



SEPA Regional Overdose Prevention Coalition

“Breaking Down Silos”

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Chester County Overdose Task Force

Delaware County Heroin Task Force – Medical Subcommittee

Substance Abuse Disorders Are a Disease

DEFINING SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER

- ▶ Substance use disorder is a pattern of use or misuse leading to significant impairment or distress.
- ▶ Some signs of opioid use disorder are:
 - ▶ Using a prescription drug to “get high”
 - ▶ Unable to control or cut down use
 - ▶ Taking in larger amounts or for longer than intended
 - ▶ Developing tolerance or having withdrawal
 - ▶ Unable to do what you are supposed to do for work, family, or school due to opioid use



FACE AND PAWS
THE U.S.'S DARK CONNECTION
ROBT ROBERTSON AND SEUNG HAN

- ▶ SEX
- ▶ DRUGS
- ▶ DRINKING
- ▶ SMOKING

Scientists are discovering the chemical secret to

HOW WE GET ADDICTED

... and how we might get cured



The Epidemic

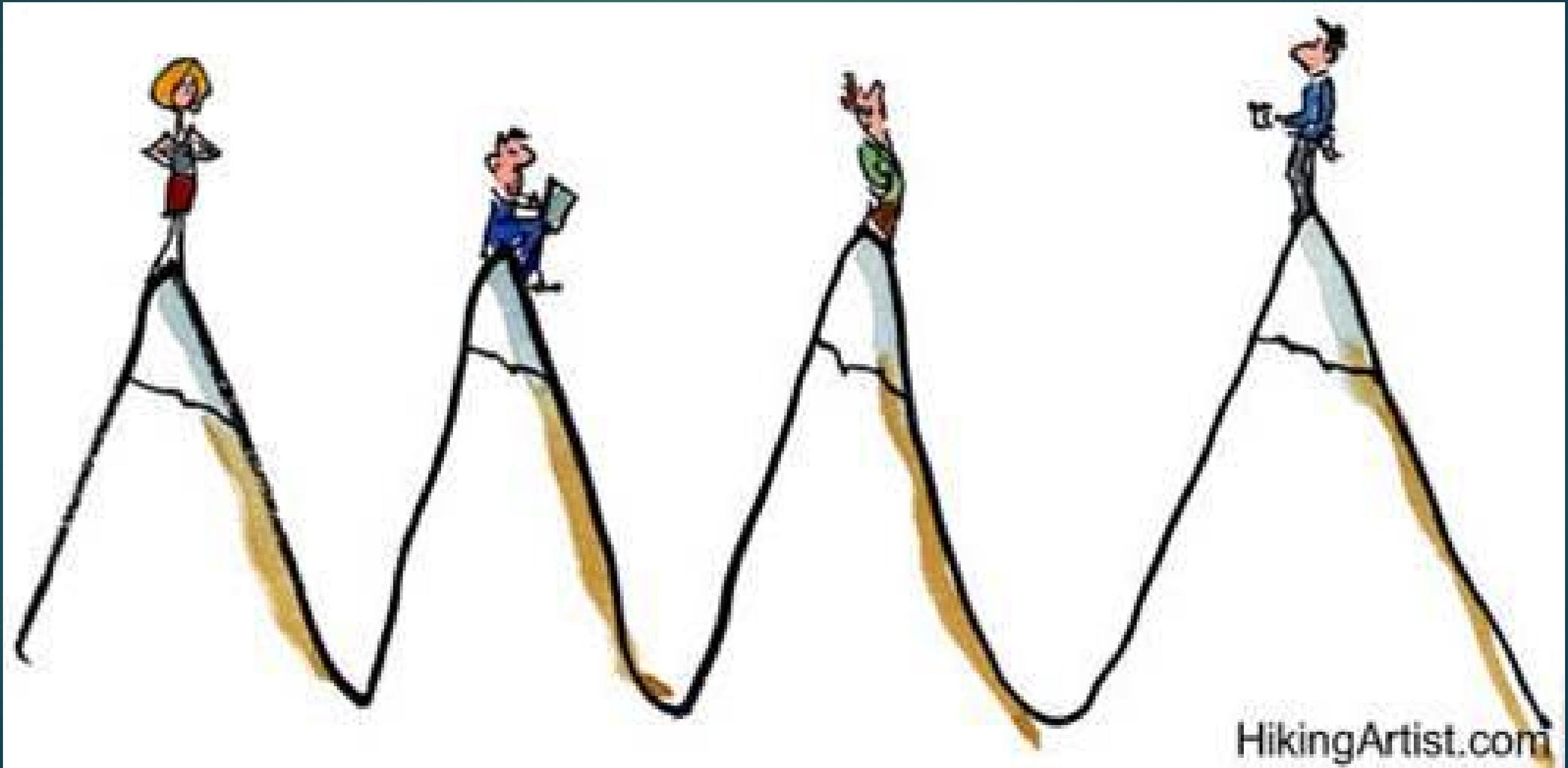
- ▶ From 2000 to 2016, over half a million people in the United States died from drug overdose. Since that time, it's only gotten worse.
- ▶ Nearly half of all opioid overdose deaths involved a prescription [opioid](#).
- ▶ In 2018 - 13 people per day will die from overdose in Pennsylvania which has the 6th highest rate of drug overdose deaths in the country.

