

The Opioid Epidemic: The Landscape of Comprehensive Care for Women with Opioid Use Disorder and Their Children

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Disclosures

- Dr. Jones has no conflicts of interests or disclosures relevant to the content of this presentation.

FDA Context

- Methadone and buprenorphine have historically been labeled by the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) as Category C for use in pregnancy for the treatment of maternal opioid dependence: *“Animal reproduction studies have shown an adverse effect on the fetus and there are no adequate and well-controlled studies in humans, but potential benefits may warrant use of the drug in pregnant women despite potential risks”*
- As of May 2016, the FDA requires methadone and buprenorphine safety labeling to include information regarding the risk of neonatal opioid withdrawal syndrome (NOWS)

FDA Context: Part 2

- Pregnant women with opioid use disorders (OUDs) can be effectively treated with methadone or buprenorphine. However, labeling states it should be used only if the potential benefit justifies the potential risk to the fetus
- Pregnant women with opioid use disorders can be effectively treated with methadone or buprenorphine. Both these medications should not be considered “off-label” use in the treatment of pregnant patients with opioid use disorder (Jones et al., *Am J Obstet Gynecol*, 2014).

Objectives

- At the conclusion of this activity participants should be able to:
 - Identify at least three historical and current factors that help explain the current opioid epidemic for women
 - Identify at least three new SAMHSA recommendations to care for pregnant women and their children touched by opioid use disorder
 - Identify at least three factors that drive Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome outcomes
 - Identify at least three elements that are common themes among Model Programs

Historical Context: Opioid Use and Women

Main Eras of Opioid Use in the USA

- 1800s: 66–75% of people using opioids were women
- 1940-50s: New York saw large increase in teenage opioid use
- 1969-70's: Opioid use by Vietnam veterans
- 1996-now: Pain as the 5th vital sign and pain medication access



<http://usslave.blogspot.com.br/2012/02/opiate-addiction-and-cocaine-use-in.html>; <https://pixabay.com/en/vintage-retro-ladies-photo-paper-1303815/>

Courtwright D. *J Southern History* 1983; Kandall S *Substance and shadow*, 1996.
Earle, *Medical Standards*, 1888

The Incidental Economist 2014 <https://pointsadhsblog.files.wordpress.com/2012/03/08-0620hair20salon20loc20nywt20226b.jpg>

Recent History: Opioid Use in the USA

80's

- Reports state few receiving narcotic painkillers develop addiction

90's

- Purdue Pharma Develops Oxycontin

1996

- The Joint Commission "Pain - the 5th Vital Sign"

2003

- Tripling of 18-25 year olds misusing opioid pain relievers
- DEA and FDA task forces to reduce internet opioid sales

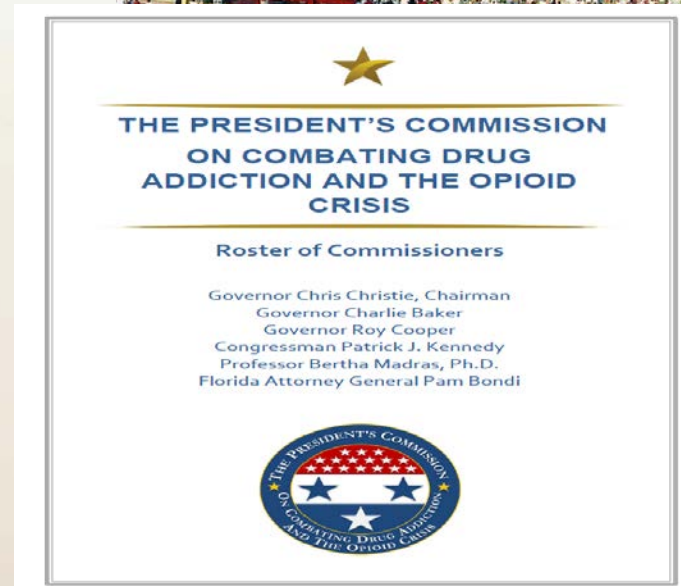
2007

- George Brothers open first pain clinic in FL. American Pain prescribed almost 20 million pills over two years

2009-
now

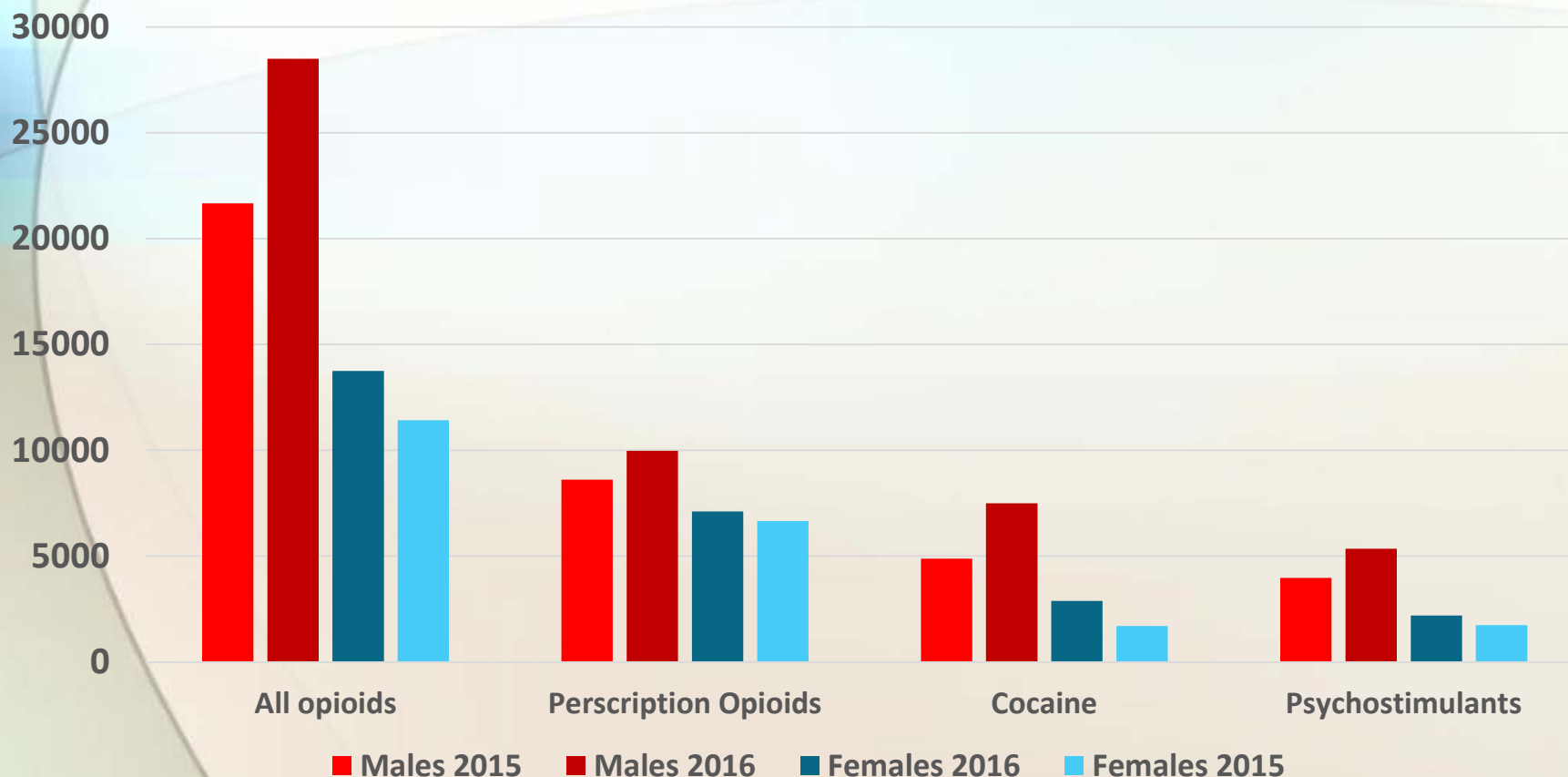
- Drug overdose surpass motor vehicles as the leading cause of injury death

"Our people are dying. More than 175 lives lost every day. If a terrorist organization was killing 175 Americans a day on American soil, what would we do to stop them?"



Current Context of Opioid Misuse in the USA for Women

2015-2016 Annual number and age-adjusted rate of drug overdose deaths



From 1999 to 2017, the death rate from drug overdose among women aged 30–64 years increased by 260%.

Drug overdose deaths involving antidepressants, benzodiazepines, cocaine, heroin, prescription opioids, and synthetic opioids all increased.

Gender and Development of Addiction

- Healthcare professionals tend to miss signs of addiction in women
 - Especially in older women and younger girls
- ADVISE Study: RCT SBIRT implementation into primary care:
 - 640,000 adult patients
 - Women less likely to be screened (OR=0.78)
 - Among those screened, women less likely to receive BI/RT (OR=0.60)

Current Context: Opioid Use and Women

Compared to men, women are more likely to:

- **report chronic pain**
- **be prescribed prescription pain relievers**
- **be given higher doses**
- **use them for longer time periods than men**
- **have a shorter duration between opioid use initiation and seeking help for an opioid use disorder**
- **Less likely to receive naloxone for an overdose**



Specific risks for the misuse of prescription opioid medication among women include: experience of violence and trauma, being a native minority, adolescent, young, older, pregnant, a sexual minority, and being a transwoman

Current Context of Substance Use during Pregnancy

Substance Use in Past Month Among Pregnant Women

PAST MONTH, 2015 - 2017, 15 - 44



Special analysis of the 2017 NSDUH Report.

