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# National overview: America's opioid epidemic

**Daniel Blaney-Koen, JD**

**July 2018**



**National  
landscape**

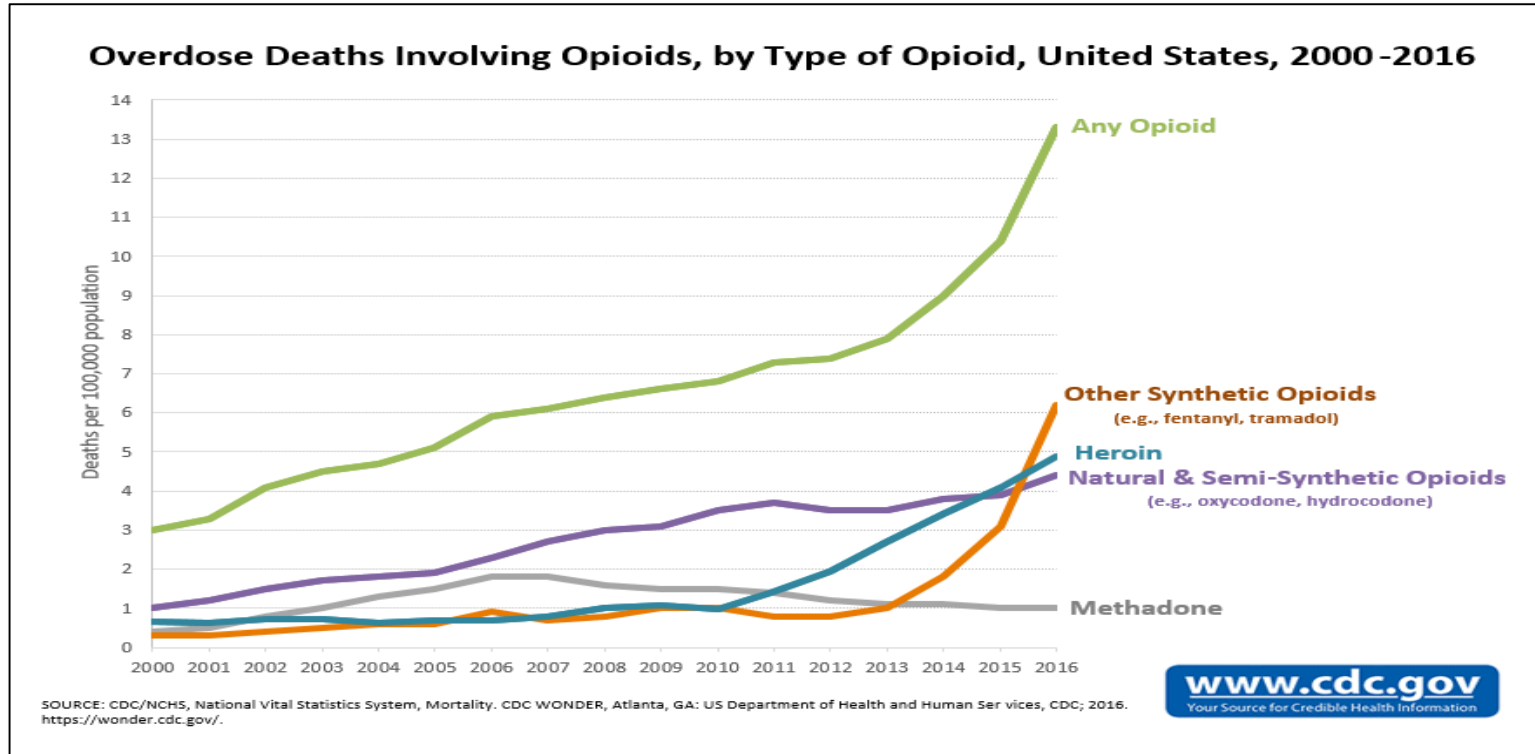
**AMA  
Opioid  
Task  
Force**

**Policy  
efforts**

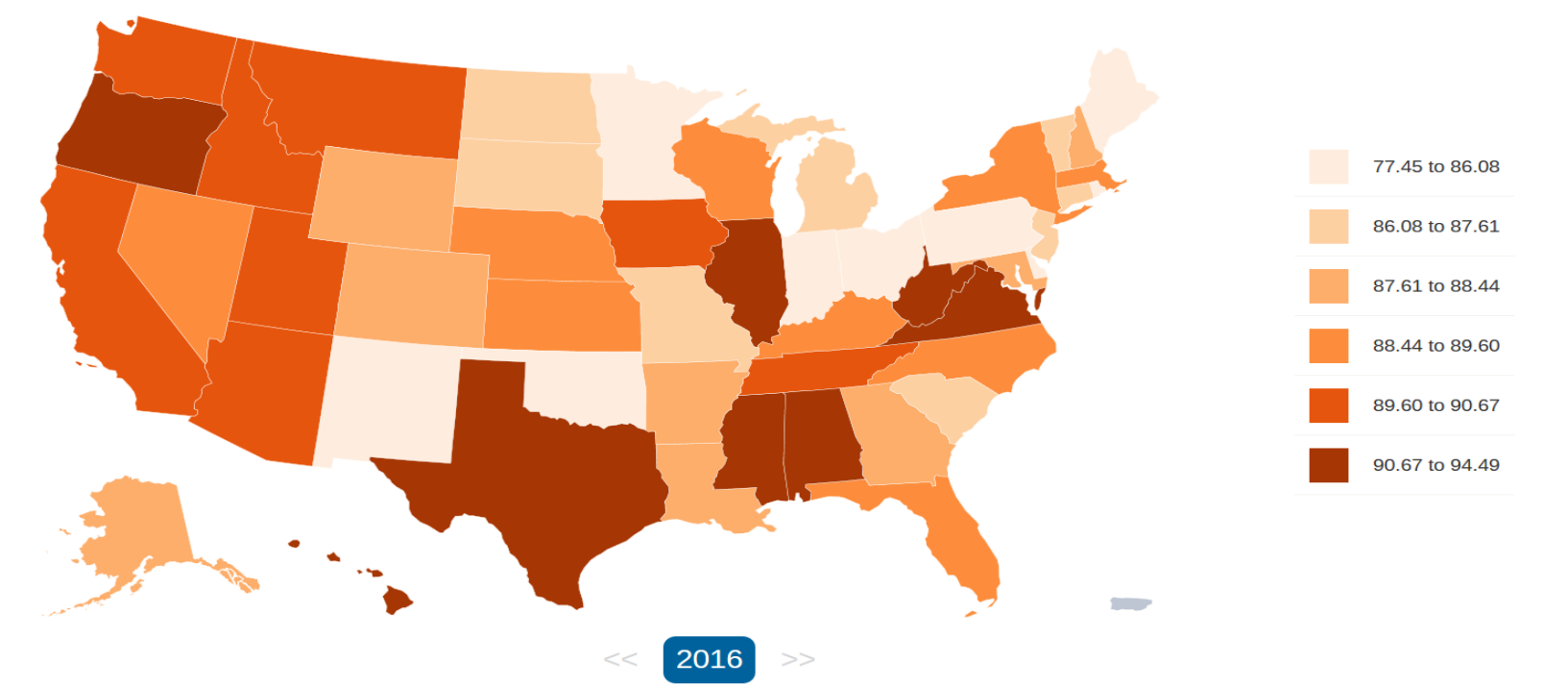
**Barriers  
to care**

**Reasons  
for  
optimism**

# Illicit fentanyl and heroin leading causes of opioid-related mortality



# Percent population needing but not receiving treatment for illicit drug use



Source: NSDUH, <http://opioid.amfar.org/indicator/pctunmetneed>

# AMA Opioid Task Force recommendations

## ***PDMPs***

Register for and use your state PDMP to make more informed prescribing decisions

**TAKE ACTION >**

## ***Education***

Ensure you have the education and training on effective, evidence-based treatment

**TAKE ACTION >**

## ***Treatment***

Support and advocate for comprehensive care for patients in pain and those with a substance use disorder

**TAKE ACTION >**

## ***Stigma***

Removing stigma is essential to ending the nation's opioid epidemic

**TAKE ACTION >**

## ***Naloxone***

Expand access to naloxone in the community and through co-prescribing

**TAKE ACTION >**

## ***Safe Storage and Disposal***

Work with your patients to promote safe storage and disposal of opioids and all medications

**TAKE ACTION >**

[www.end-opioid-epidemic.org](http://www.end-opioid-epidemic.org)

