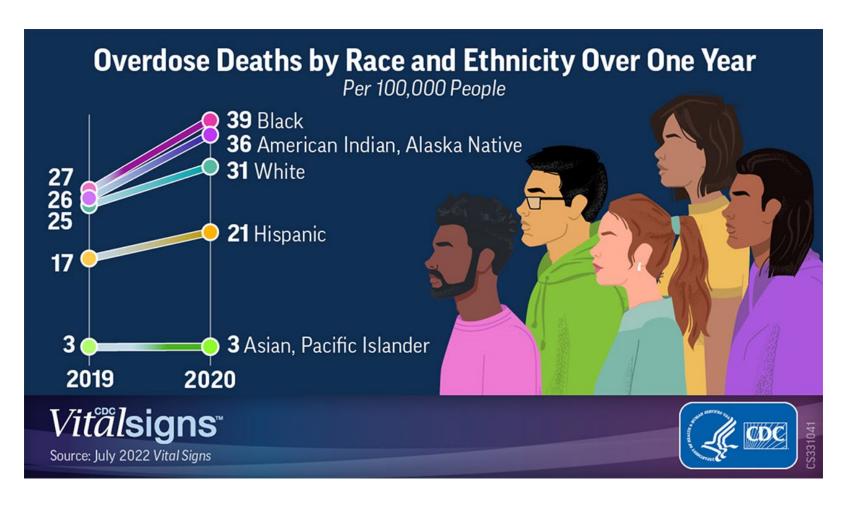


# **Epidemiology of Substance Use Disorder**





## Overdose Deaths by Race and Ethnicity



Black and White Americans have similar rates of drug use

Black Americans are 77% less likely to be prescribed buprenorphine.



## The Gap Between OUD Prevalence and OUD Treatment

87% of people with an opioid use disorder (OUD)living in the United States do not receive treatment



## Opioid Use, Opioid Dependence and Opioid Use Disorder

Loss of Control	Social Impairments	Health Impairments	Pharmacology	
Use of substances in increased amounts or for longer than intended	Interference of substance use with social obligations	Continued use in physically hazardous situations (driving)	Need to increase use to achieve same effect (tolerance)	
Persistent wish or unsuccessful attempt to cut down or control substance use	Continued use despite interpersonal or social problems (legal, loss of relationships)	Continued use despite psychologic or physical problems	Withdrawal of substances	
Excessive time spent to obtain, use, or recover from substances	Elimination or reduction of important activities due to substances			
Strong desire or urge to use substances				
SEVERITY	<b>MILD:</b> 2-3 components	<b>MODERATE:</b> 4-5 components	<b>SEVERE:</b> 6+ components	

When residents are on chronic opioids and taking as prescribed, pharmacology category does not count toward opioid use disorder.



## **Using Correct Diagnosis Codes**

#### Opioid Use Disorder

- o Mild, moderate, severe
- o Dependence or currently active, early remission, sustained remission

#### Opioid Dependence

o Use when there is signs of withdrawal, but no other categories of use disorder

#### Chronic Pain Syndrome

Best to describe location of chronic pain

#### Opioid Use

- If taking opioids but no dependence or use disorder
- Avoid Opioid Abuse or any ICD codes that use "Abuse"



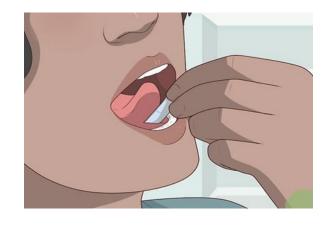
# Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) Treatment

#### 3 FDA Approved Medications for Opioid Use Disorder



Methadone

Must dispensed only with an opioid treatment program



Buprenorphine

Available in multiple
formulations
Any DEA licensed provider
can prescribe
Any pharmacy can dispense



IM Naltrexone

Any provider can order
Any pharmacy can dispense
Nursing needs training to
administer