+ Difference between this estimate and the 2017 estimate is statistically significant at the .05 level.

History: Defining Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS)

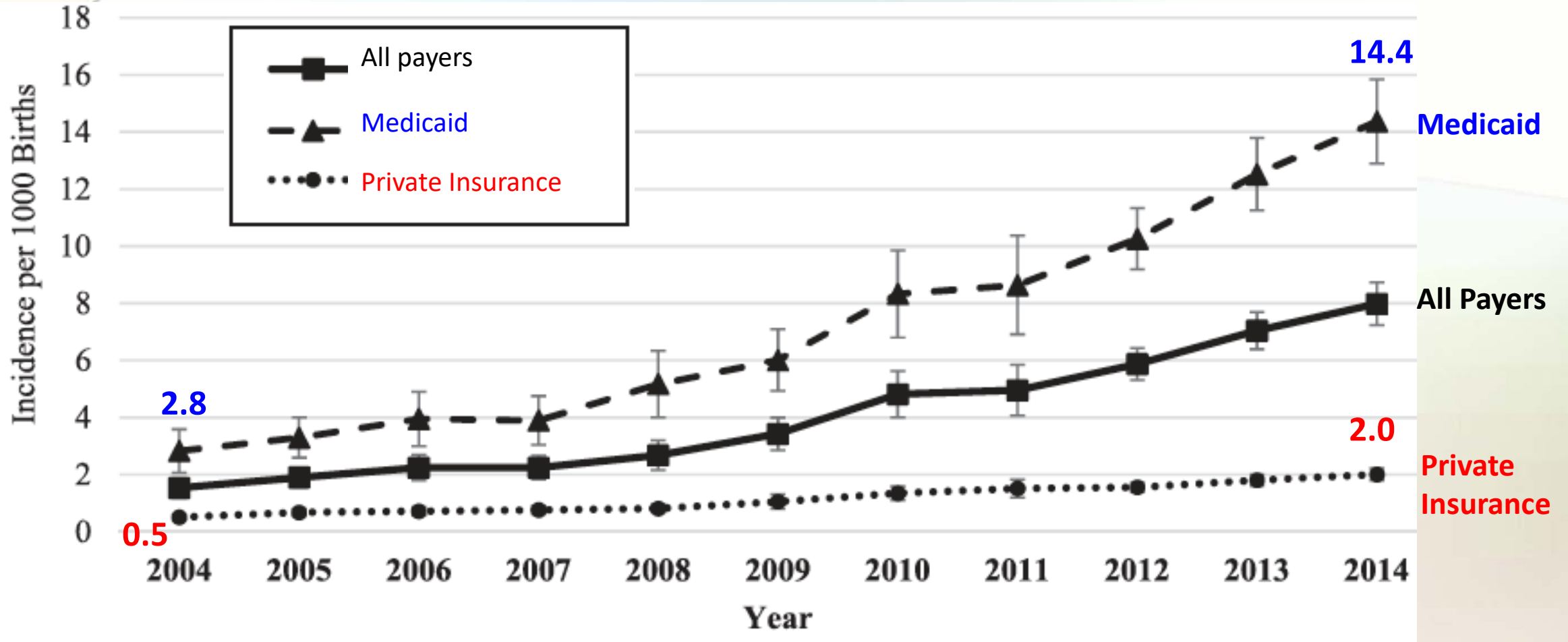
Results when a pregnant woman regularly uses opioids (e.g., heroin, oxycodone) during pregnancy

NAS defined by alterations in the:

- **Central nervous system**
 - high-pitched crying, irritability
 - exaggerated reflexes, tremors and tight muscles
 - sleep disturbances
- **Autonomic nervous system**
 - sweating, fever, yawning, and sneezing
- **Gastrointestinal distress**
 - poor feeding, vomiting and loose stools
- **Signs of respiratory distress**
 - nasal congestion and rapid breathing

- NAS is not Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (FAS) only FAS has confirmed long term physical, cognitive and behavioral effects
- NAS is treatable
- NAS and its treatment are not known to have long-term effects; interactions between the caregiver and child can impact resiliency/risk with potential long-term effects in some cases.

Current Context: Opioids, Pregnancy, and NAS



NAS is Not Addiction

- Newborns can't be “born addicted”
- NAS is withdrawal – due to physical dependence
- Physical dependence is not addiction
- Addiction is brain illness whose visible signs are behaviors
- Newborn do not have the life duration or experience to meet the addiction definition

NAS: Various Substances

STATE-OF-THE-ART REVIEW ARTICLE

Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome

AUTHOR: Drabhaban Karhanlakota, MD
... *Pediatrics* 2014;134:e547–e561

TABLE 1 Onset, Duration, and Frequency of NAS Caused by Various Substances

| Drug | Onset, h | Frequency, % | Duration, d |
|---------------------------------|----------|------------------------|------------------|
| Opioids | | | |
| Heroin | 24–48 | 40–80 ²⁷ | 8–10 |
| Methadone | 48–72 | 13–94 ⁵⁷ | Up to 30 or more |
| Buprenorphine | 36–60 | 22–67 ^{46,48} | Up to 28 or more |
| Prescription opioid medications | 36–72 | 5–20 ^{56,60} | 10–30 |
| Nonopioids | | | |
| SSRIs | 24–48 | 20–30 ⁶⁴ | 2–6 |
| TCAs | 24–48 | 20–50 ⁶⁴ | 2–6 |
| Methamphetamines | 24 | 2–49 ¹⁰¹ | 7–10 |
| Inhalants | 24–48 | 48 ⁷⁰ | 2–7 |

Salient Maternal Categories Related to NAS

1. Women using opioid analgesics for medical condition who do not have a substance use disorder
2. Women using opioid analgesics for medical condition and who also have a substance use disorder
3. Women receiving pharmacotherapy for the treatment of an opioid use disorder
4. Women with an (unrecognized) untreated opioid use disorder

NAS: Factors

Other factors that contribute to severity of NAS in neonates exposed to opioid agonists in utero:

➤ **Genetics**

➤ **Other Substances**

Tobacco use

Benzodiazepines

SSRIs

➤ **Birth weight**

➤ **Hospital Protocols**

- Presence of a protocol
- Rural vs. urban
- NICU setting
- The NAS assessment choice
- NAS medication choice
- Initiation and weaning protocols
- Not breastfeeding
- Separating mother and baby

MOTHER NAS Predictors

Receipt of NAS treatment for infants was predicted by:

- Higher infant birthweight
- Greater maternal nicotine use

Total medication dose needed to treat NAS was predicted by:

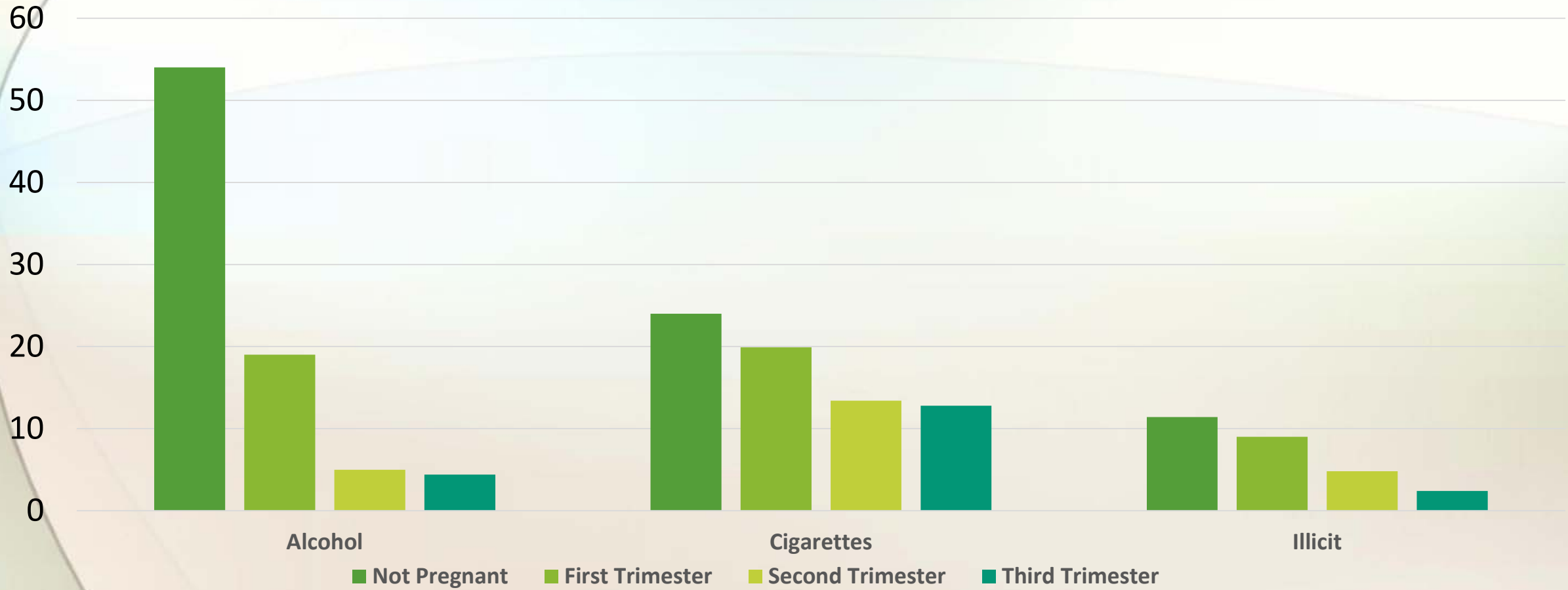
- Maternal use of SSRIs
- Greater nicotine use
- Fewer days of study medication received

