Attacking the Drug Epidemic

Healthcare Delivery Perspective

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ATTACKING THE DRUG EPIDEMIC: HEALTHCARE DELIVERY PERSPECTIVE

Scope of the Problem
Just Your Normal High School Boy - The David Manlove Story
Rachel has been sober! She is a college graduate!
Scope of the problem

“In 2015, more Americans died of drug overdoses than any other year on record — **more than 52,000 deaths** in just one year. That's higher than the **more than 38,000** who died in car crashes, the **more than 36,000** who died from gun violence, and the **more than 43,000** who died due to HIV/AIDS during that epidemic's peak in 1995” (Garmez Lopez)

(Data source from Rudd et al, 2016; Center for Disease Control)
Scope of the problem

1. In 2015, 63% of drug overdose deaths involved opioid across the nation

2. Between 2010 to 2015, there was a 75% increase in drug overdose deaths in Indiana (Rudd et al, 2016)

3. Yearly economic impact is $442 billion; $193 billion in illicit drug use, 249 billion alcohol misuse (Surgeon General’s Report, 2016)
144 drug overdose deaths daily

Source: Addiction Policy Forum
Who Is Affected?

1. Increased risks for persons with mental illness
2. Patients – loss of self-control
3. Family members & communities (National Academies of Medicine, 2016)
4. Effects on unborn infants (neonatal abstinence syndrome) and children (entry into child welfare system; Sausser, 2017)
5. Provider burden
9 out of 10 people who need treatment do not get it!

Surgeon General’s Report on Alcohol, Drugs, and Health, 2016; Rudd et al, 2016
Challenges and Proposed Solutions
Challenges & Contributing Factors

1. Lack of public awareness and knowledge of risks and consequences
2. Unabating stigma
3. Inadequate investment in prevention strategies
4. Barriers to access
Challenges & Contributing Factors

5. Shortage of trained behavioral care workforce
6. Limited uptake of evidence-based practice
7. Inadequate recovery support
Increase Public Awareness & Knowledge

1. Educate American public

2. Youths need to know that “first” drug misuse leads to life-long consequences

3. Parents must take drug or alcohol use serious
Target Stigma

1. Substance use disorder or Addiction is a chronic brain disease just like any other medical condition and should be treated as such! (Surgeon General’s Report, 2016; Rudd et al, 2016)

2. People are not their diseases or associated behaviors

3. Bridge dichotomy between substance use disorder and mental illness

4. Incentivize interest in behavioral health professions
8 million American have co-occurring substance use disorder and mental illness (Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality)

90% respondents in a national survey were unwilling to have a person with drug addiction marry into their family and 78% were unwilling to work with them (Barry et al., 2014)
Invest in Prevention Strategies

1. Preventative education is the key to future success (Surgeon General’s Report, 2016)

2. Optimize opportunities for education and screening in primary care clinics; Substance and alcohol use; Adverse childhood experiences

3. Mainstream early intervention and treatment into primary care settings (Chou et al., 2016)

4. Pay for prevention services (e.g., Screening Brief Intervention & Referral to Treatment)
Enhance Access

1. Remove current restrictions on behavioral health workforce; Scope of practice; Licensure; Certification
2. Address reimbursement issues with private and public health plans
3. Expand use of telehealth to health professions shortage areas
4. Promote use of Electronic Health Record
5. Restructure regulations around release of information
Develop & Train an Integrated Health Workforce

1. Develop and train an integrated health care workforce that can promote family-focused behavioral health care for all persons including children and their families (The National Academies of Medicine, 2016)

2. Provide internship/residency programs and continuing education

3. Adopt federal, state, and health system guidelines such as CDC Guidelines on Prescribing Opioids for Chronic Pain (2016); and Indiana State Best Practice Guidelines for the Treatment of Opioid Use Disorder (2016)
Increase Uptake of Evidence-based practice

1. Accept that treatment works! (Surgeon General Report, 2016)
2. Use collaborative, comprehensive, multi-prong approach
3. Increase use of evidence-based behavioral therapies with fidelity
4. Identify and address barriers to uptake of evidence-based practice
5. Include entire family in care continuum!
Enhance Recovery Support

1. Increase community based or psychosocial services

2. Leverage current pool of trained recovery and peer coaches

3. Assess and address social and environmental determinants of health, e.g., access to Recovery high schools; Recovery or peer support coaches
Recovery support cannot be understated!
Summary

Addiction is a chronic and recurring brain disease. Despite the associated conning, powerful, and baffling symptoms and behaviors, prevention works, treatment is effective, and recovery is possible for everyone! Together we can attack current drug epidemic using a public health framework of integrated, comprehensive and multipronged approach appropriate to each person’s need!
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References


3. 144 a Day: Understanding the Numbers http://www.144aday.org/


References


11. The National Academies of Medicine


12. Indiana State Best Practice Guidelines for the Treatment of Opioid Use Disorder (December 30, 2016). Indiana DMHA