

# SUMHI Action Update

Optimizing care of patients with substance use  
within the Dartmouth Hitchcock Health System

9-14-20

*We envision a healthcare system where mental health & substance use disorders are treated with the same urgency, respect and seriousness of purpose as other illnesses and where discrimination does not occur.*

# Welcome

*Sally Kraft MD, MPH; V.P. for Population Health D-HH  
Will Torrey, MD; Interim Chair, Dept of Psychiatry*

Leaders, D-HH Substance Use & Mental Health Initiative (SUMHI)

# SUMHI Action Update - Goals

- Provide updates on work in the D-HH system aimed at improving care of persons with SUDs and MH issues
- Identify opportunities to engage within D-HH and with other communities and improve our work
- Meet the needs of people with SUDs and MH challenges

# Session Requests & Info

- Please CHAT message us now with your name, department or organization & email
- Mute, unmute to speak
- Slides will be posted at SUMHI website, will send link
- Presentations will be 7-8 min. 2-3 min questions.
- Submit questions/comments by chat. Or raise hand. Will ask you to unmute and ask/comment. And 20 minutes at the end.

# Continuing Education Credits

Activity Code For This Session Only  
C7bH

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603-346-4334

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Signing in on-line? <http://www.d-h.org/clpd-account>

**RSS: Substance Use & Mental Health Initiative**

**Session Date:** September 14, 2020

**Topic:** DH SUMHI Opioid/SUD Action Update

**Session Speakers:** Seddon Savage, Will Torrey, Charlie

Brackett, Angie Raymond Leduc, Maureen Gardella, Dave Segal, Colleen Kershaw

**Learning Outcome Statement:**

Participants will be able to identify and implement clinical strategies to better evaluate and address substance use and mental health disorders throughout the health system.

**Conflict of Interest**

**The RSS Physician Director(s), planning committee member(s), speaker(s), author(s) or anyone in a position to control the content for Substance Use & Mental Health Initiative have reported NO financial interest or relationship\* which could be perceived as a real or apparent conflict of interest. There were no individuals in a position to control the content that refused to disclose.**

In accordance with the disclosure policy of Dartmouth-Hitchcock/Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth as well as standards set forth by the Accreditation Council on Continuing Medical Education and the Nursing Continuing Education Council standards set forth by the American Nurses Credentialing Center Commission on Accreditation, continuing medical education and nursing education activity director(s), planning committee member(s), speaker(s), author(s) or anyone in a position to control the content have been asked to disclose any financial relationship\* they have to a commercial interest (any entity producing, marketing, re-selling, or distributing health care goods or services consumed by, or used on patients). Such disclosure is not intended to suggest or condone bias in any presentation, but is elicited to provide participants with information that might be of potential importance to their evaluation of a given activity.

Dartmouth-Hitchcock is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

Dartmouth-Hitchcock designates this live activity for a maximum of *1.5 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)*<sup>™</sup>. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

DHH Substance Use & Mental Health Initiative (SUMHI) Action Update  
*Program*

5:00-5:05	Welcome	<i>Sally Kraft &amp; Will Torrey</i>
5:05-5:15	<b>Impact of COVID on SUD in NH – Survey results</b>	<i>Seddon Savage, facilitator</i>
5:15-5:25	<b>DHH Therapeutic Cannabis Guidelines</b>	<i>Will Torrey</i>
5:25-5:35	<b>Toolkit for Managing OUD in Inpt &amp; ED Hospital Settings</b>	<i>Charlie Brackett</i>
5:35-5:45	<b>D-H Suicide Prevention Initiative</b>	<i>Angie Raymond Leduc Maureen Gardella</i>
5:45-5:55	<b>D-H Keene Drug Court program</b>	<i>Andy Tremblay</i>
5:55-6:05	<b>Outpatient IV Antibiotic Tx in Patients with OUD</b>	<i>Colleen Kershaw</i>
6:05-6:10	<b>Brief Note-other DHH Substance &amp; Mental Health Projects</b>	
6:10-6:30	Discussion	<i>Participants &amp; Presenters</i>

# Impact of COVID-19 on Substance Use and Mental Health in NH *Survey*

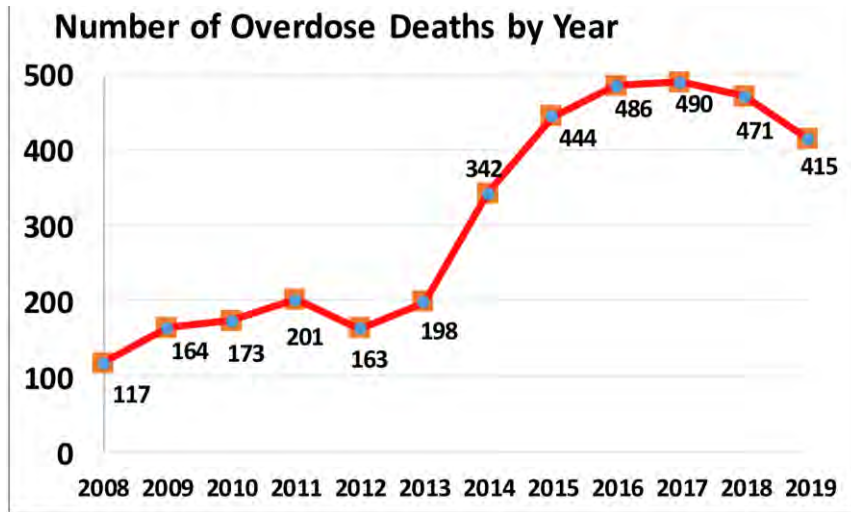
Seddon Savage

*Advisor, Dartmouth Hitchcock Substance Use and Mental Health Initiative*

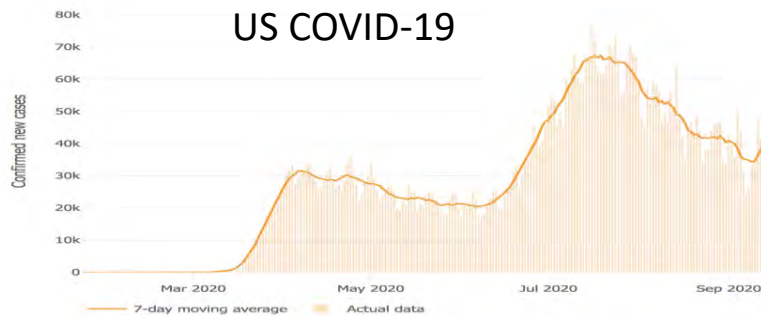
*Adjunct Associate Professor, Department of Anesthesiology, Geisel School of Medicine*

# Overdose Epidemic & COVID-19 Pandemic

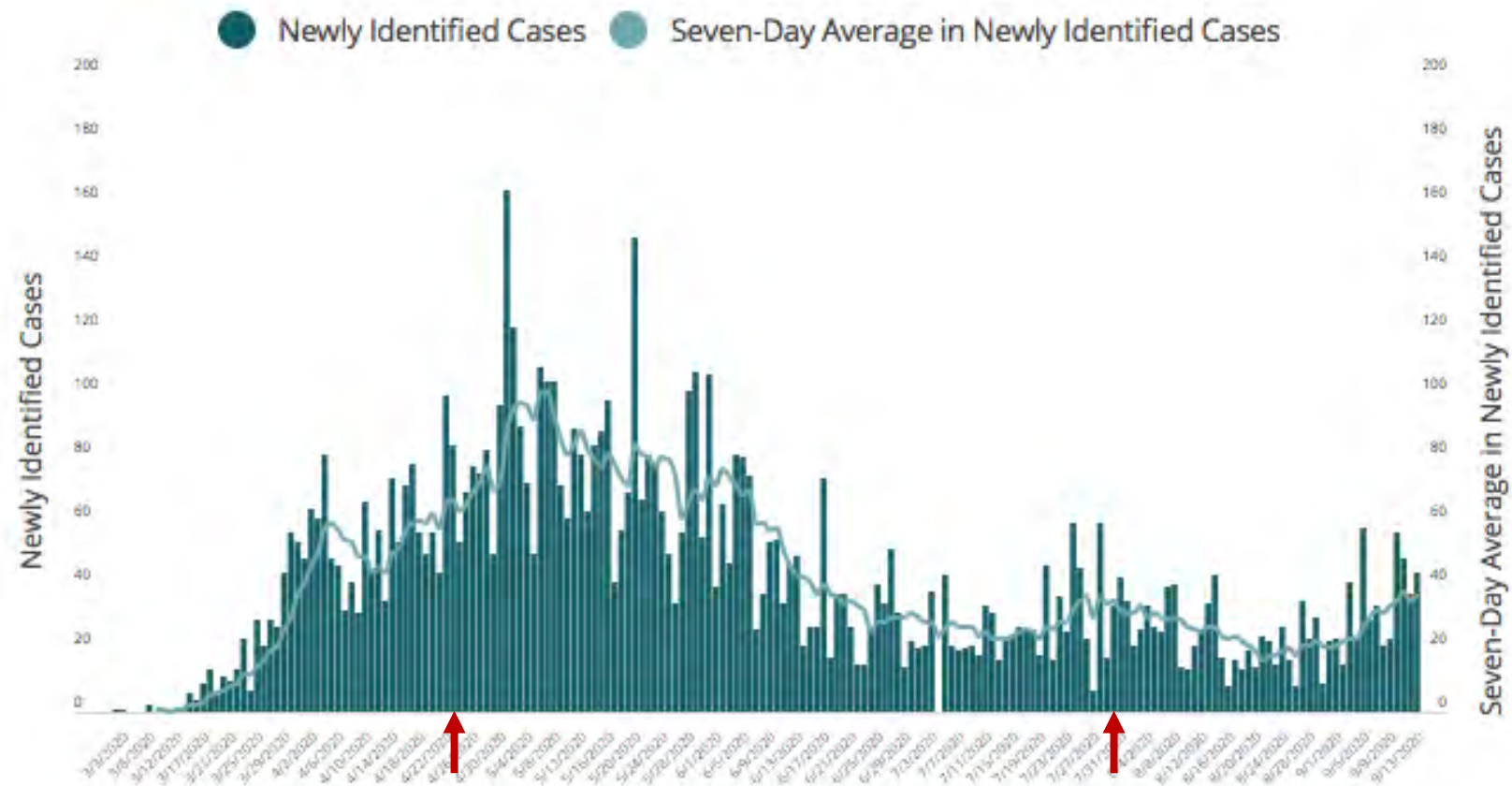
New Hampshire



Office of the NH Medical Examiner, 8-18-20



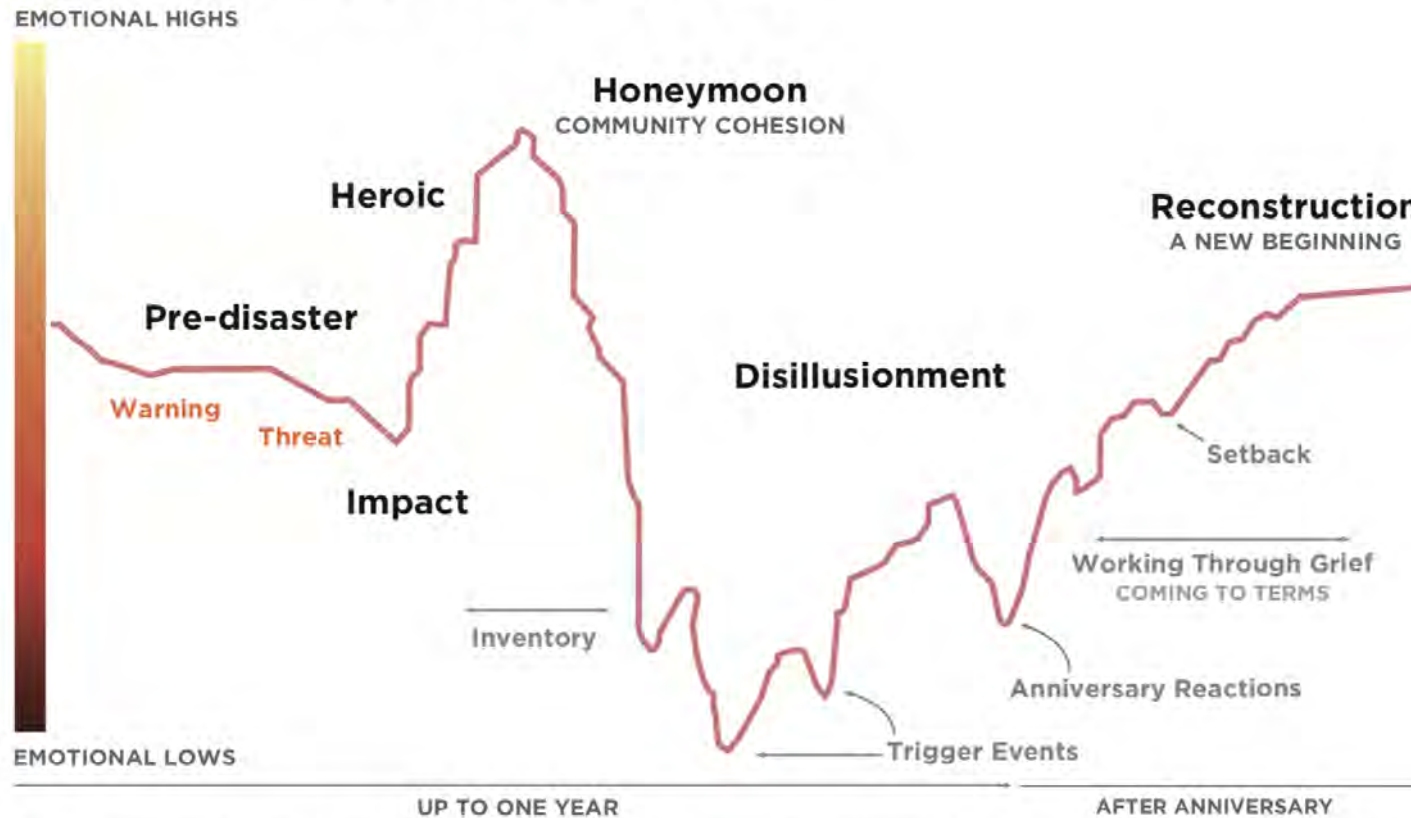
## COVID-19 in New Hampshire





# COVID 19 – Potential Timeline of Psychological Impact

## Phases of Disaster



Source: Zunin/Meyers, as cited in Training Manual for Mental Health and Human Service Workers in Major Disasters, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (2000).