Methadone or buprenorphine dose is not consistently related to NAS severity

NAS Assessment and Treatment: New Assessment

- **N=50** consecutive opioid-exposed infants managed on the inpatient unit
- All infants had **FNASS** scores recorded every 2 to 6 hours but were managed by using the **Eat, Sleep, Console (ESC)** assessment approach.
- **Breastfed or take >1 ounce from a bottle per feed, to sleep undisturbed for >1 hour, and consoled if crying within 10 minutes**
- **Actual treatment decisions made by using the ESC approach were compared with predicted treatment decisions based on recorded FNASS scores.**
- **ESC approach, 6 infants (12%) were treated with morphine compared with 31 infants (62%) predicted to be treated with morphine by using the FNASS approach ($P < .001$).**
- **There were no readmissions or adverse events reported.**

What Happens When Women Who Use Drugs Get Pregnant?



All pregnant women are motivated to maximize their health and that of their developing baby

Those who can't quit or cut back – likely have a substance use disorder

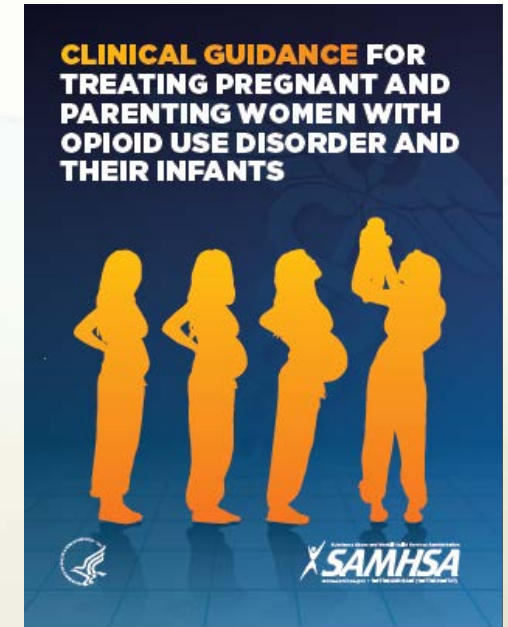
Continued use in pregnancy is pathognomonic for addiction

Addiction: A Brain-Centered Condition Whose Symptoms are Behaviors

Salient Feature: Continued use in spite of adverse consequences

SAMHSA Clinical Guide Recommendations

- Medication assisted withdrawal is not recommended during pregnancy
- Buprenorphine and methadone are the safest medications for managing OUD during pregnancy
- Transitioning from methadone to buprenorphine or from buprenorphine to methadone during pregnancy is not recommended
- Breastfeeding is recommended for women on buprenorphine and methadone
- Neonatal abstinence syndrome (NAS) should not be treated with dilute tincture of opium



The *Clinical Guide* consists of 16 factsheets that are organized into 3 sections: Prenatal Care (Factsheets #1–8); Infant Care (Factsheets #9–13); and Maternal Postnatal Care (Factsheets #14–16).

SAMHSA's Guidance: Medically Supervised Withdrawal is *Not* Recommended

- Pharmacotherapy is the recommended standard of care
- Pharmacotherapy helps pregnant women with OUD avoid a return to substance use, which has the potential for overdose or death
 - A decision to withdraw from pharmacotherapy should be made with great care on a case-by-case basis.
 - A pregnant woman receiving treatment for OUD may decide to move forward with medically supervised withdrawal if
 - It can be conducted in a controlled setting.
 - The benefits to her outweigh the risks.

Pregnant patients should be advised that withdrawal during pregnancy increases the risk of relapse without fetal or maternal benefit.

ACOG Guidance: Treating Women for Opioid Use Disorders during Pregnancy

- Universal screening starting at the first prenatal visit and using a validated verbal screening tool, which is preferable to urine testing
- If a woman screens positive, the guidelines recommend a brief intervention and referral to treatment.
- Medication-assisted treatment remains the preferred treatment
- Relapse is associated with serious risks, such as transmission of infectious agents, accidental overdose as a result of decreased tolerance, lack of prenatal care, and obstetric complications
- Medically supervised withdrawal may be considered in women who do not accept treatment with an opioid agonist or when treatment is unavailable. In that case, a physician experienced in treating perinatal addiction should supervise care, with informed consent of the woman
- Multidisciplinary long-term follow-up should include medical, developmental, and social support

ACOG Guidance: Screening Differs from Testing

All screens and tests for the mother require informed consent and neither diagnose a Substance Use Disorder

| | Screening with an Instrument | Maternal Urine Testing |
|----------------------------------|---|---|
| Purpose | To detect possible illness indicators | To establish presence/absence of a recent substance use |
| Test method | Simple, quick, acceptable to patients and staff | May take days for results and must be GC/MS or other confirmed test |
| Positive result threshold | Generally chosen towards high sensitivity not to miss potential disease | Chosen towards high specificity (true negatives). More weight given to accuracy and precision |
| Cost | Cheap, benefits should justify the costs since large numbers of people will need to be screened to identify a small number of potential cases | Higher costs associated with test ; cost may be justified to establish specific result |

When We Ask: What is our Response?

- **Urine drug testing is not sufficient for a diagnosis of substance use/use disorder (ACOG 2017)**
 - Short detection window
 - Might not capture binge or intermittent use
 - Rarely detects alcohol
 - Doesn't capture prescription opioids (without confirmation testing)
- **Essential component of SUD treatment**
- **Ethical issues:**
- **Robinson v. California (1962)** - Addiction is an illness, and that criminalizing it is a violation of the 8th Amendment, prohibiting cruel and unusual punishment
- **Ferguson v. City of Charleston (2001)** - Drug-testing pregnant women without their knowledge or consent constituted unlawful search and seizure in violation of the 4th Amendment

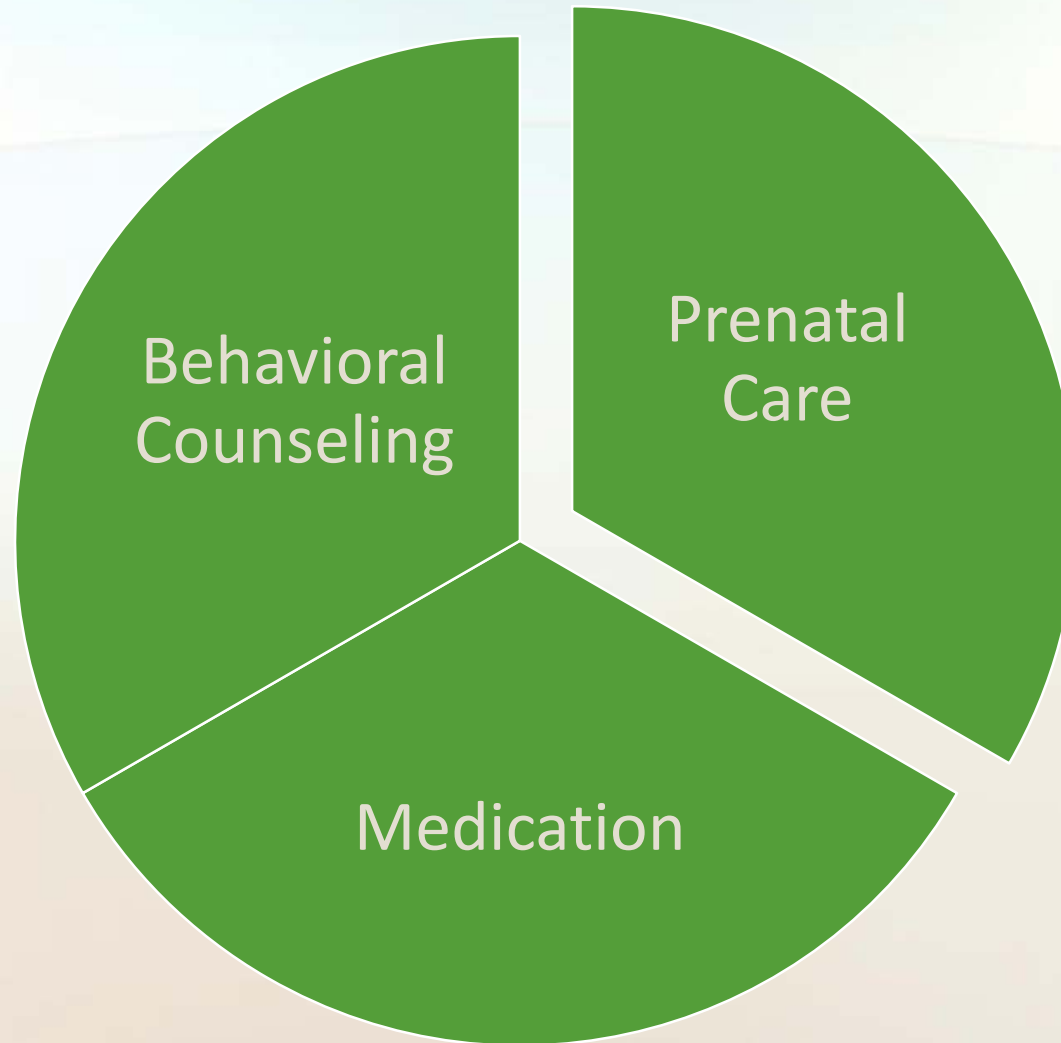
Possible Implications of Punitive Measures

