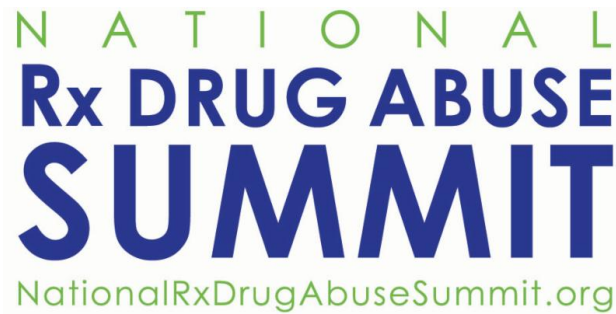


Volume 5, Issue 8, October 22, 2015



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## Summit Spotlight

### Save \$300 off Rx Summit rates through Oct. 31

Receive the best discount for the 2016 **National Rx Drug Abuse Summit** by completing your registration before Saturday, October 31, 2015. Remember there is an **additional \$100 per person** discount if you register 5 or more individuals at the same time.

For registration details, [click here](#).

Stay up-to-date about details of the 2016 National Rx Drug Abuse Summit at the [conference website](#).

### SAM Education Summit registration available

## When

The 2016 National Rx Drug Abuse Summit will be held March 28-31, 2016, at The Westin Peachtree Plaza in Atlanta, GA

## What

The National Rx Drug Abuse Summit is the largest national collaboration for individuals impacted by Rx Drug Abuse.

## Continuing Ed

Postgraduate Institute for Medicine (PIM) and Operation UNITE jointly present the 2016 National Rx Drug Abuse Summit.

## SAM Summit

The 3rd annual SAM (Smart Approaches to Marijuana) Education Summit will be held March 31, 2016, in conjunction with the Rx Summit.

Registration for the 3rd annual **SAM (Smart Approaches to Marijuana) Education Summit** - to be held **Thursday, March 31, 2016**, in conjunction with **National Rx Drug Abuse Summit** - is now available.

A separate registration is required for this day-long conference, and early-bird discounts are available through December 31, 2015.

For details, [click here](#).

For details, [click here](#).

### ***On the Website***

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## **Top Stories In The News**

*Disclaimer: Articles and links within articles do not necessarily reflect the views or opinions of the National Rx Drug Abuse Summit or Operation UNITE.*

### **1. The CDC's promising plan to curb America's opioid dependence**

*Editorial Board, The Washington Post*

Horrific as it is for the victims, drug addiction's impact reverberates beyond them, to include families, friends, whole communities. Thanks to a new Washington Post-University of Maryland poll, we can begin to quantify those wider consequences in our area. Nearly 3 in 10 Marylanders say they have a close friend or family member who was or is addicted to opiates such as prescription pain pills or heroin. The figures range from 4 in 10 in Baltimore to 1 in 6 in Montgomery County; but whether in the city or the suburbs, these numbers are far too high and fully warrant Gov. Larry Hogan's (R) promise to focus on the problem.

More treatment is necessary, as is prevention; yet preventing opioid addiction has been devilishly difficult due to the fact that people's first contact with the drugs often comes not through illicit channels but in a doctor's office, where they are prescribed opioids by a licensed physician who, in turn, had been told that medications such as OxyContin or Vicodin



### ***Stay Connected***



convey powerful relief with little or no addiction risk.

To read more, [click here](#).

## **2. Despite growing rates of opioid addiction, treatment rates remain the same**

*Jessica Firger, Newsweek*

In the last decade, opioid dependence has increased at such an alarming rate that many public health officials and lawmakers consider abuse of these drugs - in the form of prescription painkillers and heroin - an epidemic. According to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, a division of the National Institutes of Health, deaths from opioid overdose have increased from 4.5 per 100,000 people in 2003 to 7.8 per 100,000 people in 2013.

But despite this growing problem, not many people addicted actually get professional help. A study published Tuesday (October 13) in [JAMA](#) found over the last decade just one-sixth of people with an opioid addiction actually received treatment. In-office and inpatient interventions were also very uncommon.

To read more, [click here](#).

## **3. Michigan organization having an impact on proper collection, disposal of Rx waste**

*Great Lakes Clean Water Organization*

The **Yellow Jug Old Drugs** program was created in 2008 to encourage individuals to properly dispose of Rx waste rather than flushing unused medications down the drain. It was started in response to trace amounts of medications being

found in municipal water systems and surface and ground water systems across the country.

Proper disposal of Rx waste helps keep our drinking water, lakes, rivers and streams clean, keeps our kids safe and makes our communities a better place to live. Since 2008 the Yellow Jug Old Drugs Program has collected over 108 tons of Rx-waste.

The program is currently available in the Great Lakes region and by Jan 2016 will be available to all states that allow Rx waste collection at pharmacies.

To read more, [click here](#).

#### **4. Survey: Many doctors misunderstand key facets of opioid abuse**

*Medical Xpress*

Many primary care physicians - the top prescribers of prescription pain pills in the United States - don't understand basic facts about how people may abuse the drugs or how addictive different formulations of the medications can be, new Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health research suggests.

This lack of understanding may be contributing to the ongoing epidemic of prescription opioid abuse and addiction in the U.S.

To read more, [click here](#).

### **2016 Sponsors**

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### Summit Exhibitors



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Operation UNITE | 2292 South Highway 27 | Somerset | KY | 42501