

Public Health Detailing as a Strategy to Promote Judicious Opioid Prescribing – Brooklyn, New York

Carla Foster, MPH

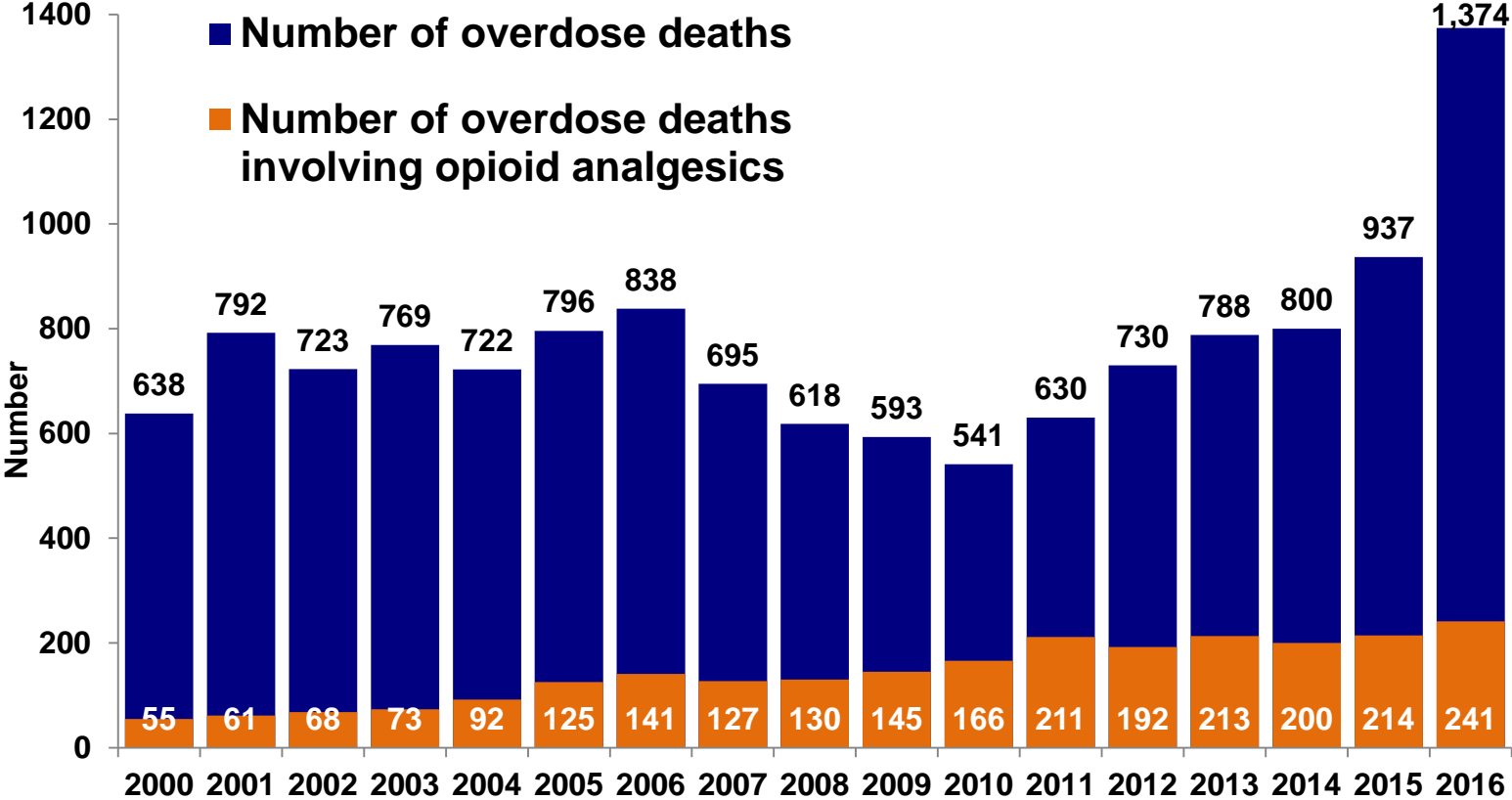
City Research Scientist

Bureau of Alcohol and Drug Use, Prevention, Care and Treatment
New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

Northeast Epidemiology Conference

October 19, 2017

Percent of overdose deaths involving opioid analgesics has increased since 2000



Source: New York City Office of the Chief Medical Examiner & New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene 2000-2016*
*Data for 2015, 2016 are preliminary and subject to change.

Public health detailing: What is it?