- No evidence supporting punitive responses decrease drug use in pregnancy
- Unnecessary stressful child welfare involvement
- Loss of parental rights
- Disruption of critical parent/infant bonding time—used as evidence-based treatment of Neonatal Opioid Withdrawal (NOW)
- Deters pregnant people from seeking healthcare and social support
- Long-term consequences of being convicted of a drug-related crime
 - Loss of financial aid
 - Housing restrictions
 - Employment challenges
- Fails to recognize the inadequacies in the healthcare system and other supportive services for pregnant people who use drugs

Treatment Access and Effectiveness

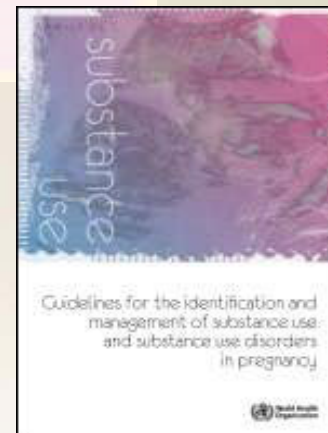
- Capacity is inadequate
 - Only 15% of treatment centers offer specified services
 - Access is limited
 - For those in poverty, rural areas, uninsured, or insured through Medicaid
- Quality of treatment ranges dramatically
- Barriers in treatment for opioid use disorder
- Engagement in prenatal care is effective regardless of continued drug use

During Pregnancy: Treatment Principle = Integration



World Health Organization: 18 Recommendations in their Guidelines

| No. | Recommendation | Strength of recommendation |
|---|--|----------------------------|
| Pharmacological treatment (maintenance and relapse prevention) for substance dependence in pregnancy | | |
| 9 | Pharmacotherapy is not recommended for routine treatment of dependence on amphetamine-type stimulants, cannabis, cocaine, or volatile agents in pregnant patients. | Conditional |
| 10 | Given that the safety and efficacy of medications for the treatment of alcohol dependence has not been established in pregnancy, an individual risk-benefit analysis should be conducted for each woman. | Conditional |
| 11 | Pregnant patients with opioid dependence should be advised to continue or commence opioid maintenance therapy with either methadone or buprenorphine. | Strong |



World Health Organization, ACOG and ASAM: Medication Option Guidance

- Methadone
- Buprenorphine alone
- Buprenorphine + naloxone
- *Naltrexone*

Methadone and Buprenorphine: Advantages

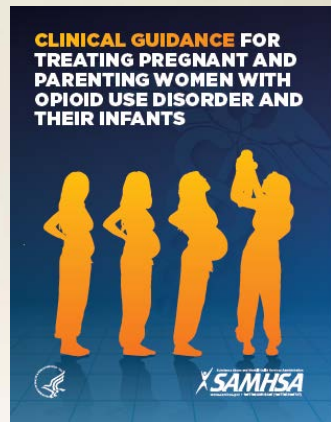
| | Methadone | Buprenorphine |
|--|-----------|---------------|
| Advantages | | |
| Reduces/eliminates cravings for opioid drugs | ● | ● |
| Prevents onset of withdrawal for 24 hours | ● | ● |
| Blocks the effects of other opioids | ● | ● |
| Promotes increased physical and emotional health | ● | ● |
| Higher treatment retention than other treatments | ● | ● |
| Lower risk of overdose Fewer drug interactions Office-based treatment delivery Shorter NAS course | ● | ● |

Approximately 6 out of every 1,000 women presenting for delivery in the United States are treated with one of these agents.

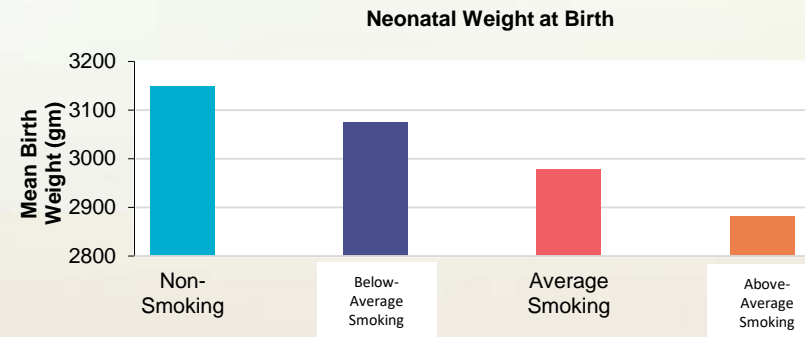
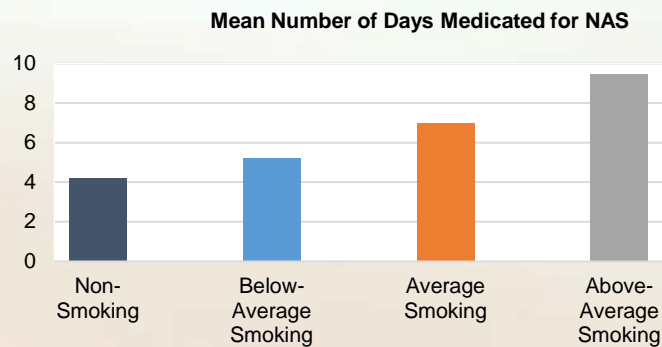
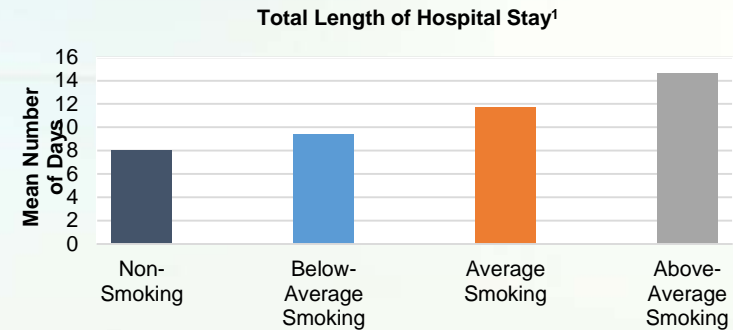
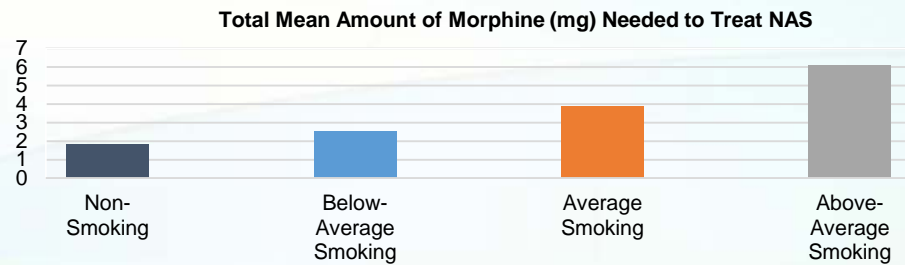


Methadone and Buprenorphine: Disadvantages

- Methadone Disadvantages
 - ❑ Achieving stable dose could take days to weeks
 - ❑ Increased risk of overdose
 - ❑ Usually requires daily visits to federally certified opioid treatment programs
 - ❑ Longer neonatal abstinence syndrome (NAS) duration than other treatments
- Buprenorphine Disadvantages
 - ❑ Limited efficacy in patients with high opioid debt
 - ❑ Demonstrated clinical withdrawal symptoms
 - ❑ Increased risk of diversion