# AMA works with, advocates to and learns from everyone who can make a difference

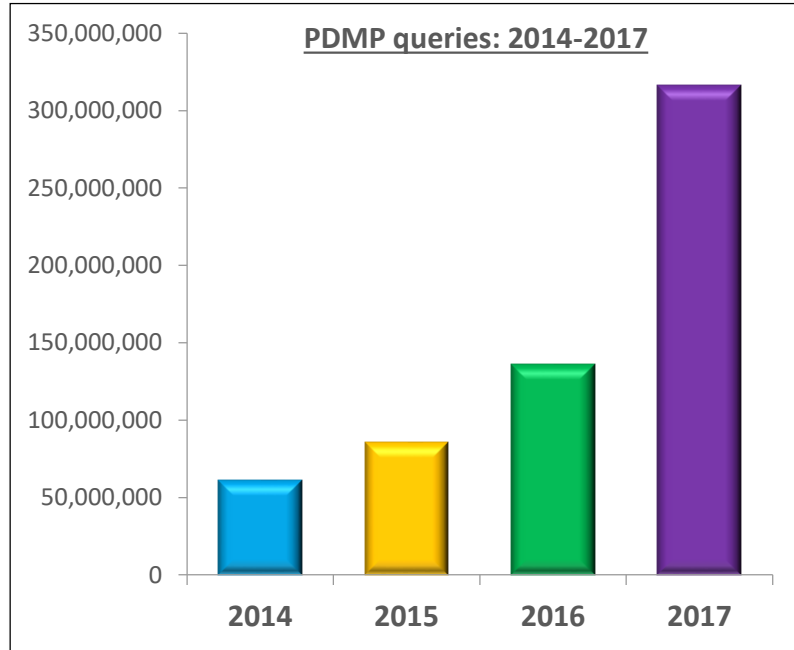


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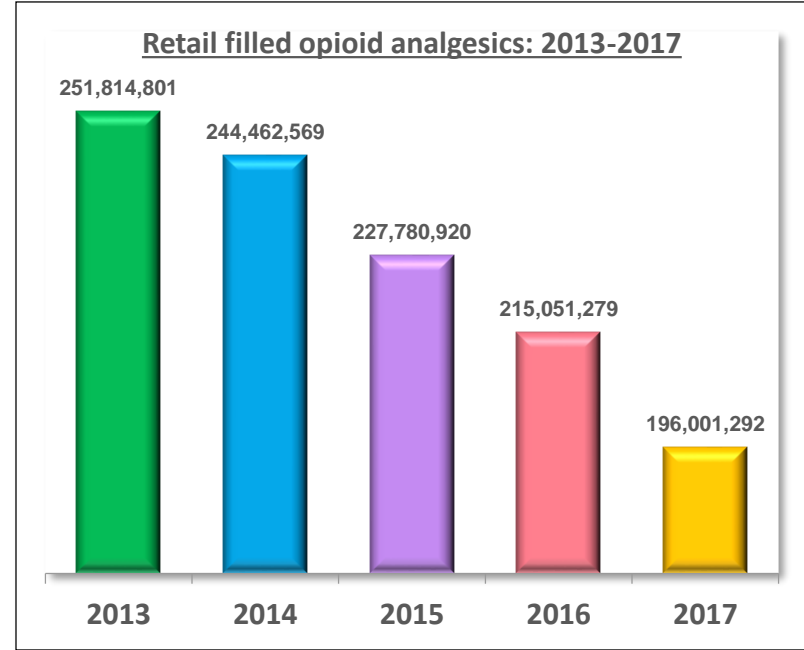