# Survey - COVID 19 & Substance Use in NH

- **Objectives-** gather diverse observations regarding
  - Changes in substance use and treatment patterns since COVID
  - Engagement of people who use drugs in COVID safety practices
- **Goal-** To inform clinical and public health responses
- **Methods**

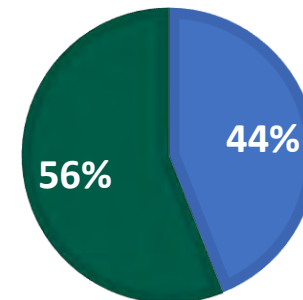
<i>Round</i>	<i>End of April</i>	<i>End of July</i>
Fixed-response questions	13	18
Open ended responses	3	2
Groups circulated	11 req, ? sent	16 requested, 9 sent
Forward?	Requested	Not requested
Recipients	Uncertain	5830 (w/o EMS 1285)
Responses	339	261
Response rate	Unknown	4.28% (w/o EMS 14.7%)

## July- Observer Perspective/Role

Category	N	N
<b>Healthcare</b>		<b>125</b>
Addiction or mental health treatment	88	
Healthcare provider or staff (not SUD-MH)	37	
<b>First Responders</b>		<b>61</b>
Emergency medical service (EMS)	59	
Law enforcement	2	
<b>Legal, policy, justice systems</b>		<b>17</b>
Legislative, policy, advocacy	3	
Corrections system	12	
Judicial system	2	
<b>Community based perspectives</b>		<b>47</b>
Harm reduction, syringe service or similar	2	
Person with drug use (PDU) or family/friend	2	
Recovery support system	20	
Community-based prevention or intervention	23	
Other	10	<b>10</b>
<b>Total Observer Role Responses:</b>		<b>260</b>

## July- Location of Observation

NH County	% of response	# responses	Rural Urban Continuum Codes (RUCC)	
Belknap	5%	11	Non-Metro	4
Carroll	2%	4	Non-Metro	6
Cheshire	11%	24	Non-Metro	4
Coos	3%	6	Non-Metro	7
Grafton	18%	38	Non-Metro	5
Hillsborough	24%	50	Metro	2
Merrimack	9%	19	Non-Metro	4
Rockingham	9%	20	Metro	1
Strafford	6%	13	Metro	1
Sullivan	3%	7	Non-Metro	7
Statewide	9%	20		
	<b>100%</b>	<b>212</b>		

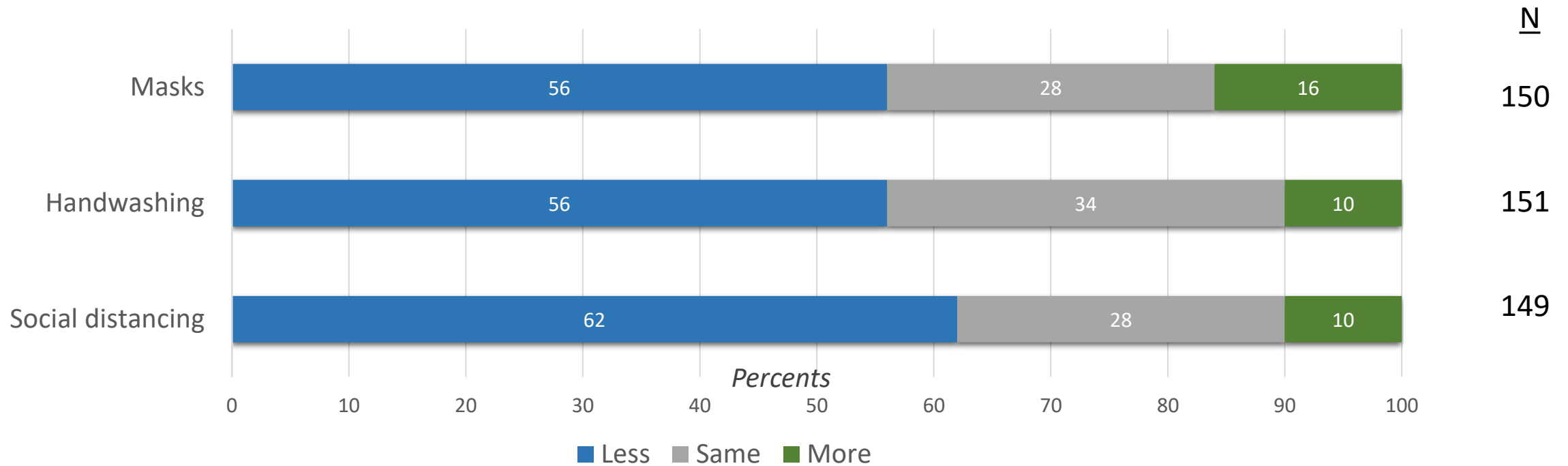


■ Metro  
■ Non-Metro



# Observations

Extent to which people with SUDs in NH able to engage in the following recommended COVID-19 safety practices compared with people without substance use



# Comments – COVID-19 Safety

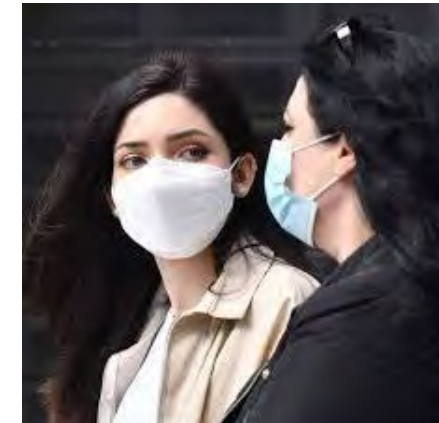


“Many pt’s jobs don’t allow them to socially distance.”

“Treatment facilities, jails, shelters, make social distancing impossible/increase likelihood of transmission”

“You can’t socially distance in a tent or a shelter, or at least it’s a lot more difficult.”

“Clients are...not socially distancing due to fear of over-dosing when using alone.”



“A lot of times their survival relies on sharing resources, unfortunately that’s not always sanitary. “

“ Regular makeshift source of hygiene (homeless café, restaurants, libraries, community centers) are all closed.

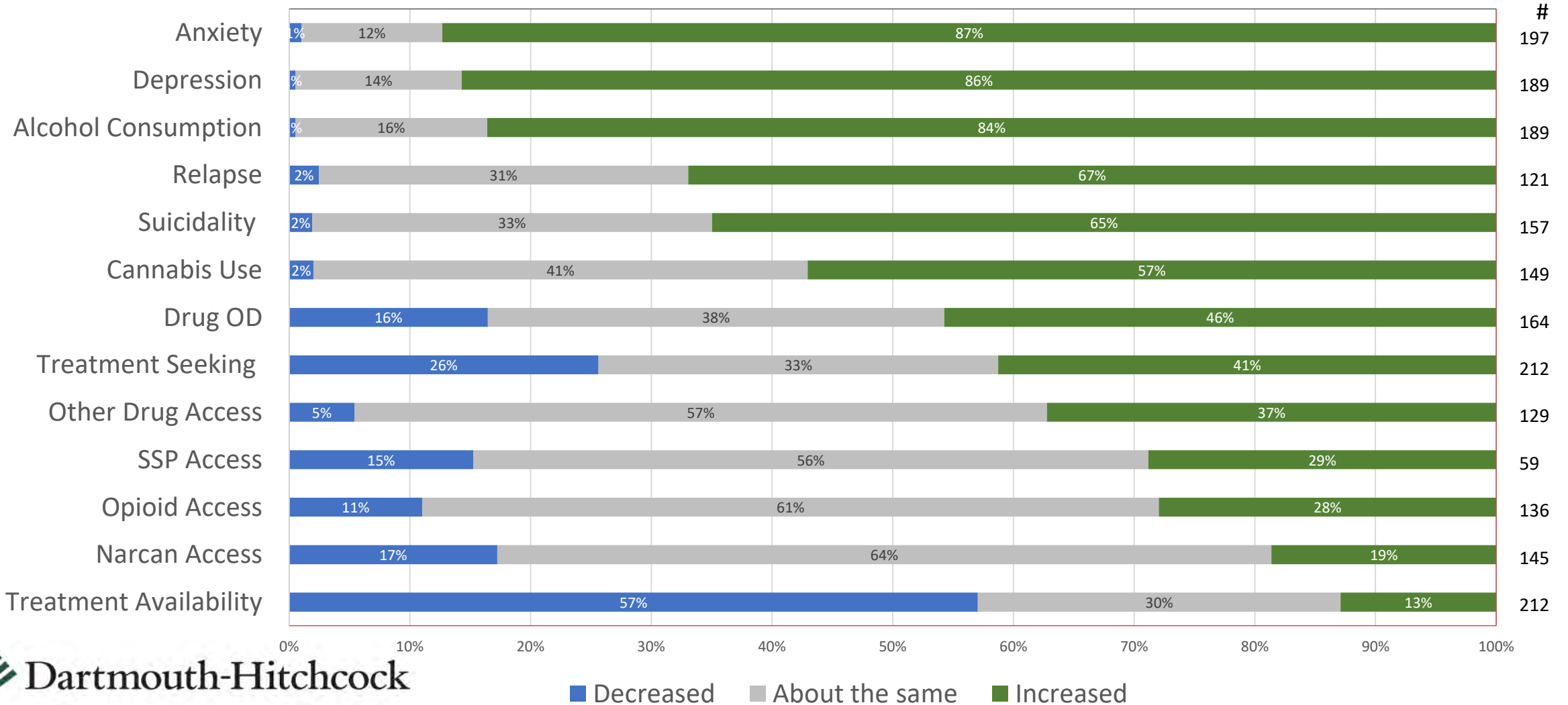
“...work has been done with shelters to improve PPE, hand washing supplies & social space since early April.

“I am struck by [patients] inability to tolerate the discomfort of a mask, difficult to use a mask if you have anxiety issues”

“Many are also loath to wear masks given high proportion of cigarette smokers/vapers”

# Observations

Changes in the following, if any, in your community since COVID 19 entered our communities.



# Comments- COVID-19 Changes

"Isolation is very difficult for patient with SUD; more cravings and more possibility to relapse.

We have had many relapses and several overdoses and a handful of deaths.

Many relapses of folks in both short term and long-term sobriety

"The level of hopelessness has skyrocketed."

Social isolation and increased anxiety...due to COVID has likely played a significant role in everyone's lives, but especially for those with underlying MH and SUD issues.

The lack of in person contact has increased relapse rates.

"the impact of social isolation is can be much higher in patients with mental health issues

Increases alcohol consumption, many not working which means less structured time.

Quarantining makes accessing needed treatment and recovery services for an already-marginalized population even more challenging"

"As the pandemic has dragged on, we are seeing more relapse in people with long term recovery, often starting with alcohol and cannabis."

Overwhelming need for step down services and/or shelter/programming availability to increase access to care for SUD patients.

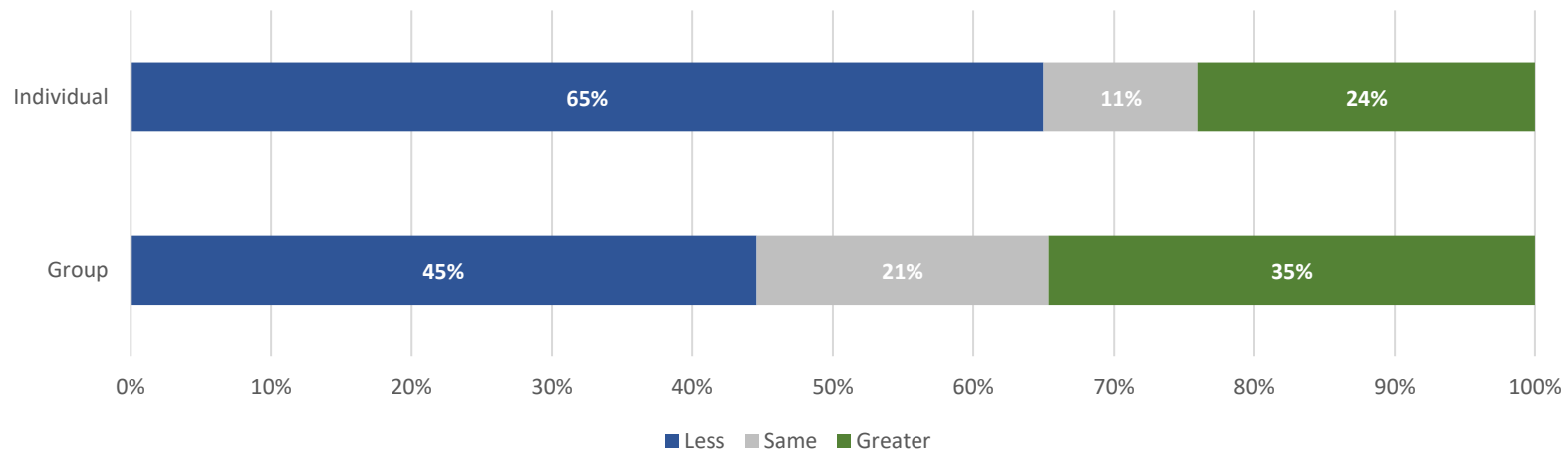
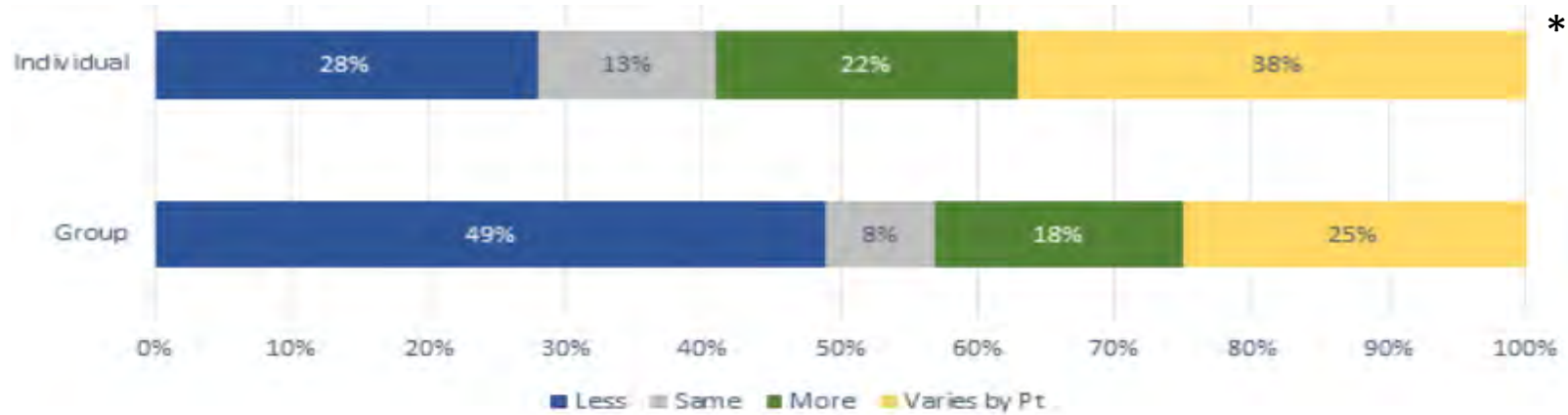
"We have noticed an incredible increase in cases of alcohol abuse.

it seems like many hospital-based healthcare providers I know report an increase in their drinking since March.