Smoking and NAS



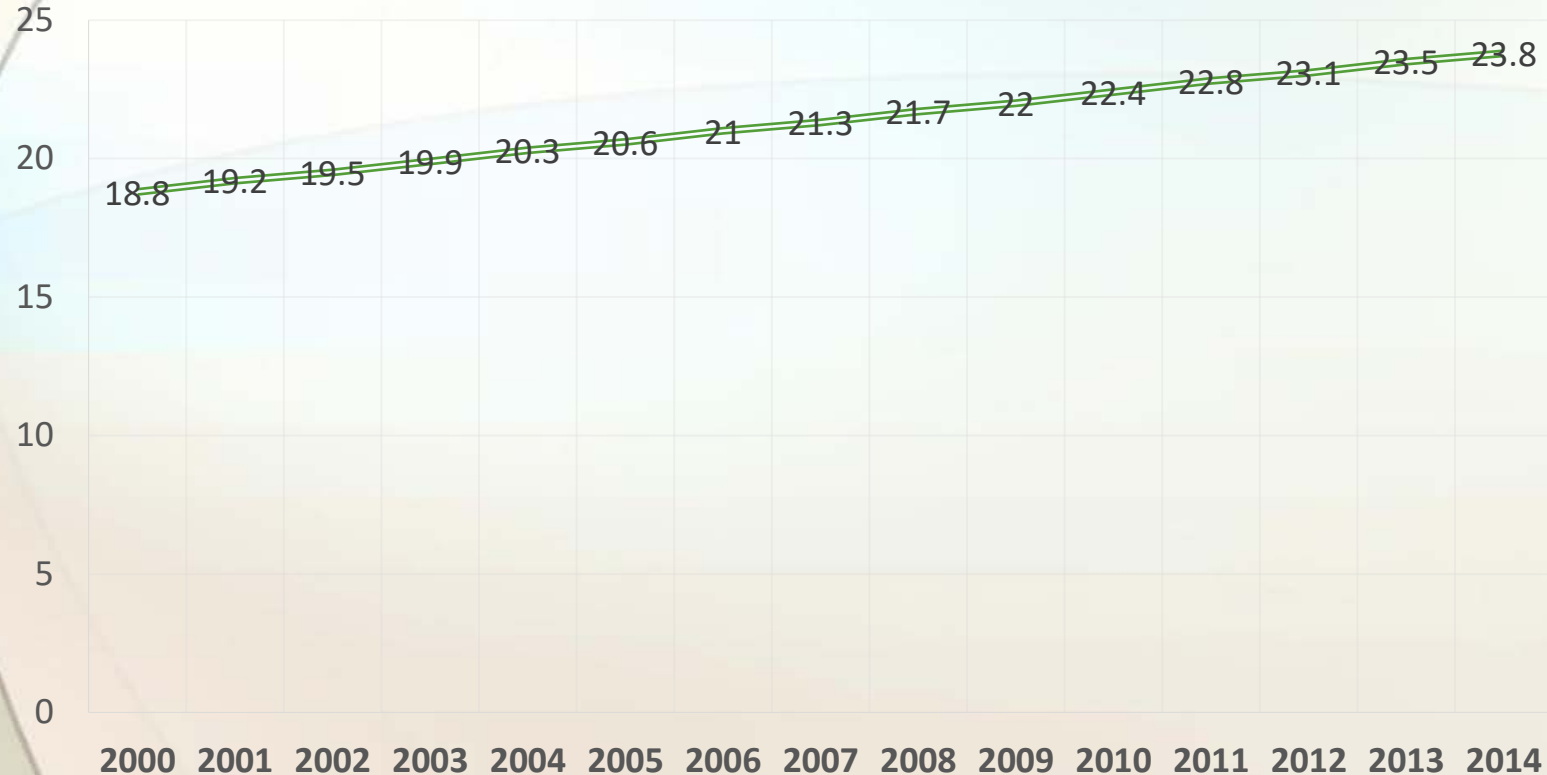
Ordinary least squares and Poisson regression analyses were used to test average daily number of cigarettes smoked in the past 30 days at $\alpha=0.05$, adjusting for both Medication Condition and Site. Below-average cigarette smoking was defined as 6 cigarettes/day (-1 SD), average cigarette smoking as 14 cigarettes/day (Mean), and above-average cigarette smoking as 21 cigarettes/day (+1 SD).

The 4th Trimester - Postpartum

- **Critical Period**
 - Newborn care, breastfeeding, maternal/infant bonding
 - Mood changes, sleep disturbances, physiologic changes
 - Cultural norms, “the ideal mother” in conflict with what it is actually like to have a newborn
- **Neglected Period**
 - Care shifts away from frequent contact with PNC provider – to pediatrician
 - Care less “medical” (for mom) and shifts to other agencies (WIC)
 - Insurance and welfare realignment
 - SUD treatment provider(s) – care is constant

Maternal Mortality is Increasing

per 100,000 live births



*Excludes California and Texas California showed a declining trend, whereas Texas had a sudden increase in 2011-2012.

Possible Factors

**Drug use with
homicide/suicide**

Overdose

**Medicaid coverage loss at 6
weeks postpartum**

**“Detox” during pregnancy to
prevent NAS**

**Inadequate Access to drug
treatment/MAT**

Maternal Mortality Worse for Women Who Use Opioids

Pregnancy-related discharges from 1998 to 2009 using the largest publicly available all-payer inpatient database in the United States.

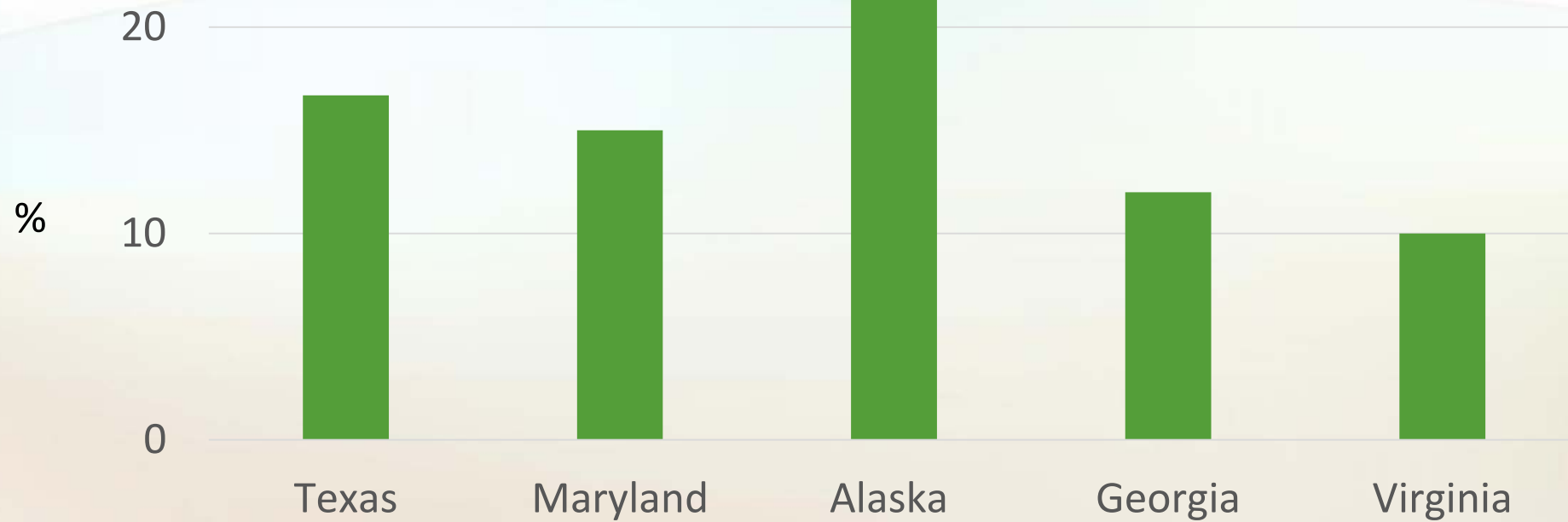
Women who used opioids during pregnancy experienced higher rates of:
depression
anxiety
chronic medical conditions

After adjusting for confounders, opioid use was associated with increased odds of:
threatened preterm labor
early onset delivery
poor fetal growth
stillbirth

Women using opioids were four times as likely to have a prolonged hospital stay and were almost four times more likely to die before discharge.