#### **Effectiveness of OUD Treatment**

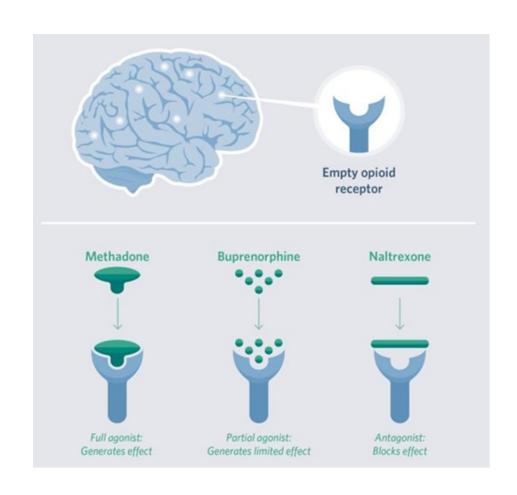
#### **Number Needed to Treat**

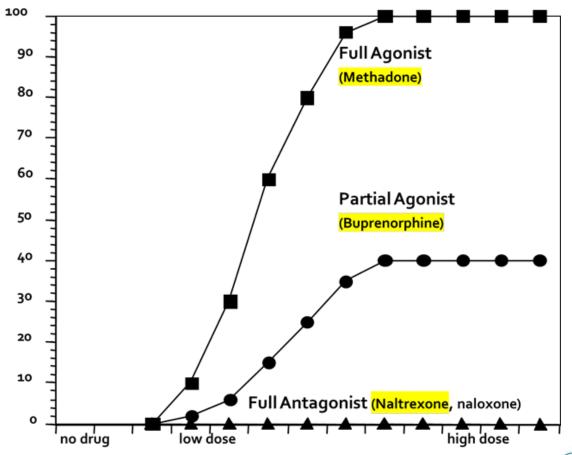
To prevent one death per person per year

- Buprenorphine: 3
- Methadone: 2
- Aspirin with history of heart attack: 42



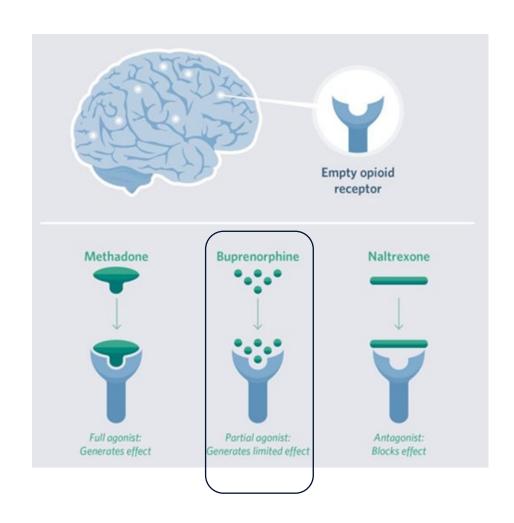
## OUD Medications and the mu Opioid Receptors