"biggest issue we are seeing is lack of access to mental health and substance abuse services which was already limited Pre-covid. "

# Observations

How telehealth has effected patient engagement in treatment and recovery compared with in person services?





# Telehealth – Mixed Experiences

“I have found that some clients seem **more willing to share** and talk about difficult topics on this [telehealth] venue, and **others find it hard to talk at all** due to the lack of human connection.”

It allows patients to be able to engage in treatment while **reducing barriers such as transportation, cost of gas, rides and childcare.**

Patients have reported feeling **more comfortable sharing** information because they are able to **be in their own safe spaces.**

It allowed **families to be more engaged in treatment** by including family physically in a session with patients or allowing for patients and families to be **in different places but connect** through the session.

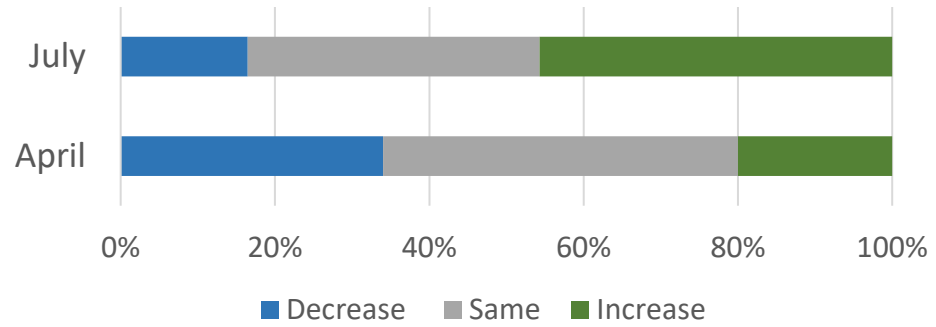
Persons tend to be **more engaged with in person treatment** including **resolving any social detriments** that interfere with recovery

**Access to technology** has become a greater **barrier** for accessing treatment and support services.

Telehealth does **remove the personal contact** I feel is necessary in observing S & S of active substance use.

“Many patients **do not have access to unlimited cell service.** Some don't have **video-capable phones** and most don't have **computers.**”

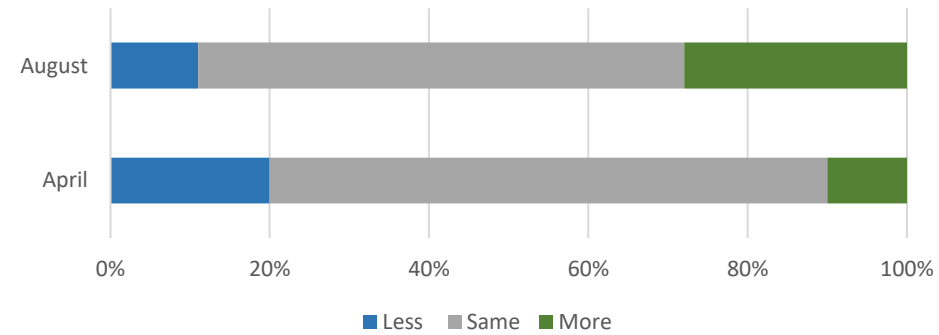
## Drug Overdoses



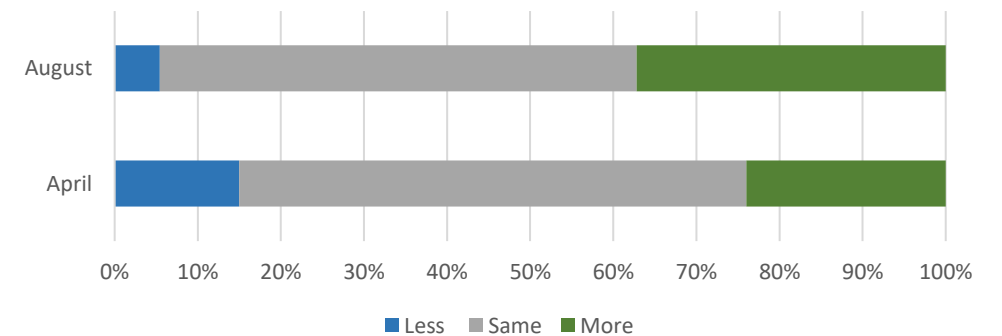
**\*Possible Variations April to July**

**\*Significance not yet assessed**

## Street Opioid Access

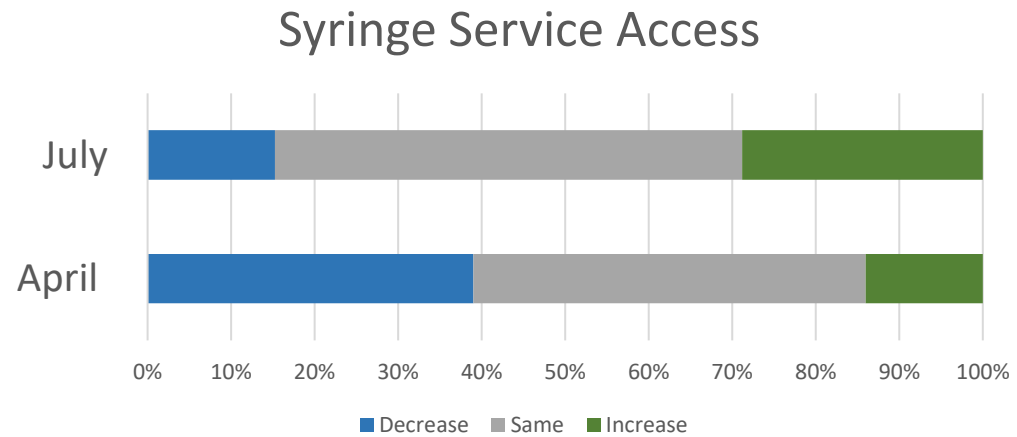
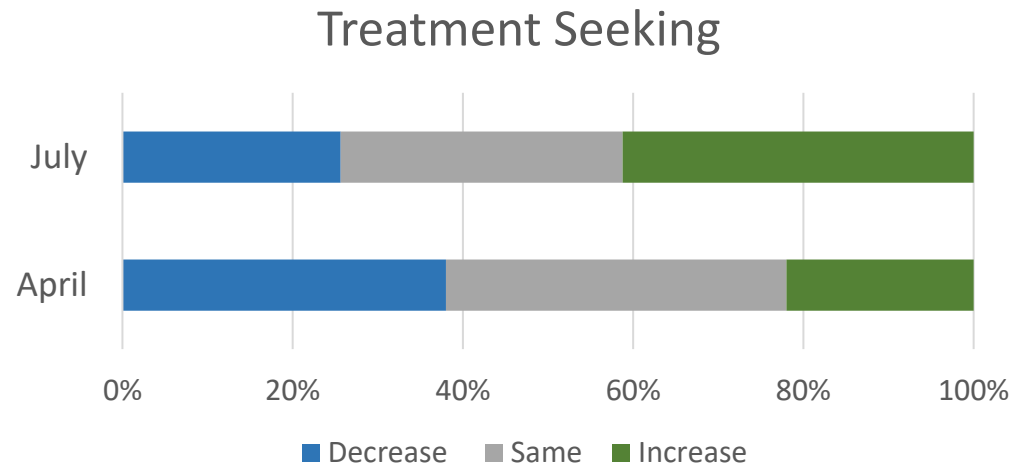


## Non-Opioid Street Drug Access



# \*Possible Variations April to July

\*Significance not yet assessed



# Key Observations

- Anxiety, depression, suicidal ideation are increased.
- Alcohol use is increased. Cannabis use may be.
- Relapses increasing.
- Drug overdoses may be increasing
- Treatment access is changing.
  - More difficult for some
  - Telehealth experiences are mixed.

# Next Steps

- Complete analysis of quantitative and qualitative data
- Correlate with hard data (OD, ER visits, drug seizures, etc)
- Prepare paper and presentations to disseminate information
- Evolve strategies to address

# Survey Team

Thank you.

Aurora Drew, Elizabeth Saunders, Chantal Lambert-Harris, Charlie Brackett, Luke Archibald, Sally Kraft, Laura Fineberg, Heather Carlos, Ariel Pike, Megan Colgan

# Cannabis Guidance

Will Torrey

September 12, 2020



# Guidance purpose

- provide Dartmouth-Hitchcock clinicians with an orientation to state-regulated cannabis use
- offer guidance to improve the care of their patients



# Workgroup and review group

## **Core workgroup**

- William Torrey MD (Project Lead, Psychiatry)
- Charles Brackett MD, MPH (Internal Medicine)
- Seddon Savage MD (Pain)
- Luke Archibald MD (Psychiatry, Addictions)
- Erik Shessler MD (Pediatrics)
- Richard Morse MD (Neurology/Pediatrics)
- Matt Wilson MD (Palliative Care/Oncology)
- Andrea Wolffing MD (Surgery, Ethics)
- Jonathan Thyng MD (Family Medicine)
- Alan Budney PhD (Addictions Research)

## **Administrative Review Workgroup**

- Kim Troland (Deputy General Counsel)
- Courtney Tanner (Government Relations)
- Matt Houde (Government Relations)
- Jennifer Gilkie (Communication & Marketing)
- Karen Borgstrom (Communication & Marketing)
- Staci Hermann PharmD MS (Pharmacy)
- Patty Spencer (Medical Staff Services)
- Karen Aframe (Director Employee Relations)
- Karen Chandler (Director QA & Safety)
- Melissa Clary (Risk Management)



# Products of the workgroup

- Cannabis Guidance Statement
- Brief guidance for clinicians being asked to certify for therapeutic use of cannabis
- Fact sheet for patients using cannabis to treat symptoms



# Cannabis guidance statement content

- Brief general orientation
- Brief introduction to the key constituents of cannabis and recommending specific blends
- D-H position on providers certifying patients as having a qualifying medical condition
- Information about the cannabis certifying process in New Hampshire and Vermont
- Brief summary of current knowledge of the risks of cannabis
- Brief summary of current knowledge of the benefits of cannabis, by qualifying condition
- Workgroup recommendations
- Citations



# NH and Vermont laws

- Have been created through a political process
- Have (different) lists of qualifying health conditions
- Allow access to cannabis for individuals who are certified by a physician, an APRN, or a PA as having one or more of the qualifying conditions
- Require that the certifying provider review the potential risks and benefits of cannabis with the patient before certification
- Require follow-up review
- Allow providers to choose whether or not they wish to participate in the certifying process
- Indicate that the role of providers is to certify health conditions, not “prescribe” cannabis.



# Ethical considerations

- Healthcare professionals are obligated to promote health (and avoid doing harm) and cannabis carries risk
- Thus, participating in the certification process requires more than making a determination of whether the individual has a legally qualifying condition; it also requires making a case by case determination of whether access to therapeutic cannabis is more likely to promote health than it is to do harm.
- Although physicians/ APRNs/PAs do not “prescribe” cannabis, in certifying a patient, they are taking an action in their role as agents of health that makes cannabis available to the patients and therefore implicitly supports its use.



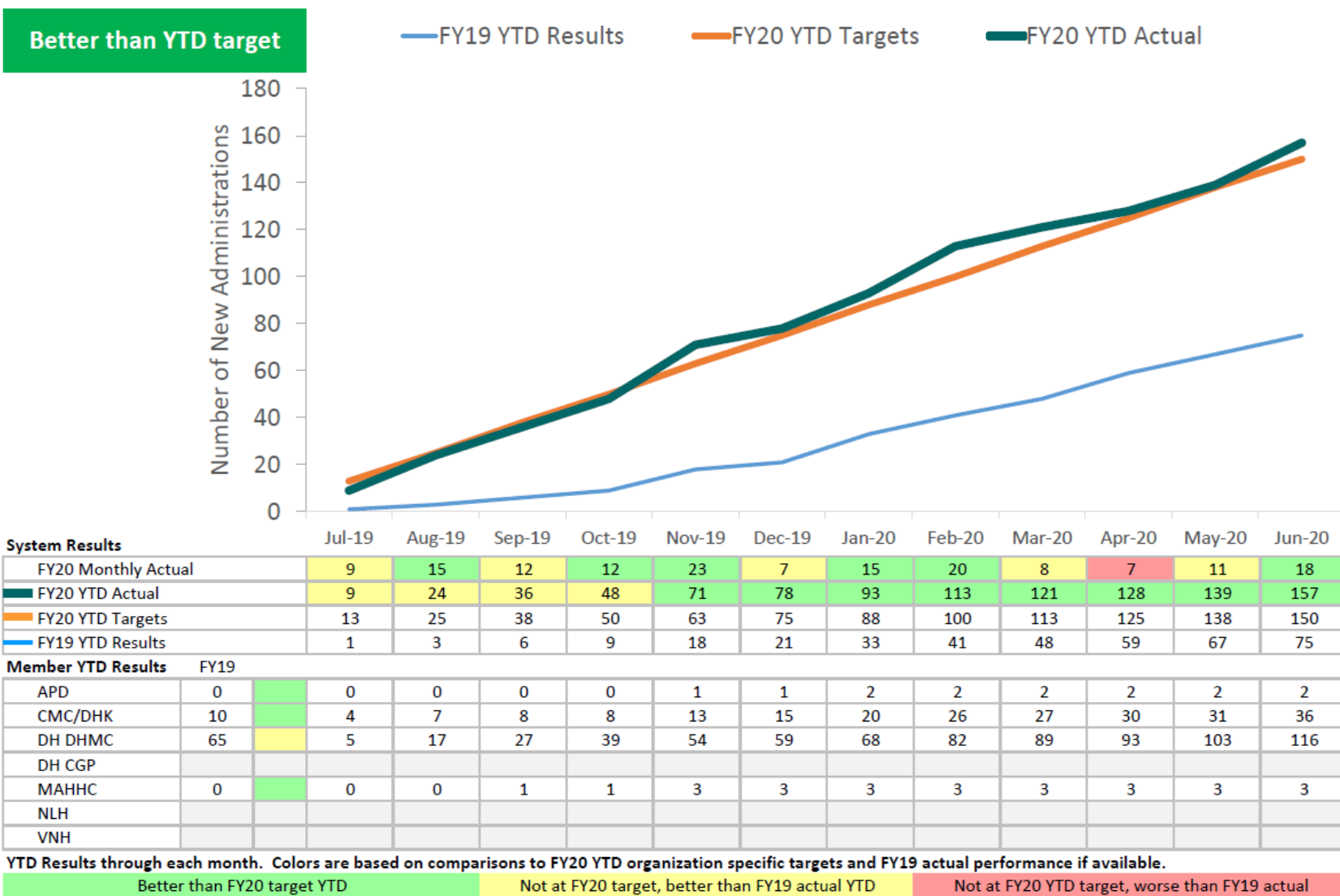
# Risk/benefit determinations challenging

- Cannabis is a plant with numerous biologically active constituents.
- Dispensaries offer a range of cannabis products including variable cannabis species and diverse extract products.
- Many of the health claims for cannabis are anecdotal and not based on scientific studies.
- Scientific evidence supporting the benefits of cannabis is very limited for most of the qualifying health conditions
- In addition to health risks, patients may suffer social risk from cannabis use.
- The overall evidence regarding risks and benefits is complicated and evolving