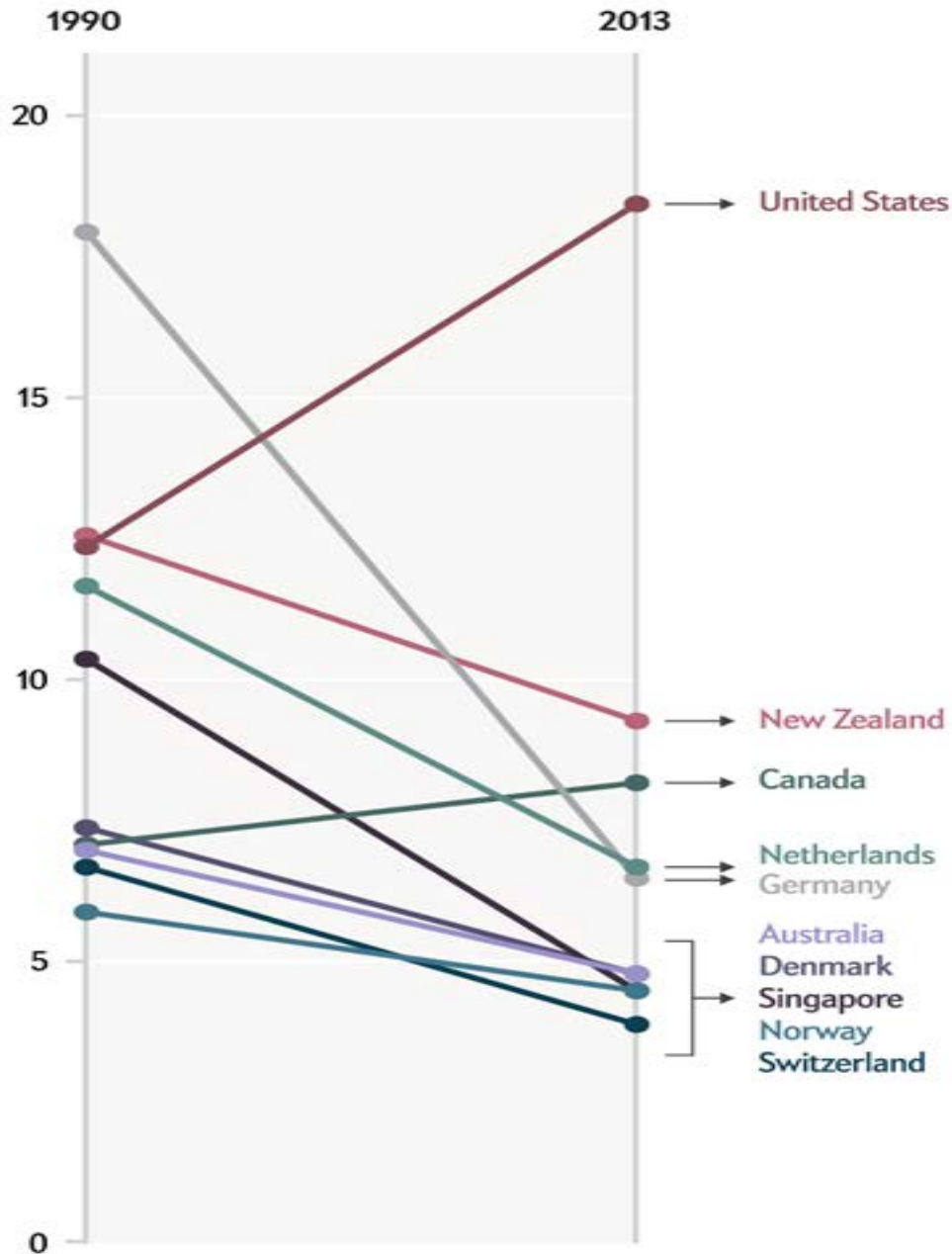
Percent of Pregnancy Associated Deaths Due to Drugs

(thanks to Jennifer Bailit)



Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) by Developed Country

Maternal deaths per 100,000 live births



SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN

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HEALTH

Has Maternal Mortality Really Doubled in the U.S.?

Statistics have suggested a sharp increase in the number of American women dying as a complication of pregnancy since the late 1980s, but a closer look at the data hints that all is not as it seems

By Dina Fine Maron on June 8, 2015

U.S. Maternal Mortality Ratio by Race in 2011

Maternal deaths per 100,000 live births



Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Graphic by Tiffany Farrant-Gonzalez, for SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN

What are the Long Term Outcomes of Children Prenatally Exposed to Opioids?

Issues to consider when reading the literature

- Population of Interest definitions
- Comparison group? What kind?
- Prospective data collection in the perinatal period?
- Masked assessment?
- Include a substantial proportion of subjects exposed in utero other substance?
- Matching
- Statistical
- Inferential

“Addiction, illegality, prenatal toxicity and poor outcomes are linked in the public and professional mind. In reality, scientific evidence for prenatal toxicity and teratogenicity is equivocal for some drugs and stronger for others. Inaccurate public expectations of correspondence between illegality and toxicity lead to distortions in interpreting and applying scientific findings.”

MOTHER Child Outcomes 0-36 Months

N=96 children

- No pattern of differences in physical or behavioral development to support medication superiority
- No pattern of differences for infants treated for NAS v. infants who did not receive treatment for NAS
- No pattern of differences when children were compared to norms on tests

Results indicate children born in the MOTHER study are following a path of normal development in terms of growth, cognitive and psychological development

Are We Learning From Past Mistakes?

"Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it."

Quote attributed to philosopher George Santayana

"Among children aged 6 years or younger, there is no convincing evidence that prenatal cocaine exposure is associated with developmental toxic effects that are different in severity, scope, or kind from the sequelae of multiple other risk factors.

Many findings once thought to be specific effects of in utero cocaine exposure are correlated with other factors, including prenatal exposure to tobacco, marijuana, or alcohol, and the quality of the child's environment.

Further replication is required of preliminary neurologic findings."

Understanding Attachment

- Securely-attached infants would develop a “secure base script” that explains how attachment-related events happen
 - for example: “When I am hurt, I go to my mother and receive comfort”
- Children with an insecure attachment and an Internal Working Model that says that the caregiver will be unavailable and/or rejecting when the child needs him/her may develop a chronic activation of the physiological stress-response system

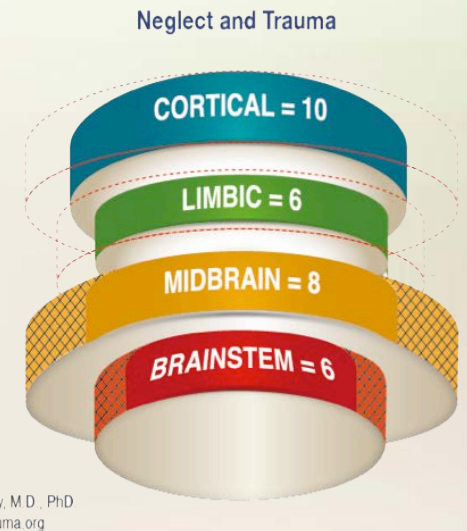
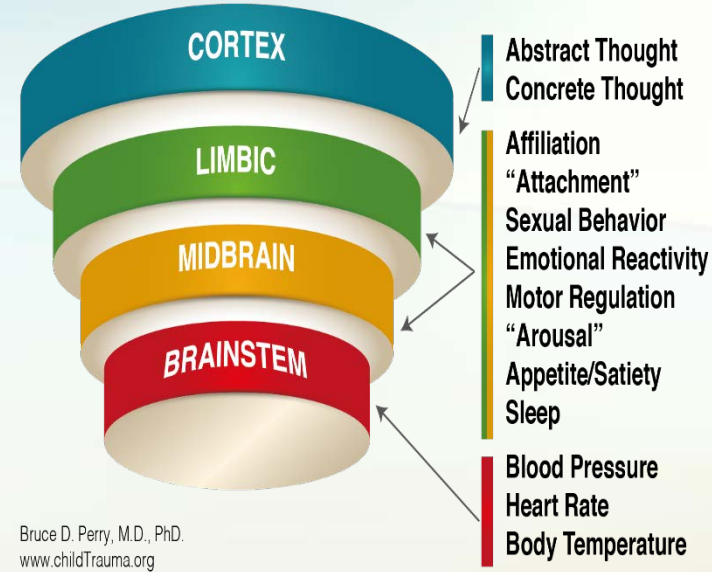


Relationship: Non-secure Attachment and Substance Use

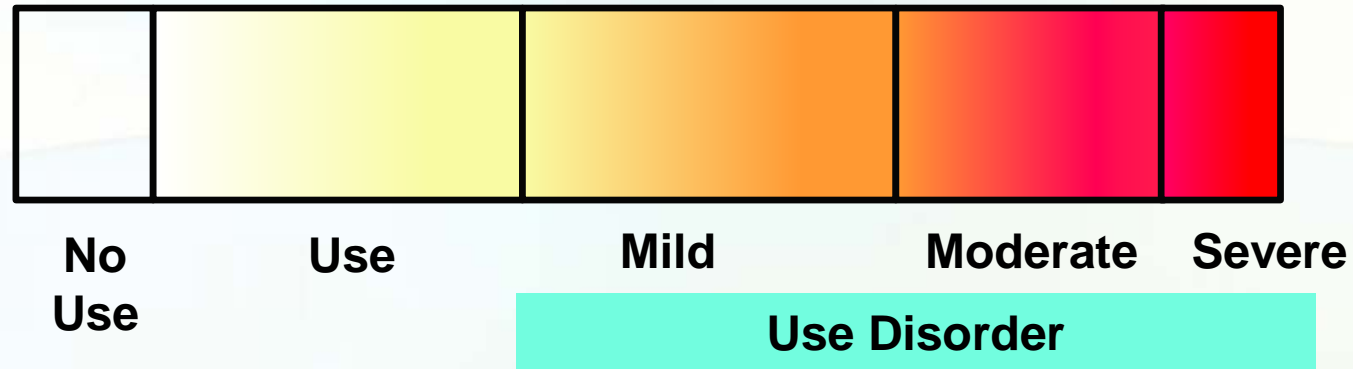
- **Having been abused as a child is an important risk factor for abuse of one's own children**
- **There is a high incidence of abuse during childhood among women in treatment for substance use disorders**
- **Maternal substance use disorder is one of the most common factors associated with child maltreatment**
- **Mothers who have substance use disorders have higher incidences of hostile attributions and inappropriate expectations of child behavior as well as repeated disruptions in their parenting behaviors**
- **These disruptions can create a negative effect on the parent–child relationship, as evidenced in the increased rates of insecure attachment in children who have parents with substance use disorders**

Trauma and The Brain

- The brain has a “bottom-up” organization
- Neurons and connections change in an activity-dependent fashion
- This "use-dependent" development
- The brain is most plastic (receptive to environmental input) in early childhood
- With trauma and neglect, the midbrain is overactive and grows in size while the limbic and cortical structures are stunted in growth



Treatment Response Needs to Match the Severity of the Problems



American Society of Addiction Medicine Placement Criteria

| | |
|-----------|---|
| LEVEL 0.5 | Early Intervention |
| LEVEL I | Outpatient Treatment |
| LEVEL II | Intensive Outpatient/ Partial Hospitalization |
| LEVEL III | Residential/ Inpatient Treatment |
| LEVEL IV | Medically Managed Intensive Hospital/ Inpatient Treatment |

Model Programs Described in TIP 2: Pregnant, Substance-Using Women: Treatment Improvement Protocol (TIP) Series 2

The goal of the program - provide comprehensive services that are appropriate and sensitive to the needs of the target population -- services that will enable women to secure prenatal care and other support throughout pregnancy, to achieve a successful delivery, and to receive months of postpartum care.