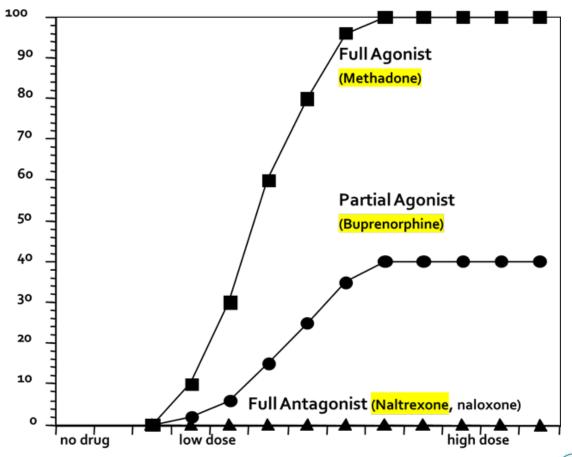






## **OUD Medications: Buprenorphine**







# **Buprenorphine Formulations Approved for OUD**







Generic name	Buprenorphine/naloxone SL tablets		Buprenorphine/ naloxone SL films	Buprenorphine/ naloxone buccal films	Buprenorphine SL tablets	Buprenorphine ER subQ injection
Brand name	Suboxone®	*Zubsolv™	Suboxone®	*Bunavail™	Subutex®	*Sublocade®
Strengths	<ul><li>2mg/0.5mg</li><li>8mg/2mg</li></ul>	<ul> <li>0.7mg/0.18mg</li> <li>1.4mg/0.36mg</li> <li>2.9mg/0.71mg</li> <li>5.7mg/1.4mg</li> <li>8.6mg/2.1mg</li> <li>11.4mg/2.9mg</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>2mg/0.5mg</li> <li>4mg/1mg</li> <li>8mg/2mg</li> <li>12mg/3mg</li> </ul>	<ul><li>2.1mg/0.3mg</li><li>4.2mg/0.7mg</li><li>6.3mg/1mg</li></ul>	• 2mg • 8mg	<ul> <li>100mg/0.5mL</li> <li>300mg/0.5mL</li> <li>(q4 week subQ injection)</li> </ul>



## **Nursing Considerations for Buprenorphine**

- Buprenorphine is best absorbed under the tongue
- Films and tabs are available, but tabs most common due to cost
- If swallowed, buprenorphine absorption is reduced, and naltrexone is absorbed (withdrawal)
- Give after all other pills
- Rinse 30 minutes after administered to reduce tooth decay

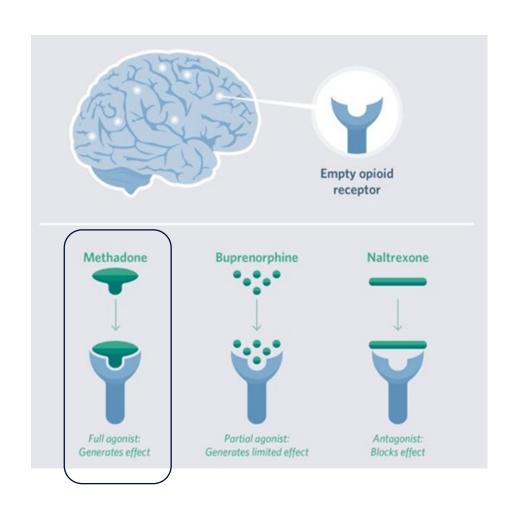


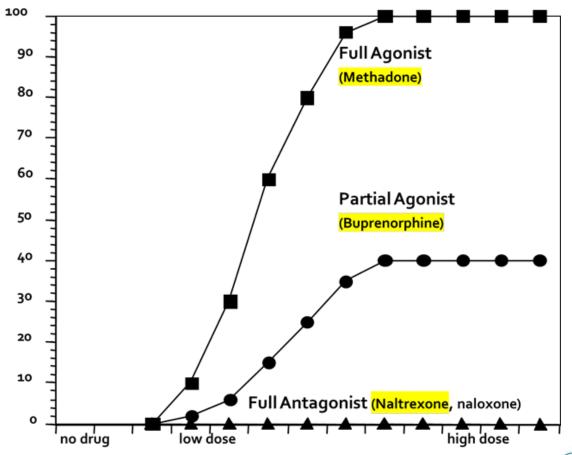
## Other Considerations with Buprenorphine

- Sublocade (IM, long-acting formulation) requires nurse training and needs a REMS pharmacy.
- Full mu agonists can be co-prescribed for acute pain, but sometimes need to be given at higher doses and hydromorphone works best
- Constipation is a significant side effect
- If residents refuse multiple doses, there is risk they may be preparing to use or have recently used
  - Contact provider
  - Consider urine testing