D-HH Bup Starts  
ED & Inpatient  
SUMHI Action Update  
September 14, 2020

# Increase # of Buprenorphine Starts in Inpatient and ED Locations

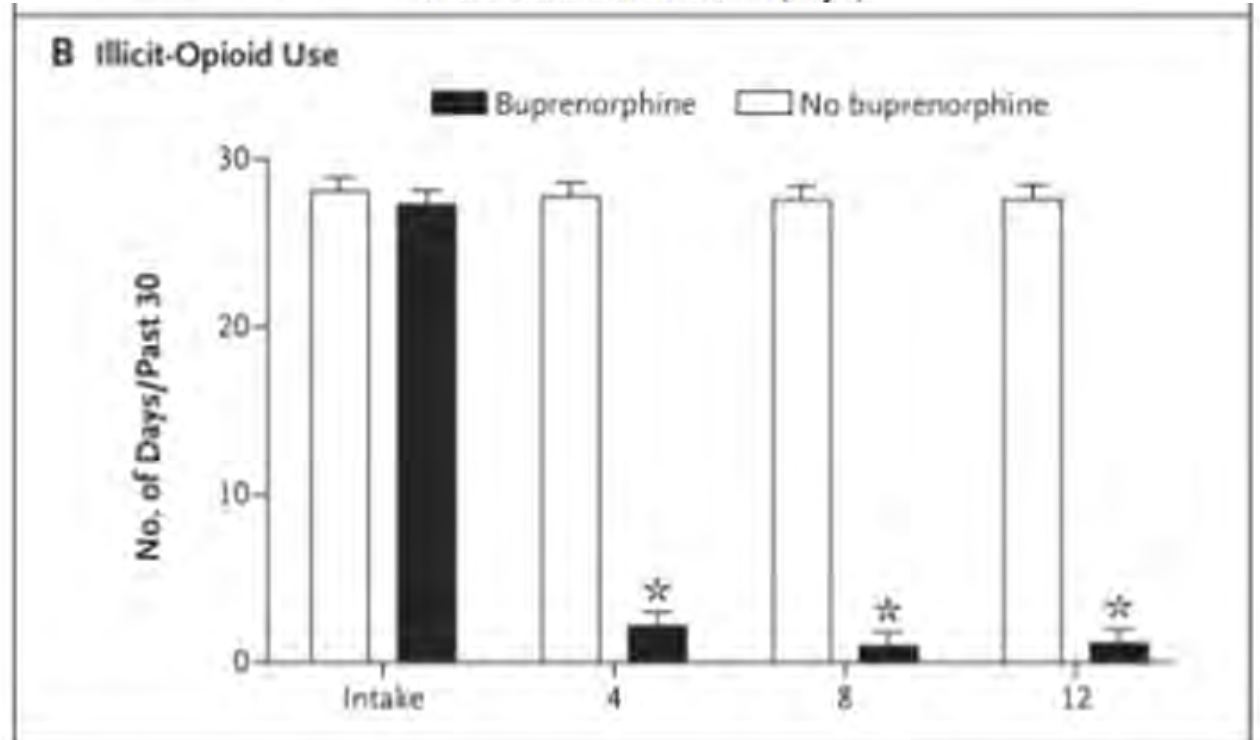
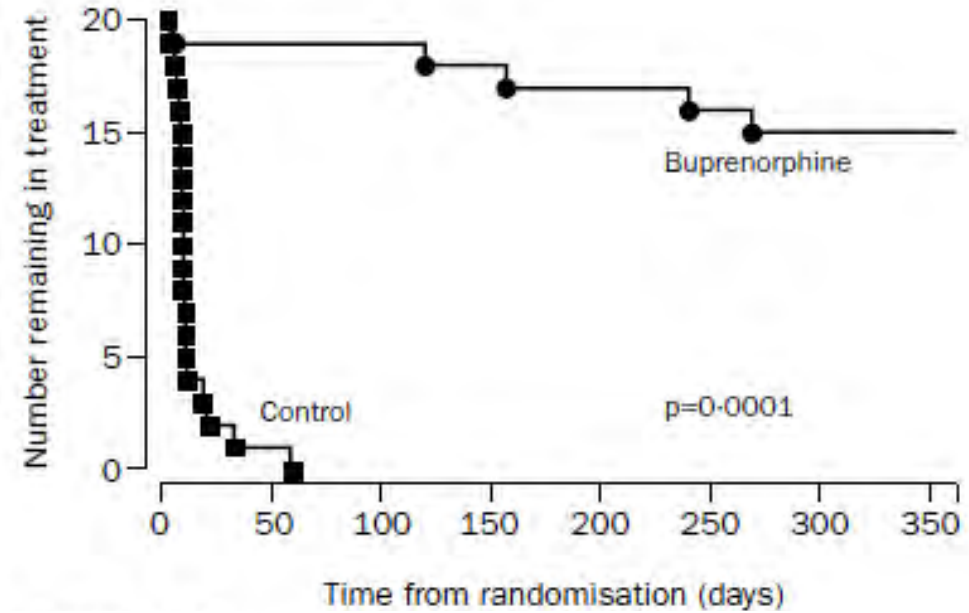
The total number of patients with a new administration or prescription for buprenorphine in Inpatient and ED Locations. The order or prescription must be new for that encounter.





CONSENSUS STUDY REPORT

# MEDICATIONS FOR OPIOID USE DISORDER SAVE LIVES



# Buprenorphine Treatment for Hospitalized, Opioid-Dependent Patients A Randomized Clinical Trial

Jane M. Liebschutz, MD, MPH; Denise Crooks, MPH; Debra Herman, PhD; Bradley Anderson, PhD;  
Judith Tsui, MD, MPH; Lidia Z. Meshesha, BA; Shernaz Dossabhoy, BA; Michael Stein, MD

- 72.2% in the linkage group vs 11.9% in the detox group entered into outpatient treatment

**CONCLUSIONS AND RELEVANCE** Compared with an inpatient detoxification protocol, initiation of and linkage to buprenorphine treatment is an effective means for engaging medically hospitalized patients who are not seeking addiction treatment and reduces illicit opioid use 6 months after hospitalization. However, maintaining engagement in treatment remains a challenge.

# Emergency Department–Initiated Buprenorphine/Naloxone Treatment for Opioid Dependence A Randomized Clinical Trial

Gail D'Onofrio, MD, MS; Patrick G. O'Connor, MD, MPH; Michael V. Pantalon, PhD; Marek C. Chawarski, PhD;  
Susan H. Busch, PhD; Patricia H. Owens, MS; Steven L. Bernstein, MD; David A. Fiellin, MD

JAMA. 2015;313(16):1636-1644. doi:10.1001/jama.2015.3474

30 day treatment engagement: 78% vs. 37% vs. 45%

**CONCLUSIONS AND RELEVANCE** Among opioid-dependent patients, ED-initiated buprenorphine treatment vs brief intervention and referral significantly increased engagement in addiction treatment, reduced self-reported illicit opioid use, and decreased use of inpatient addiction treatment services but did not significantly decrease the rates of urine samples that tested positive for opioids or of HIV risk. These findings require replication in other centers before widespread adoption.

# Leadership and Teams

D-HH Site:	APD	Mt. Ascutney	New London	SVMC	Cheshire/Keene	SME support at DH
Admin Contact(s)	Lee Ann Bergeron, Prac Dir	Paul Calandrella, COO	Tom Manion, CEO Barbara Mahar, VP EMMA BIDWELL - Admin	Paula Johnson Rachael Trimble, Adm Asst	Shawn LaFrance, VP Pop Hlth	Laura Fineberg, Project support
Leadership	Michael					Michael Backett, MD - Primary Care Cooke, MD - hospitalist Stavseth, RN - Director on inpt
Hospitalist Champion	Jose M					
Other Inpatient Provider Contact(s)	Danielle					Pin, MD MD
ED Provider Contact(s)	Justin M prev. M (internist)					anter, MD - ED
Other clinical Contact(s)	Sheila P Vickie M					
Waivered Providers						
Referral Options	Headrest (ambulatory arrangem	CT Valley Recovery Services (Fred Lord);	(Frenkewich) Steve Powell's clinic (Grantham) Counseling associates	SaVida Healthcare (and 2 other less robust spokes)	Doorway: Nelson Hayden Phoenix House (inconsistent) *This is barrier for ED prescribing	Doorway available for all of NH



# Toolkit for Addressing OUD in ED and Inpatient Settings: Intro, Tasks, Resources

## Tasks to Prepare for Implementation

- *Assemble a multidisciplinary team*
- *Consider training all staff on understanding addiction, with the goal of reducing stigma.*
- *Create a workflow for initiation of buprenorphine for patients in withdrawal.*
- *Establish a relationship with one or more local addiction treatment providers.*
- *Clarify who is responsible for arranging outpatient follow-up.*
- *Clarify who will provide a bridge prescription at discharge.*
  - *Get clinicians waived to prescribe buprenorphine (esp in ED)*
- *Consider standardized screening*
- *Naloxone education and prescription*

# Staff education

## -Talks:

All staff: MOUD 101, Science of Addiction, Stigma

Hospitalists: Inpatient Management of OUD

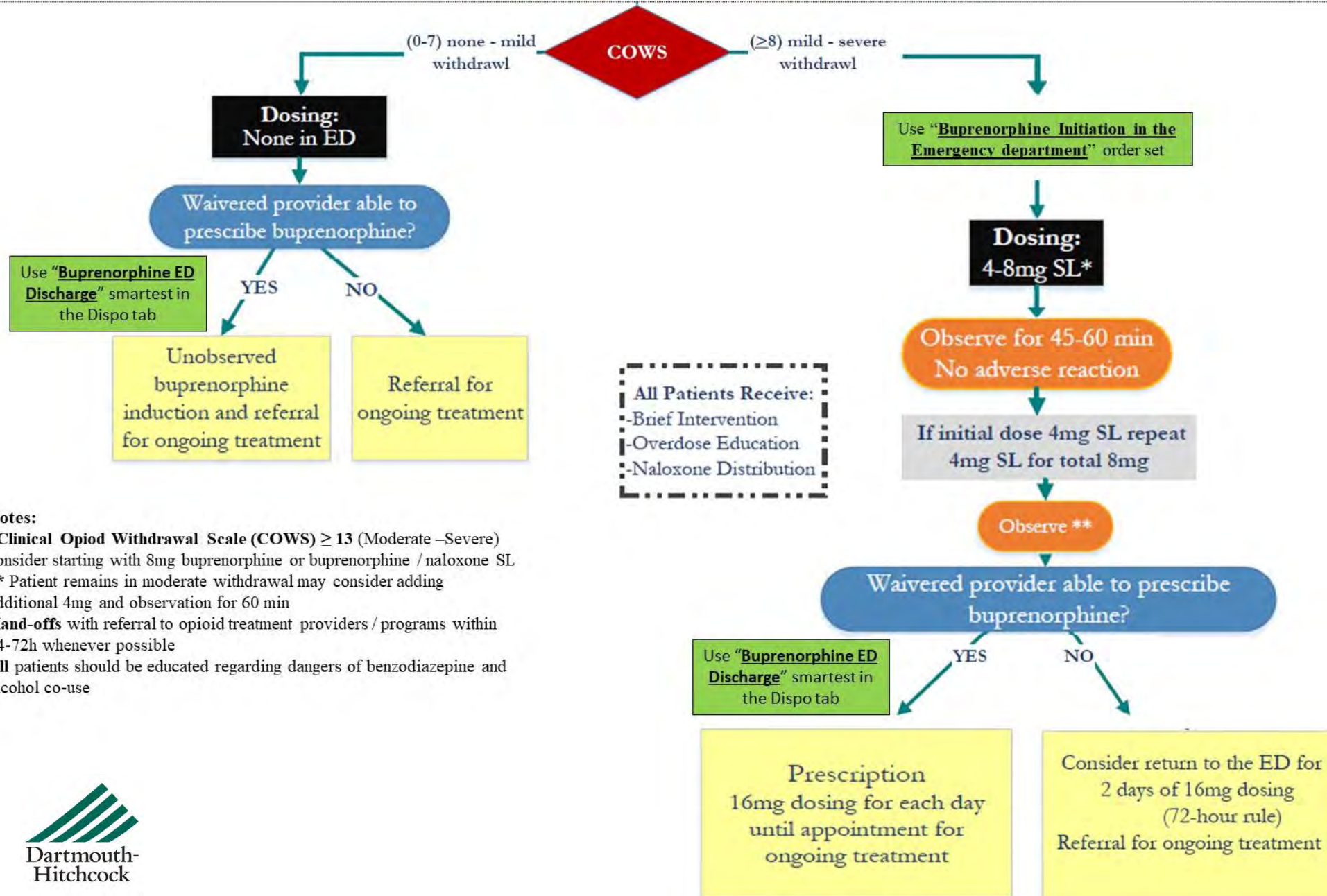
-Academic detailing- 2.5 page summary for hospitalists

## -SUMHI Website:

<https://med.dartmouth-hitchcock.org/sumhi.html>

# ED-Initiated Buprenorphine

Diagnosis of Moderate to Severe Opioid Use Disorder  
Assess for opioid withdrawal and last use



**Notes:**

\*Clinical Opioid Withdrawal Scale (COWS)  $\geq 13$  (Moderate –Severe) consider starting with 8mg buprenorphine or buprenorphine / naloxone SL

\*\* Patient remains in moderate withdrawal may consider adding additional 4mg and observation for 60 min

**Hand-offs** with referral to opioid treatment providers / programs within 24-72h whenever possible

All patients should be educated regarding dangers of benzodiazepine and alcohol co-use

# eDH tools

- Adapt existing DHMC inpatient and ED ordersets (And ED discharge smartset) to other eDH users: Cheshire, APD, New London (10/20)
- If not on eDH, create an orderset using local EHR



# Outside of Order set (continuing outpatient buprenorphine)

buprenorphine-naloxone (Suboxone) 8-2 mg sublingual tablet ✓ Accept ✗ Cancel

Order Inst.: For patients not already on buprenorphine, use the relevant "Buprenorphine Initiation for Opioid Use Disorder" order set (non-pregnant or pregnant...

Reference Links: 1. Lexicomp

Priority: Routine

Is patient on buprenorphine as an outpatient? Yes- prescribed Yes- other source No- started this admission

Dose: ! ! 8 mg of opiate 16 mg of opiate

Route: Sublingual Sublingual

Frequency: DAILY Daily

For: Doses Hours Days

Starting: 12/16/2019 Today Tomorrow

First Dose: ! Include Now As Scheduled Show Additional Options

First Dose: **Today 1415** **Until Discontinued**

Scheduled Times ⤴ ✎ Adjust Schedule

12/16/19 1415  
12/17/19 0900

i Order has no end date or number of doses, so more times will be scheduled at a later date.