Services will be provided by a multidisciplinary team of health professionals

All health care services will be provided in one setting

If the patient needs to undergo medical withdrawal or be hospitalized, referrals will be made to the appropriate programs.

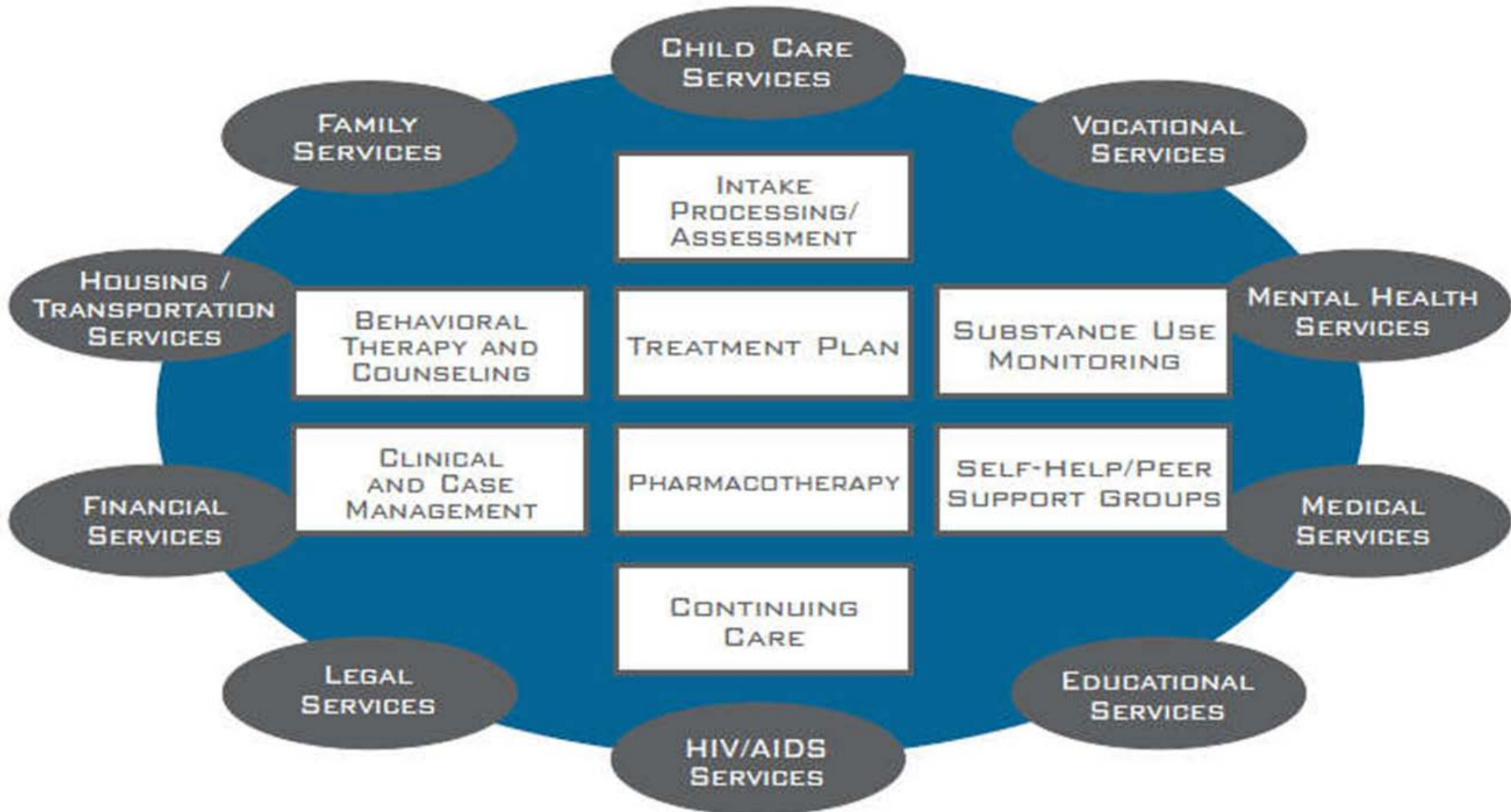
The model program will provide:

- outreach services
- laboratory workups
- obstetrical and gynecological physicals
- social work intervention
- appropriate follow-up services
- diagnosis, evaluation, and short-term clinical interventions, along with medical management

A case management model is used

The woman's transition into providing child care and parenting will be facilitated by a complete and thorough assessment of her needs and the development of a comprehensive treatment plan.

Components of Comprehensive Drug Abuse Treatment



The best treatment programs provide a combination of therapies and other services to meet the needs of the individual patient.

NIDA: Principles of Drug Addiction Treatment

UNC Horizons: Care for Women and Children

Medication Assisted Treatment

Residential
and/or Outpatient
Care

Medical Care
OB/GYN
Psychiatry

Trauma and
SUD
Treatment



Childcare and
Transportation

Vocational
Rehabilitation
Housing
Legal aid

Parenting
Education and
Early
Intervention

Unified Philosophy Informed by Social Learning, Relationship and Empowerment Theories

LANGUAGE MATTERS:

Using Affirmative Language to Inspire Hope and Advance Recovery

| Stigmatizing Language | Preferred Language |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| abuser | a person with or suffering from, a substance use disorder |
| addict | person with a substance use disorder |
| addicted infant | infant with neonatal abstinence syndrome (NAS) |
| addicted to [alcohol/drug] | has a [alcohol/drug] use disorder |
| alcoholic | person with an alcohol use disorder |
| clean | abstinent |
| clean screen | substance-free |
| co-dependency | term has not shown scientific merit |
| crack babies | substance-exposed infant |
| dirty | actively using |
| dirty screen | testing positive for substance use |
| drug abuser | person who uses drugs |
| drug habit | regular substance use |
| experimental user | person who is new to drug use |
| lapse / relapse / slip | resumed/experienced a recurrence |
| medication-assisted treatment (MAT) | medications for addiction treatment (MAT) |
| opioid replacement | medications for addiction treatment (MAT) |
| opioid replacement therapy (ORT) | medications for addiction treatment (MAT) |
| pregnant opiate addict | pregnant woman with an opioid use disorder |
| prescription drug abuse | non-medical use of a psychoactive substance |
| recreational or casual user | person who uses drugs for nonmedical reasons |
| reformed addict or alcoholic | person in recovery |
| relapse | reoccurrence of substance use or symptoms |
| slip | resumed or experienced a reoccurrence |
| substance abuse | substance use disorder |

The use of affirming language inspires hope and advances recovery.

LANGUAGE MATTERS.

Words have power.

PEOPLE FIRST.

The ATTC network uses affirming language to promote the premises of recovery by advancing evidence-based and culturally informed practices.