# Physicians taking action:

## PDMP use increasing; opioid supply decreasing



Source: AMA survey of state PDMP administrators

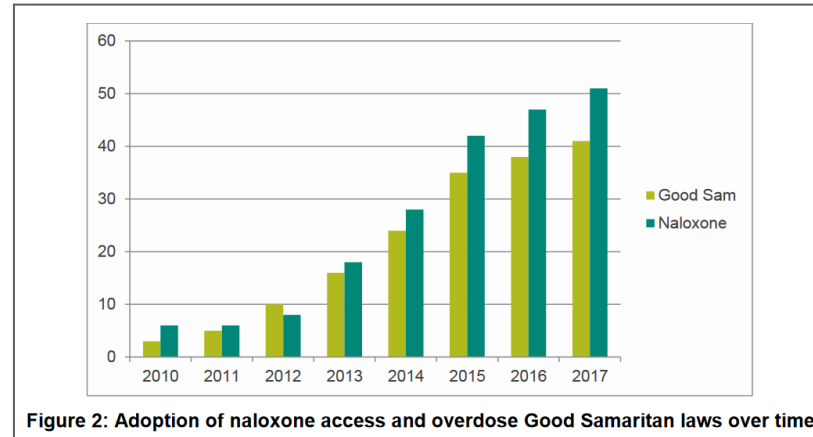
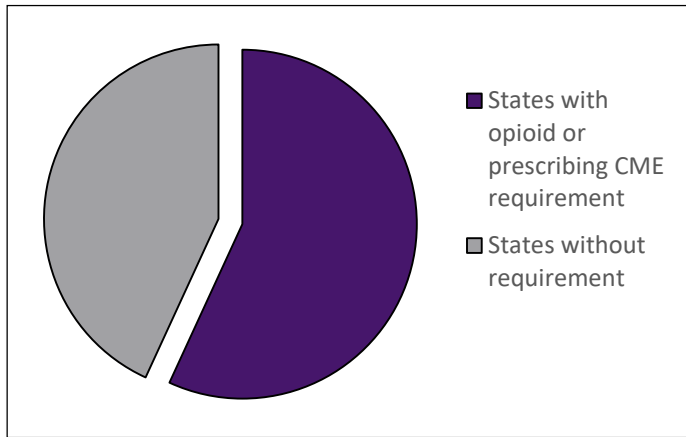
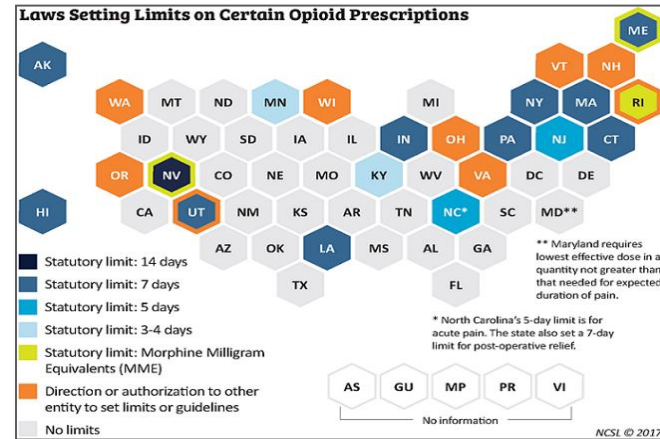
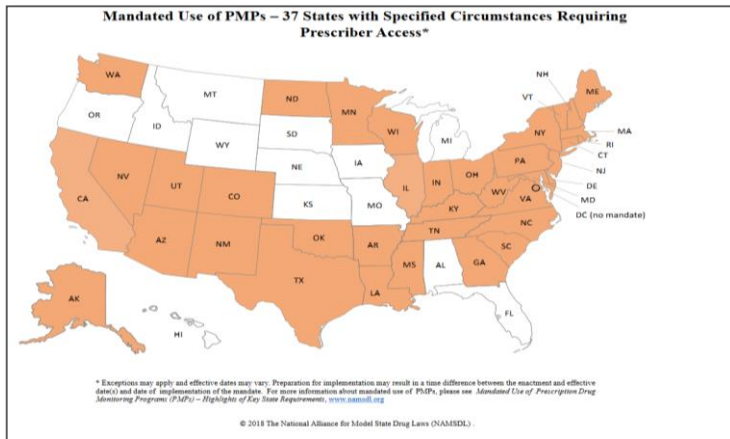