- Modeled after pharmaceutical sales approach
- “Selling” good health and promoting public health interventions
- Visits conducted by detailing representatives (reps)
- Consists of brief one-to-one educational visits with health care providers and staff
- Health care providers presented with action kits containing recommendations, resources, tools
- Total office call

Seven steps of a detailing visit

1. Introductions
2. Framing the issue
3. Survey questions
4. Stating recommendations
5. Promoting materials in kit
6. Handling objections
7. Gaining a commitment

Building on past success: Staten Island and Bronx opioid analgesic detailing campaigns

- Staten Island campaign
 - Conducted in 2013
 - ~1,200 providers detailed
 - Evaluation demonstrated
 - Knowledge change about recommendations
 - Decreases in high-dose opioid prescribing
 - National attention/interest
- Bronx campaign
 - Conducted in 2015
 - ~1,000 providers detailed
 - Evaluation demonstrated
 - Knowledge change about recommendations

Highest rates of opioid analgesic (OA) overdose deaths in Brooklyn 2014-2016: Coney Island-Sheepshead Bay and Bensonhurst-Bay Ridge

Neighborhood	Rate range (per 100,000)
Bensonhurst- Bay Ridge	4.4-10.2
Coney Island- Sheepshead Bay	3.5-4.3
Bedford Stuyvesant- Crown Heights	2.2-3.4
Borough Park	2.3-3.4
Canarsie- Flatlands	2.2-3.4
Sunset Park	2.2-3.4
Williamsburg- Bushwick	2.2-3.4
Downtown-Heights-Slope	0.1-2.2
East Flatbush- Flatbush	0.1-2.2
East New York	0.1-2.2
Greenpoint	0.1-2.2

Campaign strategy

- 8 week duration (May–June, 2017)
- Focus on 2 neighborhoods in Brooklyn with highest rates of opioid analgesic overdose deaths
 - Coney Island-Sheepshead Bay, Bensonhurst-Bay Ridge
- Goal to reach 1,000 physicians, NPs, PAs and their office staff
 - Internal medicine, family medicine, surgery, other specialties
- Initial and follow-up visit
- Public health approach
- Promotional events
 - Commissioner of Health grand rounds, media coverage, blast fax
- Provide “action kits” with three key prescribing recommendations and provider and patient materials

Three campaign recommendations

1. Prescribe non-opioid pain relievers for most patients with acute pain. When you do prescribe opioids, a 3-day supply is usually sufficient.
2. Avoid prescribing opioids to patients taking benzodiazepines whenever possible.
3. Calculate the total daily morphine milligram equivalents (MME) and use ≥ 100 MME as a threshold for caution and thorough patient reassessment.

December 2011 The New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene Vol. 30(4):23-30

CH goes paperless— see back for details

PREVENTING MISUSE OF PRESCRIPTION OPIOID DRUGS

- Physicians and dentists can play a major role in reducing risks associated with opioid analgesics, particularly fatal drug overdose.
- For acute pain:
 - If opioids are warranted, prescribe only short-acting agents.
 - A 3-day supply is usually sufficient.
- For chronic noncancer pain:
 - Avoid prescribing opioids unless other approaches to analgesia have been demonstrated to be ineffective.
 - Avoid whenever possible prescribing opioids in patients taking benzodiazepines because of the risk of fatal respiratory depression.

The use of prescription opioids to manage pain has increased 10-fold over the past 20 years in the United States.¹ Although opioids are indicated and effective in the management of certain types of acute pain and cancer pain, their role in treating chronic noncancer pain is not well established.² Concomitant with the growth in opioid

TRENDS IN OPIOID ANALGESIC USE AND CONSEQUENCES, NEW YORK CITY, 2004-2010

Opioid Analgesic Prescriptions Filled

Year	Hydrocodone	Oxycodone
2004	~600,000	~500,000
2005	~650,000	~600,000
2006	~700,000	~700,000
2007	~750,000	~800,000
2008	~800,000	~900,000
2009	~850,000	~1,000,000
2010	~900,000	~1,100,000

Opioid analgesic action kit

- Clinical tools
- Provider resources
- Patient education materials



Evaluation of health care provider knowledge

- Assessment survey
 - Self-reported knowledge related to campaign recommendations
- Reps administered survey to health care providers at beginning of initial and follow-up visits
- Designed to be very brief
 - ~3 minutes

Campaign reach

1,018 health care providers received initial visit

- Among these, 746 received a follow-up visit
- 73% follow-up rate

Detailing campaign increased provider knowledge

Recommendation	Initial visit % Correct (n/N)	Follow-up visit % Correct (n/N)	P-value
3-day supply for acute pain	54% (377/696)	70% (491/696)	<0.0001
Concern in co-prescribing an opioid and benzodiazepine	93% (635/684)	98% (668/684)	<0.0001
100 MME = DOHMH threshold for reassessment	10% (66/676)	42% (282/676)	<0.0001

Conclusions

- Campaign successfully changed health care provider knowledge about opioid prescribing
- Other jurisdictions should consider public health detailing on opioid analgesics

Next steps

Further analysis will be performed to assess campaign impact on prescribing patterns

Questions?