Admin. Inst.: + Add Administration Instructions

Phase of Care:

! Next Required Link Order ✓ Accept ✗ Cancel

# Initiation Order set



## Buprenorphine Initiation for Opioid Use Disorder in Non-Pregnant Adult Inpatients

\* Contact the behavioral intervention team (BIT) to evaluate all patients who are being initiated on buprenorphine.  
\* This order set only covers day 1 loading dose of buprenorphine and PRNs on day 1, 2 and 3 for signs of withdrawal- the morning dose of buprenorphine for day 2 and beyond needs to be ordered separately. For days 2- 3, give the total amount received on the previous day as a single dose at 9 am. A stable ongoing dose can usually be determined by day 3-4.

- Buprenorphine for Opioid Use Disorder in Adult Patients Policy
- Buprenorphine initiation for Opioid Use Disorder in Adult Patients Procedure

### Nursing Assessments

Collapse

#### ▼ Nursing assessment / monitoring

- Opiate / Opioid Withdrawal - Assessment:  
Routine, UNTIL DISCONTINUED starting Today at 1625 Until Specified  
Assess patient every 2 hours while awake using the Clinical Opiate Withdrawal Scale (COWS) scoring tool.
- Notify Provider / HERT / Stat Airway  
Routine, UNTIL DISCONTINUED starting Today at 1625 Until Specified  
If Respiratory rate less than 8 breaths per minute or SpO2 less than 90%: Call house officer or Hitchcock Early Response Team (HERT) or Stat Airway Team.

### Consults

Collapse

#### ▼ Buprenorphine Initiation Consult Orders

- Consult to Psychiatry  
 P Contact the behavioral intervention team (BIT) to evaluate all patients who are being initiated on buprenorphine.
- Consult to Social Work  
 P Details
- Consult to Pharmacy  
Pharmacy to review patient meds? No  
P Check for drug interactions? No  
Reason for Consult? Pharmacy managed Buprenorphine

### Medications

### ▼ Nursing Assessments

#### ▼ Nursing assessment / monitoring

##### Opiate / Opioid Withdrawal - assessments

##### Opiate / Opioid Withdrawal - Assessment

Routine, EVERY 4 HOURS WHILE AWAKE, First occurrence today at 1800, for 48 hours  
Reassess patient one hour after Initial and PRN doses of buprenorphine using the COWS scoring tool., Assess and Document per frequency ordered using the Clinical Opiate Withdrawal Scale (COWS) scoring tool.

##### Opiate / Opioid Withdrawal - Assessment

Routine, EVERY 12 HOURS, First occurrence on Wed 3/11 at 1515, for 24 hours  
Reassess patient one hour after Initial and PRN doses of buprenorphine using the COWS scoring tool., Assess and Document per frequency ordered using the Clinical Opiate Withdrawal Scale (COWS) scoring tool.



## Medications

Collapse

### ▼ Initiation Medications

#### Buprenorphine-Naloxone (SUBOXONE) Panel

buprenorphine-naloxone (SUBOXONE) 2-0.5 mg sublingual tablet 2 tablet

2 tablet, Sublingual, ONCE, 1 dose Today at 1645

- i** DAY 1: To avoid precipitating withdrawal, the first dose of buprenorphine should be started only when objective signs of moderate withdrawal appear. \*\*Patient must score greater than or equal to 12 per the Clinical Opiate Withdrawal Scale (COWS) scoring tool.  
Routine

Followed by

buprenorphine-naloxone (SUBOXONE) 2-0.5 mg sublingual tablet 1-2 tablet

1-2 tablet, Sublingual, EVERY 2 HOURS PRN starting Today at 1645 until Thu 7/19 at 1644, opioid withdrawal - uncomplicated

Day 1 \*\*1-2 tablet, Sublingual, EVERY 2 HOURS PRN. Per the Clinical Opiate Withdrawal Scale (COWS) scoring tool: \*\*For withdrawal score of 5-12, give 1 (2 mg-0.5 mg) tablet \*\*For withdrawal score of greater than 12, 2 (2 mg-0.5 mg) tablets - Contact provider if patient reaches a total daily dose of 12 mg of buprenorphine on day one of induction and continues to score on the COWS. Day 2 and 3 \*\*1-2 tablet, Sublingual, EVERY 2 HOURS PRN. Unless sedated, give the previous day's total dose of buprenorphine as a single dose at 8 am then: Per the Clinical Opiate Withdrawal Scale (COWS) scoring tool: \*\*For withdrawal score of 5-12, give 1 (2 mg-0.5 mg) tablet \*\*For withdrawal score of greater than 12, give 2 (2 mg-0.5 mg) tablets - Contact provider if patient reaches a total daily dose of 16 mg of buprenorphine on day two of induction and continues to score on the COWS.  
Routine

#### Buprenorphine - daily order reminder 1 each

1 each, Oral, DAILY, First Dose Tomorrow at 0900, For 3 days

If the daily Buprenorphine order has not been placed, contact the Provider to confirm that the order will be written, the dose is held or discontinued.

### ▼ Adjunctive Medications

#### cloNIDine (CATAPRES) tablet

0.1 mg, Oral, EVERY 6 HOURS PRN, for restlessness, sweating, or tremor, Hold if SBP is less than 105 mmHg.

#### dicyclomine (BENTYL) capsule

20 mg, Oral, EVERY 6 HOURS PRN, Abdominal cramps

#### loperamide (IMMODIUM) capsule

2 mg, Oral, EVERY 6 HOURS PRN, Diarrhea

#### acetaminophen panel

#### mirtazapine (REMERON) tablet

15 mg, Oral, NIGHTLY PRN, Sleep

#### hydrOXYzine (ATARAX) tablet

50 mg, Oral, EVERY 6 HOURS PRN, for itching, anxiety, or insomnia not improved by mirtazapine

### ▼ Labs

#### Buprenorphine Intitiation dose

buprenorphine-naloxone (Suboxone) 2-0.5 mg disintegrating tablet 2-4 tablet (\$)

2-4 tablet (4-8 mg of opiate), Sublingual, ONCE, 1 dose, today at 1530

Day 1: COWS score of 8 - 12: give two (2 mg-0.5 mg) tablets; COWS score of 13 or greater: give four (2 mg-0.5 mg) tablets

- i** To avoid precipitating withdrawal, the first dose of buprenorphine should be started only when objective signs of withdrawal appear.  
Routine

Followed by

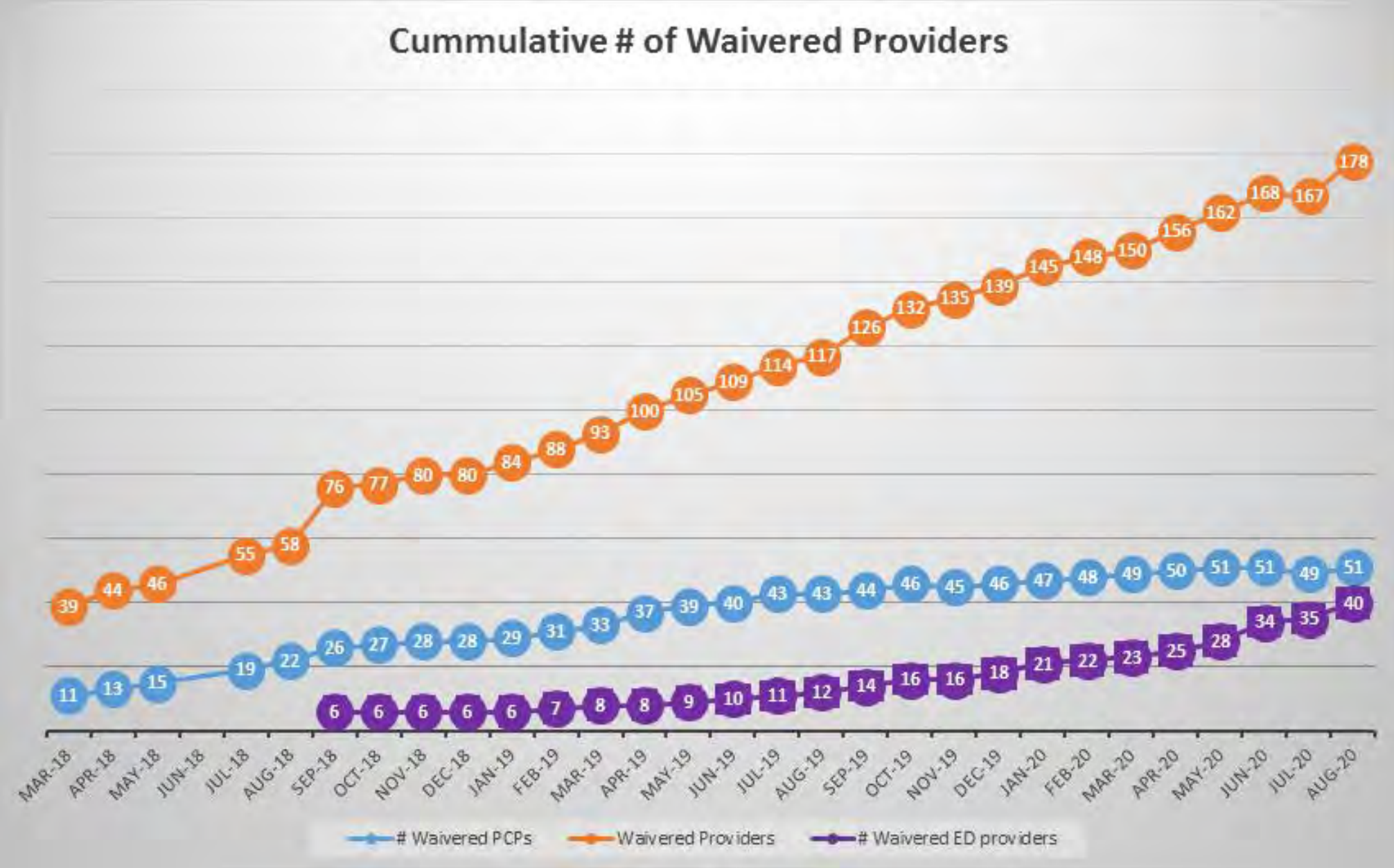
buprenorphine-naloxone (Suboxone) 2-0.5 mg disintegrating tablet 2 tablet (\$)

2 tablet, Sublingual, EVERY 1 HOUR PRN, starting today at 1530, until Thu 3/12 at 1529, opioid withdrawal - uncomplicated

Day 1 \*\*For withdrawal score of greater than 5; two (2 mg-0.5 mg) tablets -Contact provider if patient reaches a total daily dose of 16 mg of buprenorphine on day one of induction and continues to score >5 on the COWS. Day 2 and 3 \*\*Unless

- i** sedated, give the previous day's total dose of buprenorphine as a single dose at 8 am, then continue to dose PRN per the COWS scoring tool. \*\*For withdrawal score greater than 5, give two (2 mg-0.5 mg) tablets. Contact provider if patient reaches a total daily dose of 16 mg of buprenorphine on day two & three of induction and continues to score on the COWS.  
Routine

# Encourage X-Waiver: in person or online



# Overdose Prevention – Naloxone

- Risk/Harm reduction education
  - Never use alone
  - Do not lock the door
  - Same dealer
  - Avoid combining sedating substances
  - Test shot
  - Fentanyl test strips
  - Aseptic technique
- Refer to appropriate treatment
- **Naloxone for patient and supports**

YOU MAY  
HAVE TO  
FIGHT A  
BATTLE  
MORE THAN  
ONCE TO  
WIN IT.

