

[**Thedoctorpatientforum.com/Resources/Advocacytools**](https://www.thedoctorpatientforum.com/resources/advocacy-tools#S1)

**Table of Recent Studies, Research, Statistics**

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| # | Topic | Date of Pub | Statistic/Results | Source (Title) and Link |
| 1 | Association b/w long term Rx opioid treatment for non-cancer pain and initiation of injection drug use (IDU) in people w/o history of substance use | 11/18/21 | Rate of IDU within 5 years.  *Chronic use* – 4%  *Episodic use* – 1.3%  *Acute use* - .7% | “Prescription opioid treatment for non-cancer pain and initiation of injection drug use: large retrospective cohort study”  <https://www.bmj.com/content/375/bmj-2021-066965.long> |
| 2 | Decrease in opioid prescribing in the past decade | 9/21/21 | There has been a 44.4% decrease in opioid prescribing nationwide in the past decade. | “Report shows decreases in opioid prescribing, increase in overdoses”<https://www.ama-assn.org/press-center/press-releases/report-shows-decreases-opioid-prescribing-increase-overdoses>“2021 OVERDOSE EPIDEMIC REPORT Physicians’ actions to help end the nation’s drug-related overdose and death epidemic —and what still needs to be done.”<https://end-overdose-epidemic.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/AMA-2021-Overdose-Epidemic-Report_92021.pdf> |
| 3 | Rate of overdose deaths from 2013-2019 | 2/12/21 | From 2013-2019, the synthetic opioid-involved death rate increased by 1040% | “Trends and geographic patterns in drug and synthetic opioid overdose deaths- USA 2013-2019”  <https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/70/wr/mm7006a4.htm> |
| 4 | Rate of increase in overdose deaths from 2020-2021 | 11/17/21 | “There were an estimated 100,306 drug overdose deaths in the USA during 12-month period ending in April 2021, an increase of 28.5% from the 78,056 deaths during the same period the year before” | “Drug Overdose Deaths in the U.S. Top 100,000 Annually  <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/pressroom/nchs_press_releases/2021/20211117.htm> |
| 5 | Relationship between the amount of opioids and injury-related mortality, including unintentional deaths, suicides, and homicides | 3/9/21 | “There is not a direct association between prescription opioids and injury-related mortality, including unintentional deaths, suicides, and homicides.” | “Opioids and injury deaths: A population-based analysis of the United States from 2006-2017”  <https://www.injuryjournal.com/article/S0020-1383(21)00233-3/fulltext> |
| 6 | Accuracy of CDC’s date counting prescription opioid deaths | 3/24/21 | In a 2018 report titled *“Quantifying the Epidemic of Prescription Opioid Overdose Deaths*,” four senior analysts of CDC acknowledged that the # of Rx opioid OD deaths reported by the CDC in 2016 was erroneous, caused by miscoding deaths involving illicit fentanyl as deaths involving Rx fentanyl.” | “CDC’s Efforts to Quantify Prescription Opioid Overdose Deaths Fall Short”  <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7987740/> |
| 7 | Opioid use disorder and overdose among youth following an initial opioid prescription | 3/19/21 | During the year after they filled an opioid prescription:  *Rate of an opioid-related complication prescription*: .3%  *Rate of OUD diagnosis*: .26%  *Opioid related OD*: .04% | “Opioid Use Disorder and Overdose Among Youth Following an Initial Opioid Prescription.”  <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/33739476/> |
| 8 | Rate of misuse or overdose in postsurgical prescriptions for opioid naïve patients | 1/17/18 | Members were followed for median of 2.67 years  Rate of opioid misuse: .6%, .2% occurring within one year after surgery | “Postsurgical prescriptions for opioid naïve patients and association with overdose and misuse: retrospective cohort study”  <https://www.bmj.com/content/360/bmj.j5790> |
| 9 | Efficacy of opioids in chronic pain | 5/3/18 | “There is an ample evidence base supporting the efficacy of opioid analgesics for at least 3 months’ duration, a standard period for the evaluation of treatments for chronic pain and other chronic disorders.”  “This evidence base is at least as large as that for any other class of analgesics, and analysis of responders demonstrates clinically meaningful improvements.” | “Efficacy of opioid versus placebo in chronic pain: a systematic review and meta-analysis of enriched enrollment randomized withdrawal trials”  <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5939920/> |
