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NATIONAL Rx DRUG ABUSE & HEROIN SUMMIT

NationalRxDrugAbuseSummit.org

In This Issue:

* [Law Enforcement Track breakout sessions announced](#)

1. [Youth drug OD deaths up in 35 states over a decade](#)
2. [AMA seeks ban on drug advertising to consumers](#)
3. [MD task force releases recommendations on opiates](#)
4. [FDA approves Narcan nasal spray](#)

Summit Spotlight

Law Enforcement Track breakout sessions announced

Descriptions of the six [Law Enforcement Track](#) breakout sessions to be offered at the **2016 National Rx Drug Abuse & Heroin Summit** have been announced.

On **March 29**, presentations in the [Law Enforcement Track](#) will focus on **investigating and prosecuting crimes** related to Rx drug abuse and heroin, with topics including case studies of homicides by prescribing doctors, new approaches by national opioid initiatives, and using advanced analytics to identify drug-seeking behavior and identity fraud.

On **March 30**, the track will feature **community policing** topics, including drug-endangered children, overdose fatality review teams and Drug Court models.

When

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

What

The National Rx Drug Abuse & Heroin 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 & Heroin Summit.

SAM Summit

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

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

in conjunction with the National Rx Drug Abuse & Heroin Summit. For details, [click here](#).

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 & Heroin Summit or Operation UNITE.

1. Youth drug overdose deaths up in 35 states over a decade

Trisha Thadani, USA Today

Thirty-five states saw youth drug overdose deaths increase dramatically in the past decade, according to a new report. And in five states - Kansas, Montana, Ohio, Wisconsin and Wyoming - the overdose death rates more than quadrupled.

Drug overdoses were the leading cause of injury death in 2013, exceeding that of motor vehicle crashes, says the report released Thursday, November 19, from **Trust for America's Health**, a national non-profit group that watchdogs public health issues.

Reducing Teen Substance Misuse: What Really

Works ranks states on their actions to curb teen substance abuse - from alcohol to opioids - among 12- to 25-year-olds in the U.S from 1999 to 2013.

Of the 35 states that have seen an increase in youth overdose deaths from 1999 to 2011, rates more than tripled in 12 states (Arkansas, Delaware, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New Hampshire, New York, Oklahoma, Utah and West Virginia).

While Kansas, Montana, Ohio, Wisconsin, and Wyoming saw the biggest increase in youth overdoses in the same period, those states do not currently have the highest rates in

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the country. Current rates are highest in West Virginia, where 12.6 per 100,000 youths overdosed from 2011 to 2013 - compared with North Dakota, where only 2.2 per 100,000 youths overdosed in the same time period, according to the report.

To download a copy of the report, [click here](#).

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

2. American Medical Association seeks ban on drug advertising to consumers

Susan Kelly, Reuters

The **American Medical Association** has called for a ban on advertising prescription drugs and medical devices directly to consumers, saying the ads drive patients to demand expensive treatments over less costly ones that are also effective.

The influential doctors' group said the new policy reflects physicians' concerns that marketing spending on a proliferation of advertising is helping to drive up drug prices. The group voted November 17 at its annual meeting in Atlanta to support a ban.

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

3. MD task force releases final recommendations on heroin, opioids

Josh Hicks, The Washington Post

A Maryland task force on Tuesday, December 1, released its final recommendations on how to address the growing scourge of opioid addiction and deaths in the state, calling

for expanded access to treatment and increased efforts to disrupt drug trafficking.

The work group issued 33 proposals, including calls for more emphasis on overdose prevention, a pilot recovery unit for inmates addicted to drugs and mandatory tracking of prescription data to help identify people who may be abusing powerful pain medications.

To download the report, [click here](#).

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

4. FDA approves Narcan nasal spray to treat opioid overdose

Troy Brown, Medscape Medical News.

An intranasal form of naloxone hydrochloride (Narcan, Adapt Pharma, Inc), a drug that stops or reverses opioid overdose, has been approved by the **U.S. Food and Drug Administration** (FDA) under a fast-track approval process.

Naloxone hydrochloride has long been given by intramuscular injection to stop or reverse the effects of opioid overdose, in particular respiratory depression. It usually works within 2 minutes but must be given quickly to prevent death.

The nasal form will be easier for first responders and others to deliver, and will eliminate the threat of contaminated needle sticks. Until now, unapproved naloxone kits have combined the injectable form of naloxone with an atomizer to administer the drug nasally.

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

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