-Margaret Thatcher

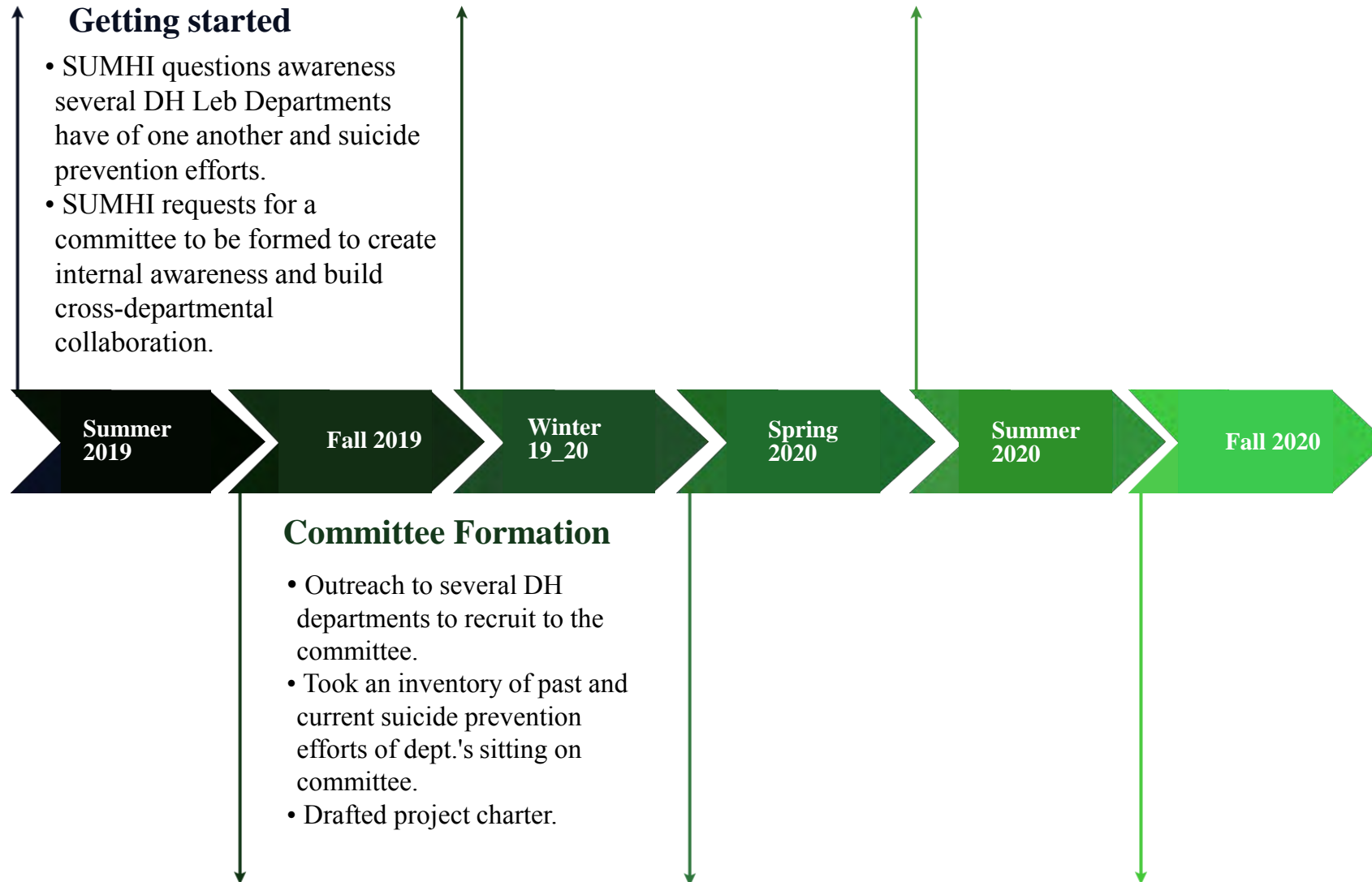
recoveryexperts.com

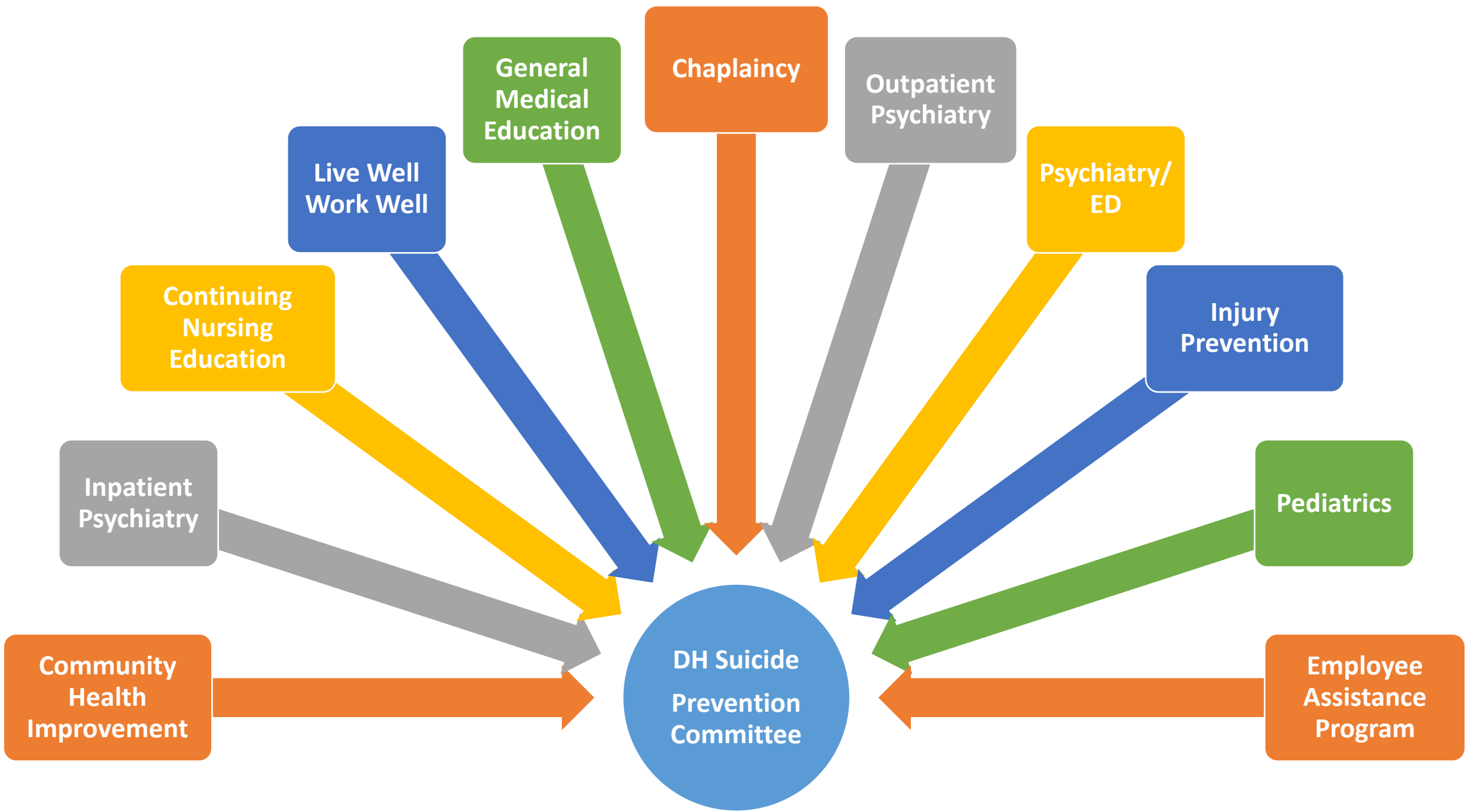
# DH Suicide Prevention Initiative

## SUMHI 9.14

Angie Raymond Leduc and Maureen Gardella

# DH Suicide Prevention Committee Formation





Chaplaincy

Outpatient  
Psychiatry

Psychiatry/  
ED

Injury  
Prevention

Pediatrics

Employee  
Assistance  
Program

DH Suicide  
Prevention  
Committee

Community  
Health  
Improvement

Inpatient  
Psychiatry

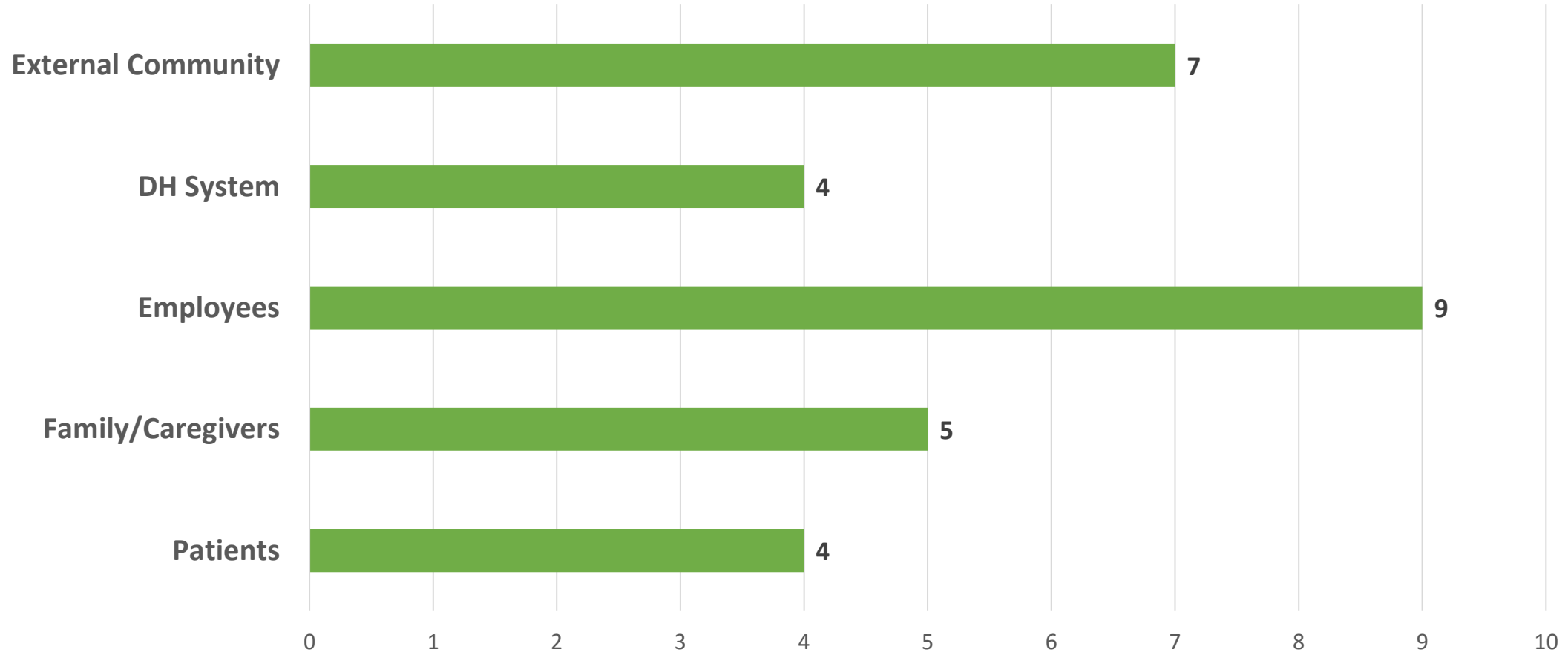
Continuing  
Nursing  
Education

Live Well  
Work Well

General  
Medical  
Education

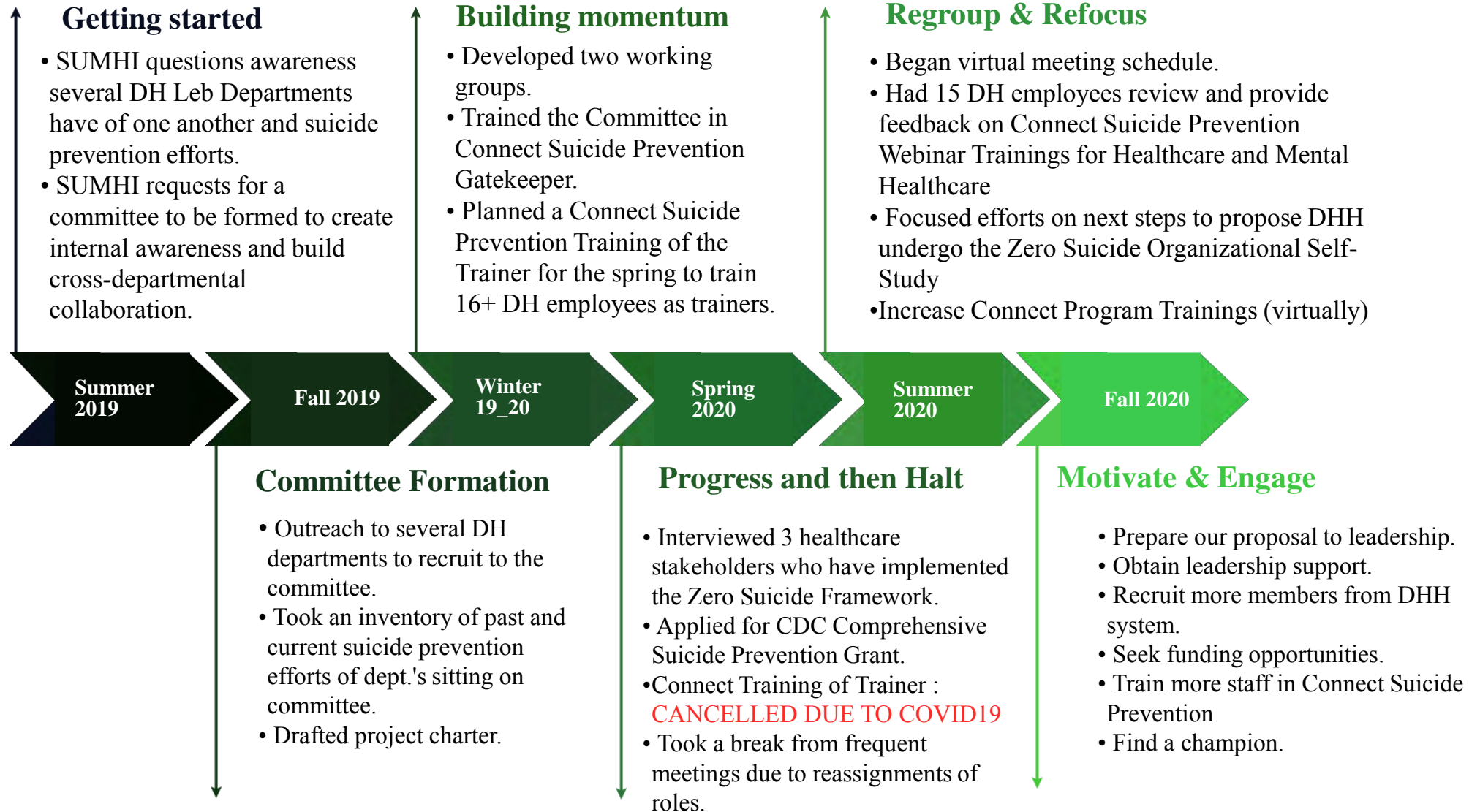


2018-2019  
Suicide Initiatives from DH Lebanon Departments on Suicide Prevention  
Committee



# DH Suicide Prevention Committee Efforts

How we started, what we've accomplished and where we hope to go.



# Suicide Facts & Figures: New Hampshire 2020



**On average, one person died by suicide every 31 hours in the state.**

**Almost six times as many people died by suicide in New Hampshire in 2018 than in alcohol related motor vehicle accidents.**

The total deaths to suicide reflected a total of 5,199 years of potential life lost (YPLL) before age 65.



Suicide cost New Hampshire a total of **\$222,439,000** combined lifetime medical and work loss cost in 2010, or an average of **\$1,134,894 per suicide death.**



## 8th leading cause of death in New Hampshire

**2nd leading** cause of death for ages 10-44

**4th leading** cause of death for ages 45-54

**6th leading** cause of death for ages 55-64

**16th leading** cause of death for ages 65+

### Suicide Death Rates

	Number of Deaths by Suicide	Rate per 100,000 Population	State Rank
<b>New Hampshire</b>	<b>279</b>	<b>19.27</b>	<b>12</b>
Nationally	48,344	14.21	

CDC, 2018 Fatal Injury Reports (accessed from [www.cdc.gov/injury/wisqars/fatal.html](http://www.cdc.gov/injury/wisqars/fatal.html) on 3/1/2020).

# Suicide Facts & Figures:

## Vermont 2020



**On average, one person died by suicide every three days in the state.**

**More than eight times as many people died by suicide in Vermont in 2018 than in alcohol related motor vehicle accidents.**

The total deaths to suicide reflected a total of 2,290 years of potential life lost (YPLL) before age 65.