### **OUD Medications: Methadone**





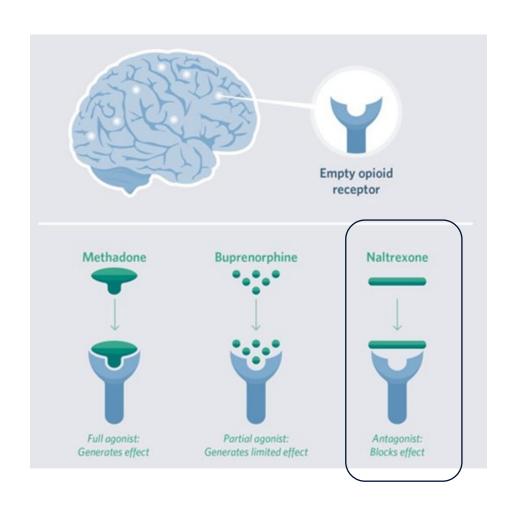


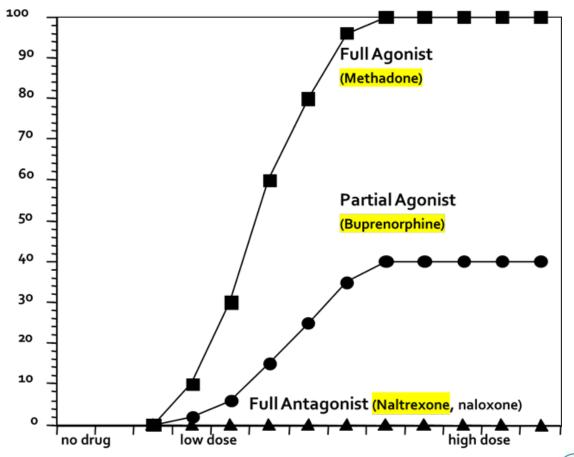
#### **Methadone for OUD**

- Must be dispensed by an Opioid Treatment Program (Methadone Clinic) if used for Opioid Use Disorder
- Always dispensed in liquid formulation
- Partnering with a local Opioid Treatment Program IS possible and methadone can be given to residents in skilled nursing for OUD
- Chain of Custody Documentation is needed for methodone delivery
- Additional Documentation is needed for administration records
- Reported cravings/concerns must be communicated with clinic



### **OUD Medications: Naltrexone**







#### **Naltrexone for OUD**

- IM formulation recommended for OUD
- If unable to obtain, oral naltrexone can be used (50mg daily)
- Often obtained from specialty pharmacy
- Nursing may need training to administer
- Given every 30 days
- Must be held in anticipation of procedures
- Opioids are not effective



#### **Behavioral Treatments for OUD**

- Medication is the foundation of treatment
- Inpatient treatment mostly continues medication assisted treatment (MAT)
- Sober Living may be an option at discharge for some residents
- Mutual Support
  - o Narcotics Anonymous is available online and groups can be formed in facility
  - SMART Recovery is available online



# **Substance Use Testing**

• Urine is best

- Not all urine tests are equal
- Buprenorphine not always standard
- Opiate assays don't always detect opioids (oxycodone, fentanyl)
- Methadone is often tested separately



## Managing Opioid Use Disorder

- Treatment is life-saving
- "Weaning off treatment" puts residents at higher risk of overdose, encourage residents to wean after they have fully stabilized (this often takes years)
- Always coordinate continuation of OUD treatment at discharge
- Always discharge with Narcan
- Opioid treatment should be continued in perioperative state
- When assessing for effectiveness, ask about withdrawal and cravings, not pain



#### Conclusions

- Treatment of OUD is effective and saves lives
- Correctly documenting the diagnosis is important in determining what treatments can be used
- Assessing OUD is different than pain
- Barriers to buprenorphine in nursing are now gone
- Barriers to methadone in skilled nursing still exists but can be navigated.





## Please complete the post-test and evaluation survey.

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#### Contact us:

For more information or to request assistance, we can be reached by phone at

1-844-314-1433 or by email at <a href="mailto:coeinfo@allianthealth.org">coeinfo@allianthealth.org</a>.

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### **Thank You!**