Typical Response

- ▶ When a crisis becomes large or noticeable enough, people and organizations are compelled to respond
- ▶ Frequently, this results in dozens of Task Forces, Committees, Charities, and Organizations each addressing the problem from their viewpoint, including:

Hospitals, Universities, Businesses, Governmental Departments, Families, Professional Societies, etc.

Is this the best way?



History - ROPC

- ▶ December 2016
- ▶ A group of individuals from Philadelphia working on an opioid program reached out to neighboring Delaware and Chester Counties to discuss holding a joint conference
- ▶ Presentations on safer opioid prescribing for chronic pain treatment were held in Philadelphia, Chester & Delaware County locations in early 2017
 - ▶ SCOPE of Pain (Safe and Competent Opioid Prescribing Education) is a continuing education program run by Boston University

Early 2017

- ▶ Collaboration was thought to be beneficial in order to expand the audience for the safer prescribing symposium
- ▶ The planners seized on the opportunity to host a forum for collaboration across counties on additional issues related to the opioid epidemic

March 2017 at the Philadelphia County Medical Society



**WHEN: FRIDAY MARCH 17TH,
2017 10AM TO 2PM**

**WHERE: THE PHILADELPHIA
COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY,
2100 SPRING GARDEN STREET**

AN INTERACTIVE DISCUSSION ON A REGIONAL APPROACH TO OPIOIDS AND OVERDOSE

Lunch and Parking Provided

Please RSVP to: silvana@ppponline.org

Please join us for an interactive discussion with National Experts, Regional Public and Behavioral Health Planners and Data Managers, as well as Policymakers from Delaware, Chester, Montgomery, and Philadelphia Counties as we begin the discussion to develop collaborative approaches to:

- Reducing the Regional Prescription Supply
- Incorporating Access to Treatment in the Context of Care
- Regional Data Sharing
- A Regional Treatment Inventory
- Increasing Naloxone Access

March 2017



- ▶ Participants attended from a wide cross-section of those dealing with overdose, including health department, drug & alcohol department, and medical society members; policy planners; data analysts; law enforcement and first responder representatives; treatment facility directors; behavioral health specialists; and more.
- ▶ Feedback from the attendees indicated interest in continuing the dialogue

June 2017 in West Chester

Regional Overdose Prevention Collaboration



Please join us to continue the conversation among local, state, and regional groups to enhance collaboration in southeast Pennsylvania. Representatives from Bucks County, Chester County, Delaware County, Montgomery County, and Philadelphia County are invited to discuss:

- Data Sharing
- Access to Treatment
- Naloxone Access
- Regional Treatment Inventory
- And more

June 30, 2017

10:00 am to 2:00 pm

Government Services Center

601 Westtown Road

West Chester PA 19380

Lunch and Parking Provided

RSVP at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/OverdosePrev6-30-17>

For further information, contact Dr. Renée Cassidy: rcassidy@chesco.org

October 2017

At the Glen Mills Schools in Delaware County

Regional Overdose Prevention Coalition



Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery, and Philadelphia County
(PA); Camden County (NJ); New Castle County (DE)

Regional Conference 10/27/17 hosted by Delaware County

Please join us to continue the conversation and collaboration of local, state, and regional groups in the Philadelphia region.

Breakout sessions include:

- Data Sharing
- Perinatal Health
- Working with Payers
- Communications

Friday, October 27, 2017

10 am-1:30 pm

Glen Mills Schools

185 Glen Mills Road

Glen Mills, PA 19342

Lunch and Parking Provided

RSVP by October 20th using this link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/OverdosePrevention2017>

For further information, please contact

David McKeighan at delcomedsoc@comcast.net

Addiction and Overdose Continue to Ravage Our Communities

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The opioid crisis continues to dominate our region. A recent publication in the Journal of American Medical Association stated that for the first time since 1993, the average life expectancy was diminished by two months. This decrease is attributed to overdoses from opioids. It is also believed that this number could be underreported by as much as 25%. Our coalition is working to alleviate the burden caused by the opioid epidemic through increasing collaboration and communication across county lines.