Suicide cost Vermont a total of **\$117,583,000** combined lifetime medical and work loss cost in 2010, or an average of **\$1,109,277 per suicide death.**



**8th leading cause of death in Vermont**

**2nd leading**  
cause of death for ages 10-44

**4th leading**  
cause of death for ages 45-54

**5th leading**  
cause of death for ages 55-64

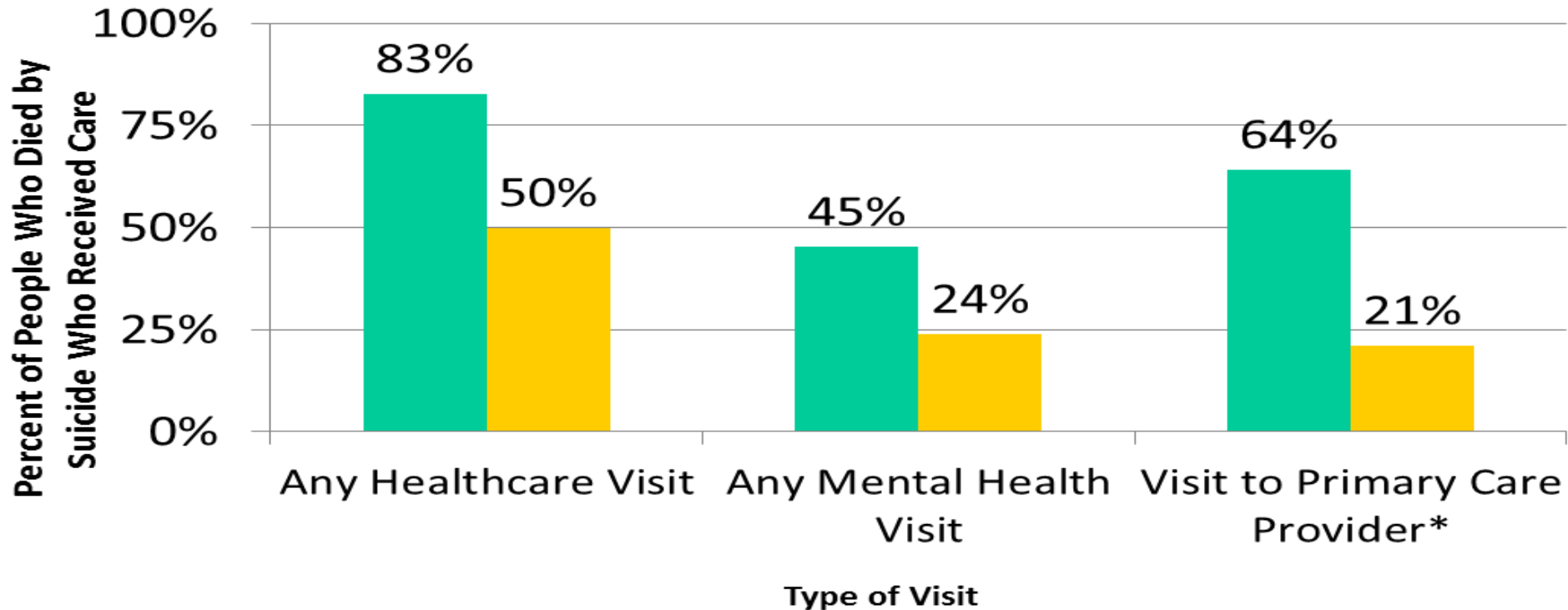
**15th leading**  
cause of death for ages 65+

### Suicide Death Rates

	Number of Deaths by Suicide	Rate per 100,000 Population	State Rank
<b>Vermont</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>18.66</b>	<b>18</b>
Nationally	48,344	14.21	

CDC, 2018 Fatal Injury Reports (accessed from [www.cdc.gov/injury/wisqars/fatal.html](http://www.cdc.gov/injury/wisqars/fatal.html) on 3/1/2020).

# Health Care and Suicide Deaths



■ Health care visit within year prior to death

■ Health care visit within month prior to death

\*Visit not related to mental health or chemical dependence

(Ahmedani, 2014)

[www.zerosuicide.sprc.org](http://www.zerosuicide.sprc.org)



# 10.6%

## of Employees (During any part of FY 2019) had a Depression DX

From Claims Data regarding Employees that are members  
of the Employee Health Plan

### Employee Health Plan

Members During Any Part of FY 2019 with a Depression Dx from Claims Data

Member Counts	
Relationship	Depression
Employee	873
Spouse	270
Child	301
Other or N/A	19
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1,463</b>

% of All Members	
Relationship	Depression
Employee	10.6%
Spouse	8.8%
Child	5.2%
Other or N/A	12.8%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>8.5%</b>

from file: Chronic Condition Prevalence.xlsx

# Suicide Among Physicians

Physicians have higher rates of burnout, depressive symptoms, and suicide risk than the general population. Physicians and trainees can experience high degrees of mental health distress and are less likely than other members of the public to seek mental health treatment. Physicians report several barriers to seeking mental health care, including time constraints, hesitancy to draw attention to self-perceived weakness, and concerns about reputation and confidentiality. Other facts include:

- Suicide generally is caused by the convergence of multiple risk factors — the most common being untreated or inadequately managed mental health conditions.<sup>1,2</sup>
- Physicians who took their lives were less likely to be receiving mental health treatment compared with nonphysicians who took their lives even though depression was found to be a significant risk factor at approximately the same rate in both groups.<sup>3</sup>
- The suicide rate among male physicians is 1.41 times higher than the general male population. And among female physicians, the relative risk is even more pronounced — 2.27 times greater than the general female population.<sup>2</sup>
- Twenty-eight percent of residents experience a major depressive episode during training versus 7–8 percent of similarly aged individuals in the U.S. general population.<sup>1</sup>



# ZERO SUICIDE

The foundational belief of Zero Suicide is that suicide deaths for individuals under the care of health and behavioral health systems are preventable. For systems dedicated to improving patient safety, Zero Suicide presents an aspirational challenge and practical framework for system-wide transformation toward safer suicide care.

LEARN MORE →







QUESTIONS?



CHESHIRE MEDICAL  
CENTER/DARTMOUTH-  
HITCHCOCK

MAT Program with Cheshire County  
Drug Court

# Drug Court MAT Program

- Has been operating through Cheshire Medical Center connections for the last 3 ½ years
  - The primary provider here with regards to prescribing is Dave Segal, PA
- Goal is to provide an opportunity for Department of Corrections (DOC) inmates to participate in a court sanctioned MAT Program that provides an alternative to sentencing and serving time in jail
- Program creates a triad of care points including:
  - The Court system (judge, county attorney, public defender, correction officer)
  - The Support System (Drug Court Case Manager, counselors)
  - The Medical Component (prescribing provider)

# Drug Court MAT Program-Provider Role

- Responsibilities of provider at Cheshire Medical Center/Dartmouth-Hitchcock
  - Attends every other week meetings.
    - Meetings are 1 hour
    - Provider is allotted time to attend
    - Meetings bring together all the aforementioned participants
  - Advises on all medically-related issues
    - Participants are required to sign release
    - Provider reviews medical record
    - Reports on medically related issues such as ER visits, office visits etc.
  - Prescribes suboxone to participants

# Drug Court MAT Program-Process

- Department of Corrections that wish to participate must petition the court
- The petition proceeds through the DOC Case Manager
- The inmate is presented to the Team for review
- Acceptance into the program is confirmed essentially by a vote of members
- Once accepted into the program the inmate is referred to the provider while in jail for induction
  - Induction starts 2 weeks before release from incarceration
  - While incarcerated the inmate attends regular counseling sessions and meetings with DOC case manager, court appointed counselor
  - Participation in these sessions is mandatory to continue with the program while incarcerated

# Drug Court MAT Program-Process

- At release, the inmate/client is given a prescription for suboxone to bridge them until first appointment with provider at DH clinic
  - Partnered locally with CVS
- After the inmate has established with the provider, they will follow up with 1 to 2 week appointments and prescriptions until stabilized
- After stabilized, the script will change to 28 days
- Requirements for the inmate/client
  - Receive urine drug screens weekly
  - Must participate in group sessions for substance abuse
  - Must attend individual counseling sessions
  - Must complete a variety of assignments from these sessions
  - Typically will go before the judge weekly with their attorney and DOC case manager to discuss progress

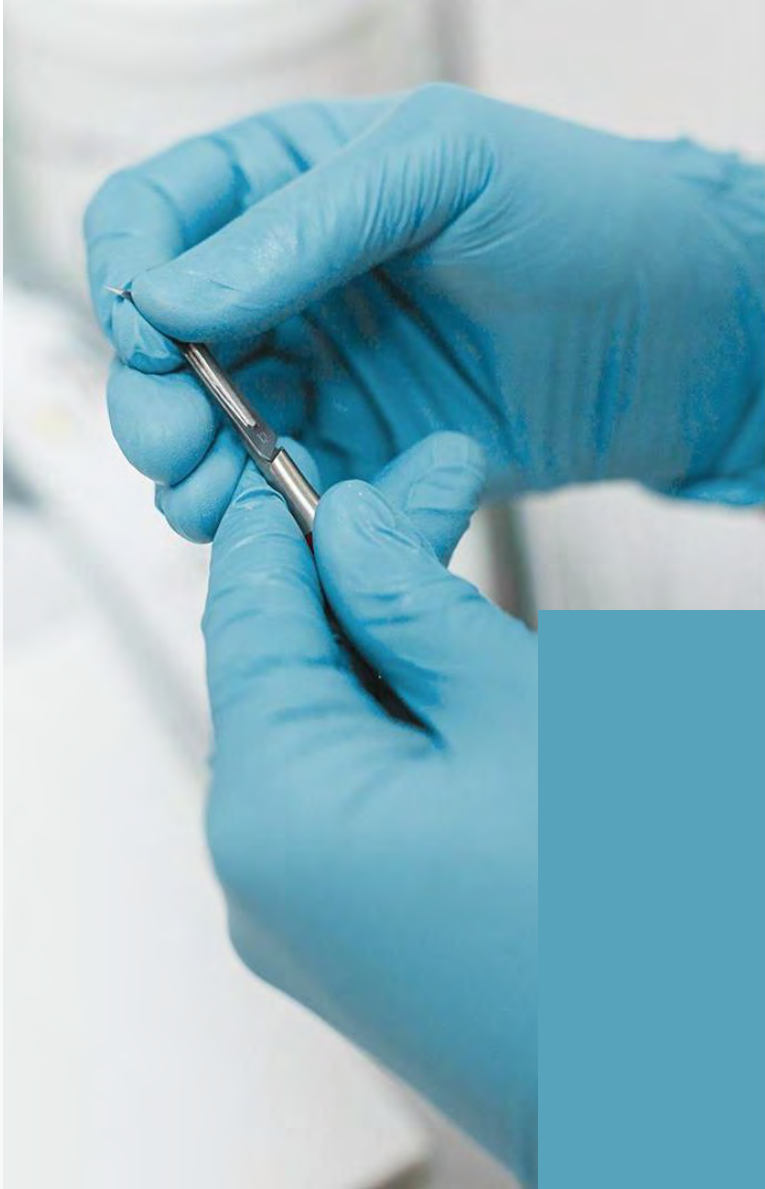
# Drug Court MAT Program-Process

- Additionally, the CMC/DH provider may also obtain clients via the drug court who are in another MAT program that need to be switched secondary to distance to other provider or insurance issues
- Successes:
  - “Graduation rate” through our program is 75%
  - Those that graduate remain with our provider provided they are in counseling
  - Some graduates transfer to another clinic
- Consequences
  - Those that do not comply with the Drug Court recommendations (usually after multiple attempts to correct behavior) must serve their time in jail



# Redesigning Care for Patients with Serious Infections Due to Injection Drug Use





# 01

## Overview

The problem, our program, program benefits, and our team

# 02

## Approach and Insights

Our methods and major findings

# 03

## Pilot Program

An overview of the program and its major elements

# 04

## Challenges and Barriers

Anticipated challenges and pilot interventions

# 05

## Next Steps

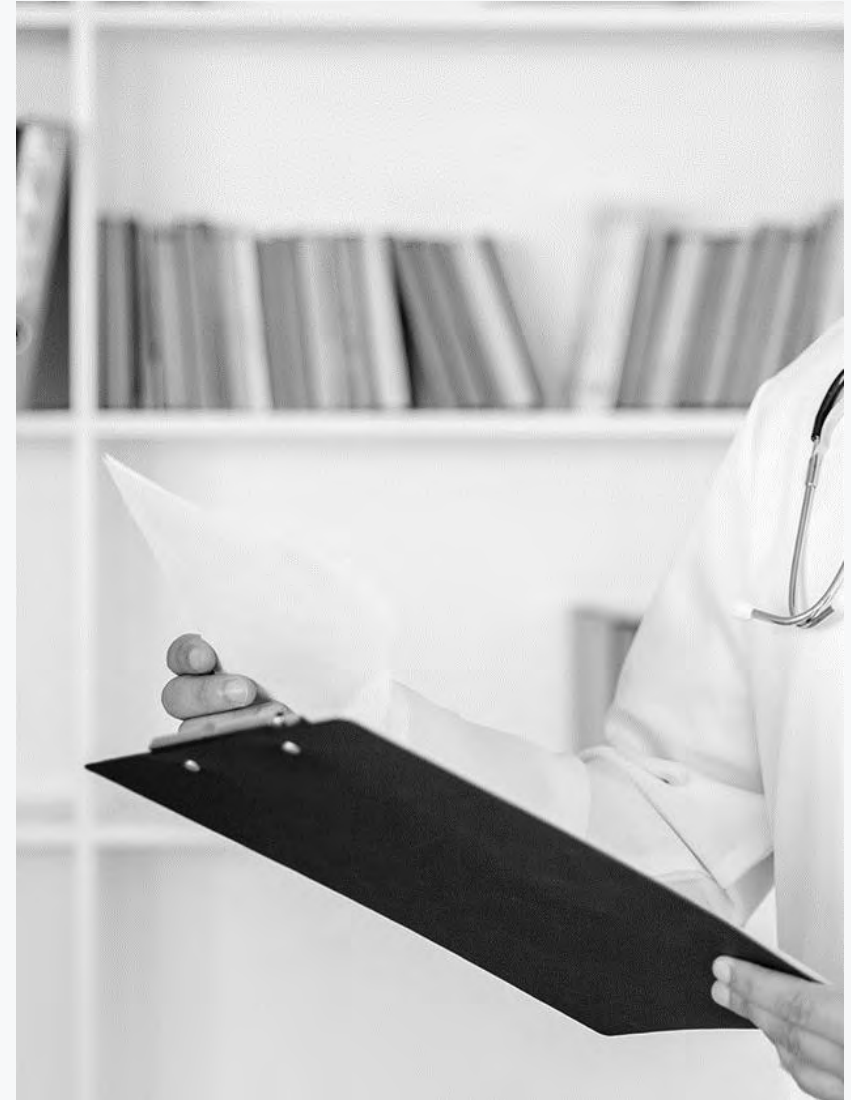
Where we're headed next

## The Problem

Patients who inject drugs (PWID) are typically excluded from home IV antibiotics and often receive suboptimal treatment regimens, leading to poor outcomes, long hospital stays, frequent readmissions, and missed opportunities to initiate SUD treatment.

## The Proposal

Comprehensive treatment plans for integrated infectious disease and addiction care, which prioritize discharge on home IV antibiotics partnered with addiction treatment.