Source: Xponent, IQVIA; PayerTrak, IQVIA

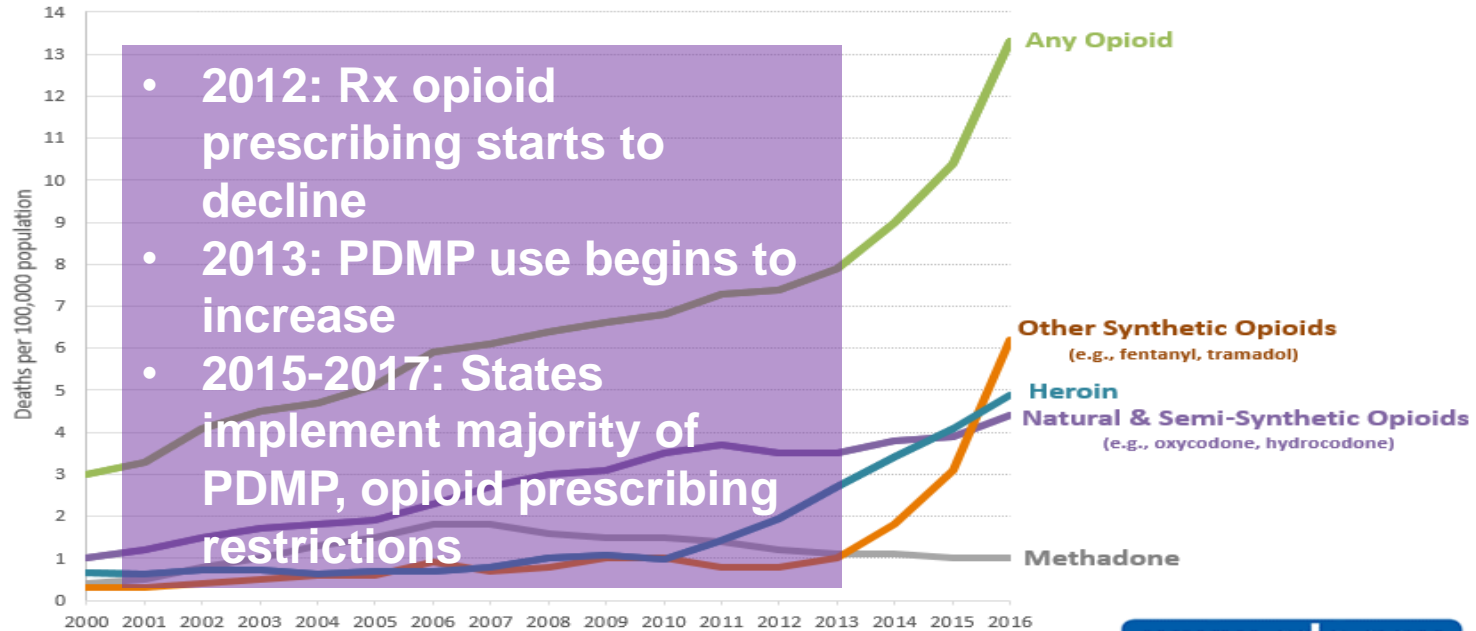
# AMA Opioid Task Force recommendations and results

- **Use state PDMPs to help inform clinical decision making**
  - 2014: 60M queries / 2017: 300M queries
- **Enhance our education**
  - 2015-2016: 118,000 CME and other courses accessed, attended and viewed
  - 2017: 549,000+ CME and other courses accessed, attended and viewed
- **Co-prescribe naloxone to patients at risk of overdose**
  - Naloxone Rx's increased in 2017, from approx. 3,500 to 8,000 Rx's dispensed per week
  - Every state now has an expanded naloxone access law based on AMA model state legislation – up from about 25 in 2014
- **Become trained and certified to treat patients with a substance use disorder**
  - There are now more than 50,000 physicians certified to provide in-office buprenorphine to treat patients with a substance use disorder; 15,000 in just the past year





## Overdose Deaths Involving Opioids, by Type of Opioid, United States, 2000-2016



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](https://www.cdc.gov)  
Your Source for Credible Health Information