| 10 | Association of opioid tapering with risk of OD or mental health crisis | 8/3/21 | “Among patients prescribed stable, long-term, higher-dose opioid therapy, tapering events were significantly associated with increased risk of overdose and mental health crisis.” | “Association of Dose Tapering With Overdose or Mental Health Crisis Among Patients Prescribed Long-term Opioids” [**https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama/article-abstract/2782643?guestAccessKey=a13d0857-892c-4c51-b888-0412f36c9640&utm\_source=For\_The\_Media&utm\_medium=referral&utm\_campaign=ftm\_links&utm\_content=tfl&utm\_term=080321**](https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama/article-abstract/2782643?guestAccessKey=a13d0857-892c-4c51-b888-0412f36c9640&utm_source=For_The_Media&utm_medium=referral&utm_campaign=ftm_links&utm_content=tfl&utm_term=080321) |
| 11 | Association of stopping opioid prescriptions and overdoses or suicides in US veterans due to the OSI (Opioid Safety Initiative) | 8/14/21 | “a sizable group of veterans, particularly those living in rural areas, have suffered as a result of a stricter opioid environment (after many years of relatively lax opioid policies). Our findings suggest that policies that swiftly and significantly curtail opioid prescriptions should be approached with great caution.”  “The increased suicides we found were unlikely to have been offset by lives saved by other means as a result of the program.” | A program tried to cut opioid addiction among veterans. Did it cause suicides?<https://www.washingtonpost.com/outlook/2021/08/24/opioids-veterans-suicides-interventions-safety/> |
| 12 | Rate of PDMP use by prescribers | 9/21/21 | PDMP use has increased from 61.5 million in 2014 to 910.6 million in 2020 | “Prescription drug monitoring program national survey”  <https://end-overdose-epidemic.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/AMA-fact-sheet-PDMP-2014-2020-blue-FINAL.pdf> “2021 OVERDOSE EPIDEMIC REPORT Physicians’ actions to help end the nation’s drug-related overdose and death epidemic —and what still needs to be done.”<https://end-overdose-epidemic.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/AMA-2021-Overdose-Epidemic-Report_92021.pdf> |
| 13 | Since mandating PDMP use, overdose deaths have skyrocketed | 7/29/21 | “This study finds that Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs fail to reduce opioid overdoses and increase the use of black-market opioids” | “Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs: Effects on Opioid Prescribing and Drug Overdose Mortality”  <https://reason.org/policy-study/prescription-drug-monitoring-programs-effects-on-opioid-prescribing-and-drug-overdose-mortality/>  “Prescription drug monitoring programs: PDMP effects on opioid prescribing and drug overdose mortality.”  <https://reason.org/wp-content/uploads/prescription-drug-monitoring-programs-effects-on-opioid-prescribing-and-drug-overdose-mortality.pdf> |
| 14 | No correlation between Prescription Opioid Deaths, Opioid Treatment Admissions/addiction and Prescription Opioid Sales from 2010-2019 | 8/4/22 | “The analyses revealed that the direct correlations reported by the CDC (of prescription opioid sales/opioid treatment admissions/opioid deaths) based on data from 1999-2010 no longer exist. Based on data from 2010-2019 the relationships have either reversed or are non-existent.”  “The guideline, guideline update, CDC’s public, medical profession, and intergovernmental communications should be correlated/updated to state no direct correlation has existed between prescription opioid sales, opioid treatment admissions, any opioid overdose death, prescription opioid overdose death, and total overdose death since 2010.” | “Overdose, opioid treatment, admissions, and prescription opioid pain reliever relationships: United States, 2010-2019”  <https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fpain.2022.884674/full> |
| 15 | Long-term risk of adverse events after opioid tapering | 6/13/22 | “These findings suggest that opioid tapering was associated with increased rates of overdose, withdrawal, and mental health crisis extending up to 2 years after taper initiation.” | “Long-term risk of overdose or mental health crisis after opioid dose tapering”  <https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamanetworkopen/fullarticle/2793293> |

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