## Program Benefits

### Patients

- ✓ Universal standard of care
- ✓ Completion of treatment course
- ✓ Reliable dedicated care for addiction, clear path to recovery
- ✓ Care where they prefer it: outside of the hospital
- ✓ Faster return to the community

### Health System

- ✓ Decrease in length of stay (estimated 20-day reduction in average LOS)
  - *Predicted direct cost savings @ 85 admissions/yr: \$2.4 million*
  - *Revenue opportunity from 1700 additional bed days/yr*
- ✓ Decrease in readmissions
- ✓ Better partnerships with community health agencies
- ✓ Reduced strain on inpatient care team



# Approach (May 2020 – August 2020)



## Stakeholder Interviews

- Patients
- Infectious Disease
- BIT Team
- Cardiac Surgery
- Primary Care
- Hospital Medicine
- Emergency Department
- Care Management
- Risk Management/Legal
- Outpatient Treatment Programs



## Literature Review

- 15+ publications
- Benchmarking:
  - Brigham and Women's
  - University of KY



## Baseline Data Review

- 22 patients
- 40 admissions
- Partially sampled cohort of admissions between 1/2018-8/2020

# Insights



## Stakeholder Interviews

- Common recognition of problems
- Enthusiasm for solution
- Acknowledgement of resource constraints
- Significant support for addiction program partnerships



## Literature Review

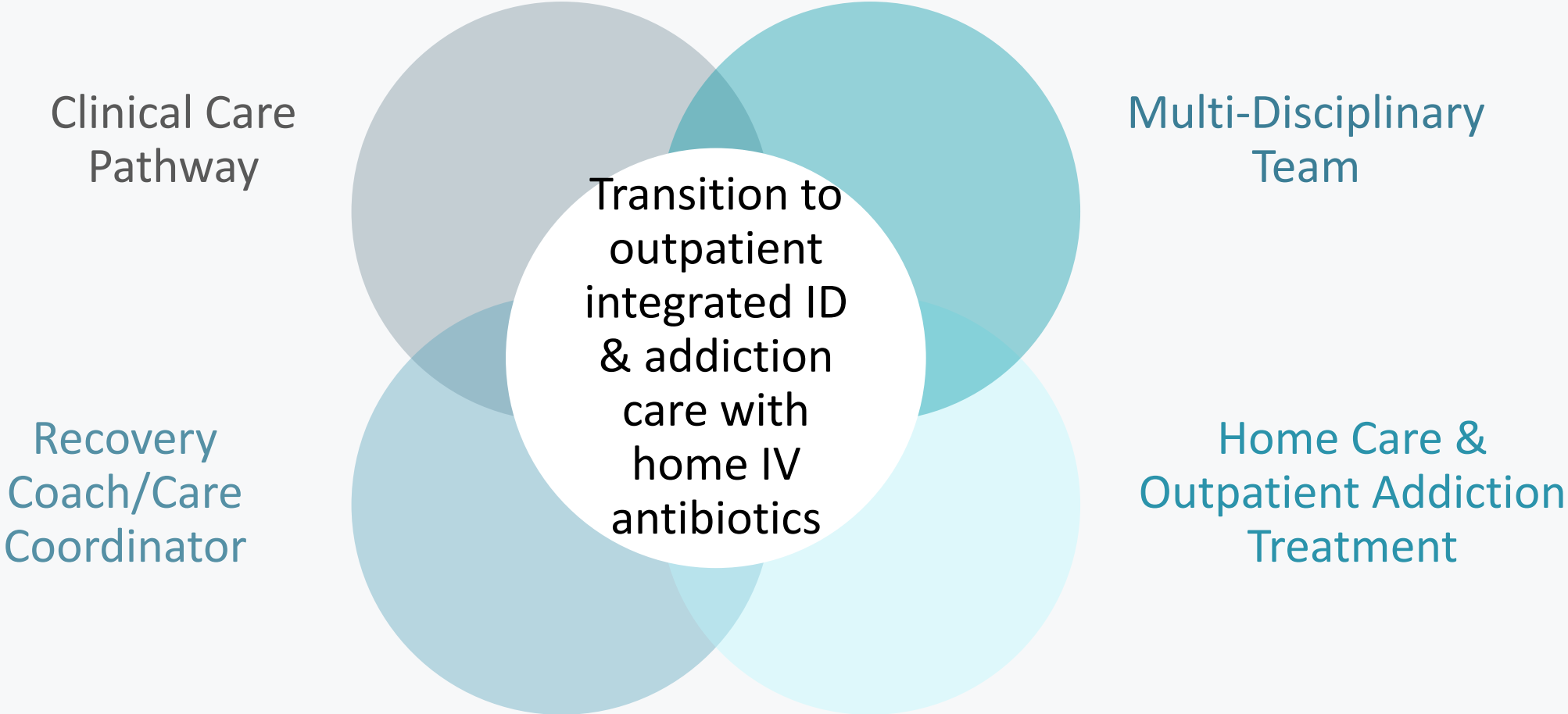
- OPAT is safe and effective in properly selected patients who inject drugs, with low rates of PICC line complications
- Successful programs require participation in addiction treatment



## Baseline Data Review

- Mean LOS 15d (range 1-58)
- 29% left AMA
- 47% did not complete course
- Infection cured in only 22%
- 48% were not seen by BIT
- Discharge treatment plan not discussed in 25%
- 50% readmitted within timeframe
- 5 patients discharged with PICC: 4/5 cured, no misuse

# Pilot Program Structure



## Anticipated Challenges & Potential Solutions

### Barriers

### Pilot Solutions

Limited capacity for early identification of substance use



Increase screening and provide patient/ provider education

Limited capacity for recovery coaching/peer recovery



Staff dedicated recovery coach

Prior institutional experience with bad outcomes



Apply lessons learned from RCA

Stigma within the care community

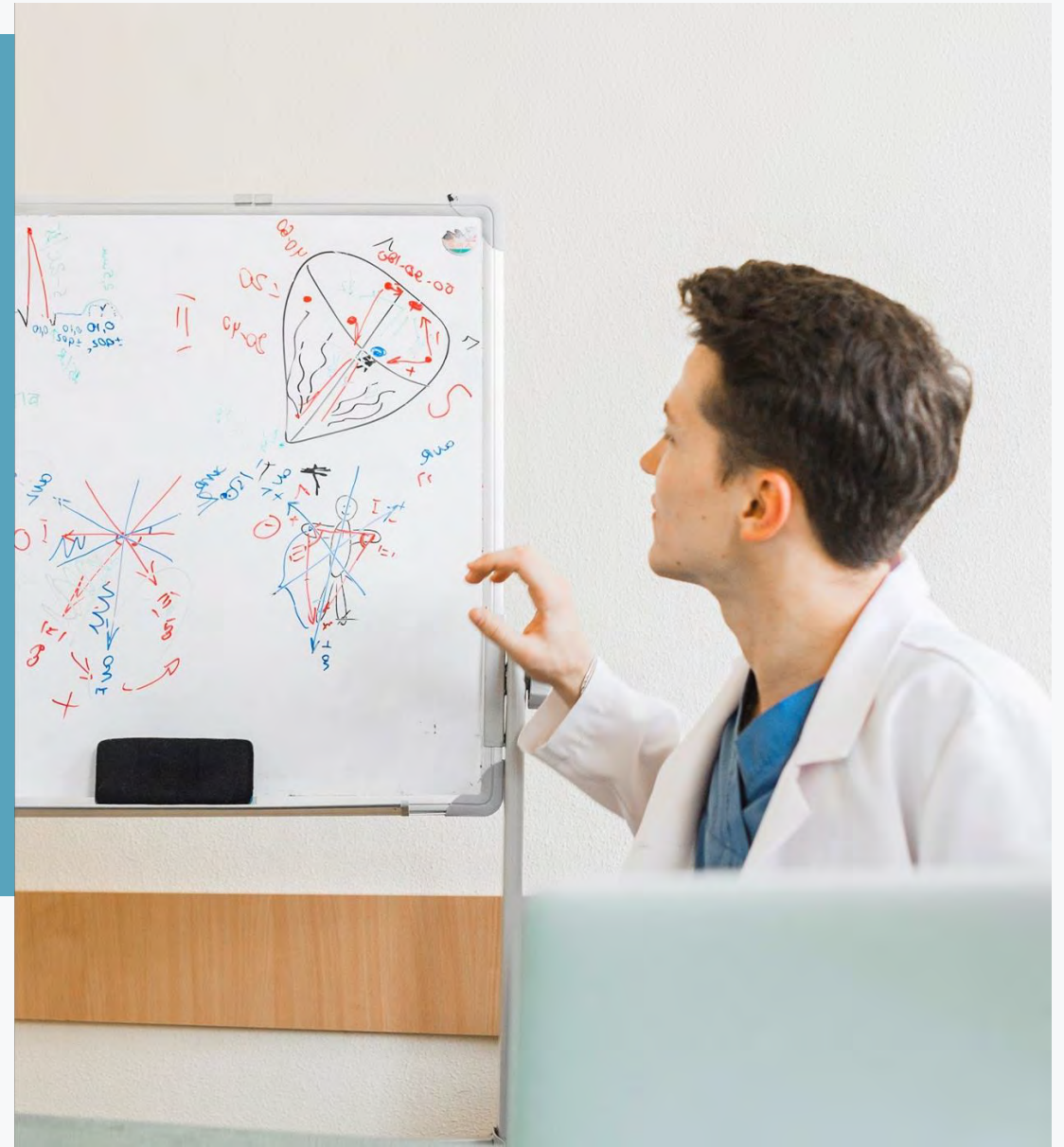


Provide education



## Next Steps

1. Writing protocols and workflows
2. Sharing new care model with stakeholders
3. Finalizing data plan with key metrics to evaluate success
4. Preparing to launch pilot

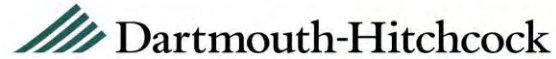




- ◀ Content by Incubator Team
- ◀ Presentation template from [Slidesgo](#)
- ◀ Icons from [Flaticon](#)
- ◀ Infographics from [Freepik](#)
- ◀ Images from [Freepik](#)
- ◀ Author introduction slide photo from [Freepik](#)
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# SUMHI COVID-19 Page

<https://med.dartmouth-hitchcock.org/sumhi.html>



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## SUBSTANCE USE AND MENTAL HEALTH INITIATIVE (SUMHI)

### COVID-19 and SUD Resources

[Upcoming and Recent News and Events](#)

[Past News and Events](#)

[About SUMHI](#)

[SUMHI Projects](#)

[Treatment and Recovery Services](#)

[Patient and Family Education, Support & Self-Care Resources](#)

[Clinical Practice Guidance and Tools](#)

[Professional Development and Education](#)

[Advocacy and Policy Change](#)

[Contact Us](#)

## COVID-19 and SUD Resources

Policies, resources, and practices to support care of people with substance use disorders (SUDs) during the current COVID pandemic are changing rapidly.

Below are some links that may be helpful to keep up with the issues as they evolve and some resources to share with others. We will make every effort to update as new information and resources become available.

[NEW: Survey Report on COVID-19 & Substance Use in New Hampshire](#)

### COVID-SUD state and federal policies

#### Prescribing and telehealth regulatory changes relevant to treatment of SUD including MAT

- [Guidance for adjusting drug protocols due to COVID-19](#)
- [NH Governor's statement on temporary expansion of telehealth, 3-18-20 \(PDF\)](#)
- [Guidance on Telehealth during COVID from the NH Office of Professional Licensing, 3-20-20 \(PDF\)](#)
- [Federal and State Regulations and Practice Guidance for COVID-19 and Substance Use Disorders \(PDF\)](#)
- [DEA statement on controlled substance prescribing exceptions engendered by formal declaration of COVID 19 pandemic](#)
- [DEA exemptions for delivery of medications from licensed OTPs \(PDF\)](#)

#### Privacy and confidentiality changes relevant to telehealth and treatment of SUD

- [SAMHSA COVID 42 CFR guidance \(PDF\)](#)
- [HIPAA enforcement discretion](#)

[More information/resources on policies related to COVID, SUD and telehealth](#)

# Other D-H Substance Use & Mental Health Initiatives

# Other D-HH Substance Use Initiatives



Initiative	Link / Contact
The Doorway at D-H	<a href="https://thedoorway.nh.gov/doorway-dartmouth-hitchcock">https://thedoorway.nh.gov/doorway-dartmouth-hitchcock</a>
NH Integrated Delivery Networks, Rgn I	<a href="http://region1idn.org">http://region1idn.org</a>
BH Integration/Collaborative Care model	<a href="mailto:Matthew.S.Duncan@hitchcock.org">Matthew.S.Duncan@hitchcock.org</a>
Center for Addiction Recovery in Pregnancy & Parenting (CARPP)	<a href="http://med.dartmouthhitchcock.org/carpp.html">med.dartmouthhitchcock.org/carpp.html</a> <a href="mailto:CARPP@hitchcock.org">CARPP@hitchcock.org</a>
Project DISCERNNE	<a href="mailto:David.D.De.Gijzel@hitchcock.org">David.D.De.Gijzel@hitchcock.org</a> <a href="mailto:Aurora.L.Drew@dartmouth.edu">Aurora.L.Drew@dartmouth.edu</a>
S.T.A.R.T Program (Support team for addiction recovery transitions), Recovery Coach in ED	<a href="mailto:Lauren.E.Chambers@Hitchcock.ORG">Lauren.E.Chambers@Hitchcock.ORG</a>
Recovery Friendly Pediatrics Program	<a href="mailto:Holly.A.Gaspar@hitchcock.org">Holly.A.Gaspar@hitchcock.org</a>
Postsurgery Prescribing Guideline	<a href="mailto:Richard.J.Barth.Jr@hitchcock.org">Richard.J.Barth.Jr@hitchcock.org</a>
OATC – Opioid addiction treatment collaborative	<a href="mailto:Charles.D.Brackett@hitchcock.org">Charles.D.Brackett@hitchcock.org</a> <a href="mailto:Christine.T.Finn@Hitchcock.org">Christine.T.Finn@Hitchcock.org</a> INPATIENT <a href="mailto:Patricia.L.Lanter@Hitchcock.org">Patricia.L.Lanter@Hitchcock.org</a> ED

# Other D-HH Substance Use Initiatives - con'd

Initiative	Link / Contact
Opioid Risk Assessment in the Oncology Population	<a href="mailto:Kathleen.broglio@Hitchcock.org"><u>Kathleen.broglio@Hitchcock.org</u></a>
All Together – workgroup of the Upper Valley Public Health Council (UVPHC)	<a href="mailto:Angie.M.Leduc@hitchcock.org"><u>Angie.M.Leduc@hitchcock.org</u></a> <a href="mailto:Lauren.E.Chambers@Hitchcock.ORG"><u>Lauren.E.Chambers@Hitchcock.ORG</u></a>
Project ECHO at Dartmouth-Hitchcock	<a href="mailto:ECHO@hitchcock.org"><u>ECHO@hitchcock.org</u></a>
Unhealthy Alcohol Use Project	<a href="mailto:Luke.J.Archibald@hitchcock.org"><u>Luke.J.Archibald@hitchcock.org</u></a>
SUMHI Website; Education & Culture workgroup	<a href="https://med.dartmouth-hitchcock.org/sumhi.html"><u>https://med.dartmouth-hitchcock.org/sumhi.html</u></a>
Needle Exchange Support	<a href="http://www.h2rc.org/contact-us"><u>http://www.h2rc.org/contact-us</u></a>
Safe Storage/Safe Disposal Rx Medication	<a href="mailto:Specialty.Pharmacy@Hitchcock.ORG"><u>Specialty.Pharmacy@Hitchcock.ORG</u></a>

# Discussion

*Questions ?*

*Comments?*

*What more is needed?*

# Next SUMHI Action Update

March 2021