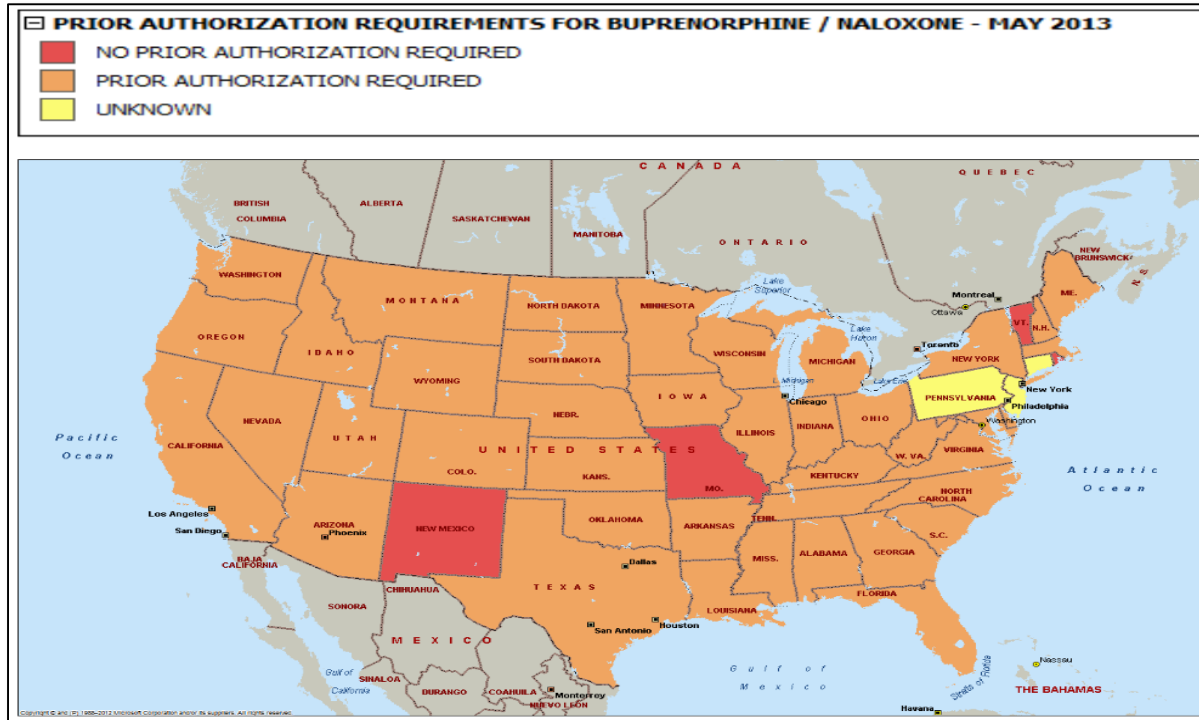
# Which guideline/recommendation/best practice/policy is a physician supposed to follow?



**STATE LAWS**



## Barriers to MAT are nationwide



“Advancing Access to Addiction Medications: Implications for Opioid Addiction Treatment.” The American Society of Addiction Medicine, 2013. [https://www.asam.org/docs/default-source/advocacy/aaam\\_implications-for-opioid-addiction-treatment\\_final.pdf?sfvrsn=cee262c2\\_25](https://www.asam.org/docs/default-source/advocacy/aaam_implications-for-opioid-addiction-treatment_final.pdf?sfvrsn=cee262c2_25)

**“[Cost and prior authorization] makes me want to go out and use [drugs],” Mandy said. “It’s way easier to get opiates or heroin. ... It’s so much easier than dealing with this bullshit.”**

<https://www.vox.com/science-and-health/2018/6/4/17388756/opioid-epidemic-health-insurance-buprenorphine>

Chicago Tribune

WEDNESDAY, JULY 7, 2018

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## Tennessee-Based Pain Management Group To Close Clinics Amid Financial Turmoil

By Fred Schulte  
JULY 3, 2018  
REPUBLIC THIS STORY



HUFFPOST PERSONAL 07/05/2018 08:31 am ET | Updated 3 hours ago

## There's Another Opioid Crisis We Don't Talk About And I'm Trapped In The Middle Of It

Rick Lunkenheimer  
Guest Writer



## Chronic pain patients, overlooked in opioid crisis, getting new attention from top at FDA

Jayne O'Donnell and Josephine Chu, USA TODAY Published 3:17 p.m. ET July 2, 2018 | Updated 4:29 p.m. ET July 3, 2018





# A few of the reasons why we have reason to be optimistic



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Adolescent Substance Use  
and Addiction Program



# There is much more work to do

- Ensure all formularies include all FDA-approved forms of medication assisted treatment (MAT)
- Remove administrative barriers to treatment, including prior authorization.
- Increase oversight and enforcement of parity laws for mental health and substance use disorders
- Ensure patients have access to affordable, non-opioid pain care.
- Put an end to stigma. Patients with pain or substance use disorders deserve the same care and compassion as any other patient with a chronic medical condition.