ATTC Addiction Technology Transfer Center Network

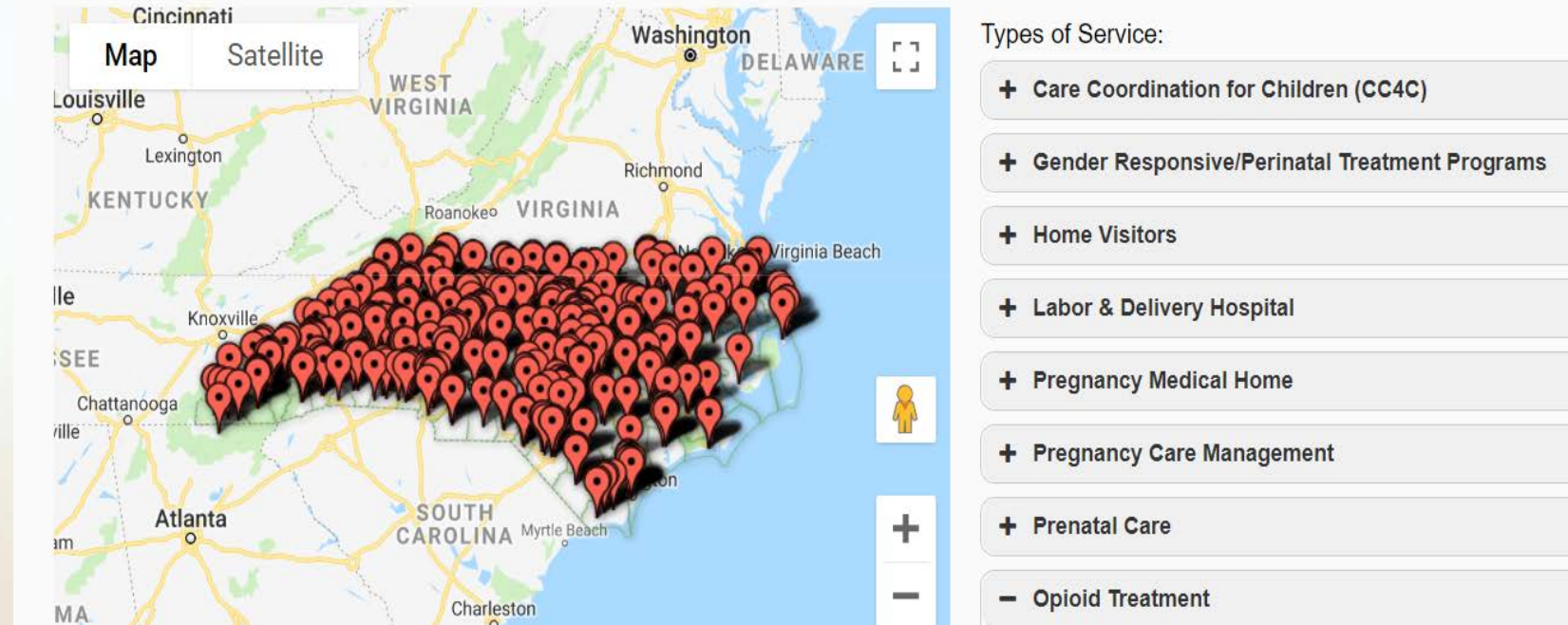
Other Model Programs and Resources

**CHARM
Collaborative**

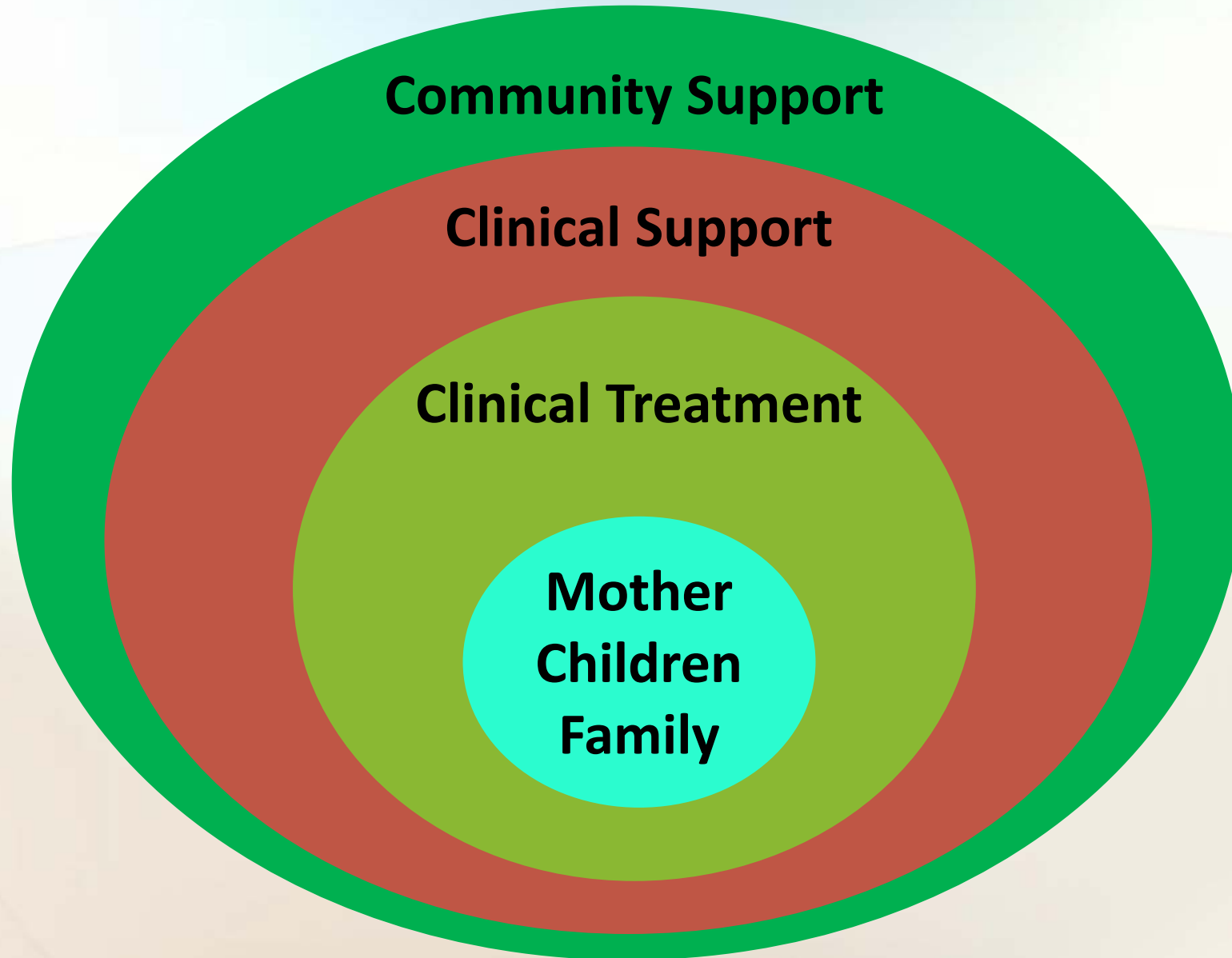
**Dartmouth Hub and
Spoke Model**

**SHIELDS for family
Program**

Services for Women with Opioid Exposed Pregnancies in North Carolina



Recovery Oriented System of Care for Families



Improving Maternal Health

- Treatment expansion
- Medicaid expansion (to one year post delivery for non-expansion states)
- Naloxone co-prescribing
- Contraception/Family Planning integration
- Uptake of AIM Maternal Safety Bundle(s)



READINESS

Every patient/family

- Provide education to promote understanding of opioid use disorder (OUD) as a chronic disease.
 - Emphasize that substance use disorders (SUDs) are chronic medical conditions, treatment is available, family and peer support is necessary and recovery is possible.
 - Emphasize that opioid pharmacotherapy (i.e. methadone, buprenorphine) and behavioral therapy are effective treatments for OUD.
- Provide education regarding neonatal abstinence syndrome (NAS) and newborn care.
 - Awareness of the signs and symptoms of NAS
 - Interventions to decrease NAS severity (e.g. breastfeeding, smoking cessation)
- Engage appropriate partners (i.e. social workers, case managers) to assist patients and families in the development of a "plan of safe care" for mom and baby.

Every clinical setting/health system

- Provide staff-wide (clinical and non-clinical staff) education on SUDs.
 - Emphasize that SUDs are chronic medical conditions that can be treated.
 - Emphasize that stigma, bias and discrimination negatively impact pregnant women with OUD and their ability to receive high quality care.
 - Provide training regarding trauma-informed care.
- Establish specific prenatal, intrapartum and postpartum clinical pathways for women with OUD that incorporate care coordination among multiple providers.
- Develop pain control protocols that account for increased pain sensitivity and avoidance of mixed agonist-antagonist opioid analgesics.
- Know state reporting guidelines regarding the use of opioid pharmacotherapy

PATIENT
SAFETY
BUNDLE

Obstetric Care for Women
with Opioid Use Disorder

What You Can Do

Individual Level

- Mothers, children and families need strength-based support
- Help tell stories of recovery and success
- Consider mother and child not mother vs. child
- Be familiar with toolkits from NC and SAMHSA

Structural Level

- Access to whole health care
- Responsible prescribing by providers and training in substance use disorders and their treatments
- Create or engage in local networks to foster ROSCs that support families

Summary

- Opioid use disorder is a concerning medical illness that has radiating effects on the life of the person and those around the person
- Those who have this illness deserve the most appropriate medical care – medication in only one part of a complete treatment approach
- Patients are best served by having choices in medication treatment options
- Structured, evidence-based behavioral treatment is needed to help support the mother, child and family
- Women who have opioid use disorders and their prenatally opioid exposed children are best served with a strength-based perspective

**See Klaman SL, Isaacs K, Leopold A, Perpich J, Hayashi S, Vender J, Campopiano M, Jones HE.J Addict Med. 2017 for a full list of unanswered research questions for mother, fetus, child and the mother-child dyad*

To Treat Babies for Drug Withdrawal, Help Their Mothers, Too
Rather than stigmatizing mothers with addiction, research suggests that a holistic approach to improving the lives of both mother and child is most effective.