October 2017



- ▶ Feedback continued to indicate the value of an ongoing collaboration, so arrangements were made to formalize the organization
- ▶ In addition to hosting the third conference, in Delaware County, we held an organizational meeting
 - ▶ The Regional Overdose Prevention Coalition was born & a formal structure including an executive committee, subcommittees, and chairpersons was determined

February 2018

Newtown, Bucks County

Regional Overdose Prevention Coalition



Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery, and Philadelphia County
(PA); Camden County (NJ); New Castle County (DE)

Regional Conference 2/23/18 hosted by Bucks County

**On January 10,
2018, Governor
Wolf Declared
the Heroin and
Opioid Epidemic
a Statewide
Disaster
Emergency.
What does that
mean for you?**



Jason Snyder, Special
Assistant to the
Secretary of the
Pennsylvania
Department of
Human Services, will
discuss what the
disaster declaration
means for counties
and county-level
organizations. A
question and answer
session will follow
the presentation.

Please join us to continue the conversation and collaboration of local, state, and regional groups in the Philadelphia region. We will present updates on prior topics including data sharing and perinatal health. Breakout sessions include:

- First Responder Safety
- Recovery Issues
- Working with Payers
- Communication with Legislators

Friday, February 23, 2018

10 am - 2 pm

**Bucks County Community College
Newtown Campus
275 Swamp Road**

Newtown, PA 18940

Lunch and Parking Provided;

Details will be sent to registrants

RSVP by February 16th using this link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RTZ2DSY>

For information, please contact David McKeighan
at delcomedsoc@comcast.net or (610) 892-7750

Today

- ▶ The ROPC is currently planning a June 15th meeting in Montgomery County.
- ▶ We have a distribution list of approximately 250 people in 7 counties across 3 states (adding Camden County, NJ & New Castle County, DE).
- ▶ A group of 60 to 100 people participate in conferences held roughly four times per year.
- ▶ A subset of 30 to 40 people from 7 counties actively participate on subcommittee action items between meetings.

ROPC Endeavors

Treatment Inventory

- ▶ With people who live in one county, work in another, and overdose anywhere, knowing the treatment options for all the counties in the area is important
- ▶ ROPC subcommittee members collated a list of treatment facilities to share
- ▶ We are currently working on a more robust list which includes specific capabilities of behavioral health facilities
- ▶ Ultimately, we would love a real-time inventory

Warm Handoff



- ▶ Discussion among different counties revealed several methods for warm handoff
- ▶ The models were summarized and participants discussed pros and cons of various styles
- ▶ Many ROPC participants attended the regional summit on Warm Handoff organized by the state of PA

Data Sharing

- ▶ In conjunction with efforts by the PA Opioid Overdose Reduction Technical Assistance Center, based out of the University of Pittsburgh, and
- ▶ HIDTA (High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas) of Washington-Baltimore and Liberty-Mid Atlantic (formerly Philadelphia-Camden),
- ▶ Our ROPC is attempting to increase the reliability, consistency, and availability of data across the region

Safer Prescribing

- ▶ ROPC members have been involved in outreach efforts to prescribers to encourage safer use of prescription pain medications
- ▶ Fostering connections across counties has enabled sharing of resources, cross-promotion of conferences, and sharing of contacts
- ▶ Promoting the Use of the PDMP

Payer Collaboration

- ▶ Several meetings have been organized with insurance company executives and medical directors (medical and behavioral health; public and private) to discuss ways in which we can collaborate with payers to address the challenges of the opioid epidemic
- ▶ Discussions have covered wide-ranging topics including communication, diminishing barriers to treatment, assessing the quality of care for substance use disorder, and integrating medical & behavioral health

Legislative

- ▶ Discussions thus far have focused on how best to educate legislators and their aides, rather than advocating for specific policies
- ▶ The ROPC is beginning to create white papers on various topics, including the impact of opioids on maternal and child health (particularly Medication Assisted Treatment (MATs) Options & pregnancy - neonatal abstinence syndrome)
- ▶ Development of an Active Tracking List of Bills in State Legislature that are related to Opioids

Communications



- ▶ Sharing information is one of the foremost benefits of the collaboration
- ▶ The ROPC created a flyer to easily explain how to access treatment in any county
- ▶ Many executive committee members have been asked to be panelists or presenters
- ▶ Facilitating inter-disciplinary discussion to address issues i.e., physicians & pharmacists

Special Thanks:

Renée M. Cassidy, MD, FAAP, FACP

Public Health Physician, Chester County Health Department
Chair, Regional Overdose Prevention Coalition, SE PA

Aviva Fohrer, MD

Board Certified in Addiction Medicine & Family Medicine
Thalia Medical Center, Ardmore, PA