The Right Prescription for New Jersey
2014/2015 Year End Overview
June 17, 2015
The Partnership For A Drug-Free New Jersey
Since our last meeting...

The continued explosion of opiate abuse rates and the introduction of the historic 21 Bill Package to tackle opiate abuse has defined the PDFNJ focus for the last half of 2014 and first half of 2015.
Safe Prescribing focus…

- Senate Bill 1998 and 2366
- Research
- Do No Harm Symposium Series
- NJTV Series
- Rx Summit
To reduce prescription drug abuse, start with the doctors | Editorial

Here's a tragic reality that addicts know too well: The portal to heroin addiction is usually the family medicine cabinet.

That's why you usually find bottles of oxycontin, Percocet, and other prescription medications — opioids with highly addictive qualities — and that is how 80 percent of addicts begin.

Maybe you recognize what the starting gate looks like. The high school jock that needs a narcotic after shoulder surgery. The college woman whose only relief from migraines is hydrocodone. The middle-aged man who pops Vicodin to ease his back pain.

Doctors love to prescribe pills, just ask them. A

[Link to the article]
Senate Bill 2366 Patient Notification

Pill popping is pervasive

The Godfather

The Matrix Orchestra

The Wolfman

The Godfather

The Matrix Orchestra

The Wolfman

SENATE, No. 2366
STATE OF NEW JERSEY
216th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED SEPTEMBER 23, 2014

Sponsored by:
Senator LORETTA WEINBERG
District 37 (Essex)
Senator JOSEPH VITALE
District 16 (Middlesex)

Co-Sponsored by:
Senators Foti, Addiego, Alner, Cody, Geraci, Madden, Rice, Singer, Wlan and Greenstein

SYNOPSIS
Requires health care practitioners to inform patients of addictive potential of commonly prescribed substances prior to issuing prescription.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT
As amended by the Senate on December 13, 2014

(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 12/19/2014)
91% of New Jersey Residents Agree that physicians should be legally required to discuss the risk of developing either a physical or psychological dependency on the prescription pain medication with patients prior to prescribing it.

Overall, two-thirds (64%) of New Jersey residents believe that physicians discussing the potential of dependencies with patients will help reduce the number of individuals who ultimately become addicted to the pain medications.
Do No Harm Symposium Series

- Robert Wood Johnson University Medical Center
- Faith Based Community
- Morris County Correctional Facility
- Jersey Shore University Medical Center
Upcoming Do No Harm Plans

• Bethel Church of Morristown (September 2015)
• Capital Health (November 2015)
• NJ Dental Association (November 2015)
• Isperia Hospital System (October 2015)
Medical community seeks ways to battle addiction

By ADAM C. UZALKO

Medical professionals and law enforcement officials acknowledged a correlation between an increase in the prescription of opioid painkillers and the upward trends in statewide heroin use and addiction at the "Do No Harm" symposium at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital.

The symposium was designed to find solutions and alternate ways of treating patients in a bid to reduce dependence on legally prescribed opioids, according to medical and law enforcement directors.

"The partnership between doctors and law enforcement together to combat the problem," Dr. Iqbal Jafri, director of a pain-medicine program at JFK Johnson Rehabilitation Institute and a clinical professor at Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, offered potential alternatives to the prescription of opioid painkillers, stating that the medical costs associated with prescription drug abuse can reach up to $635 billion per year.

According to Jafri, by employing a multidisciplinary approach and including the input of other professionals like psy-
Percentages of Doctors who **intend** to make opioid prescribing changes or apply learnings to their practice as a result of attending the Do No Harm Symposium.
NJTV Series
Partnership For A Drug-Free New Jersey

Yesterday at 9:07 AM

PDFNJ and the DEA - New Jersey Division are set to present today at 11:15! We will be talking about our Do No Harm symposiums and the importance of education and collaboration in solving the #rxabuse crisis. #rxsummit
School Based Programs

In the Schools:
Educating New Jersey children about the dangers of Substance Abuse

3rd Grade Contract for a Healthy Life
New Jersey Shouts Down Drugs
4th Grade Folder Initiative
Middle School PSA Challenge
5th Grade Parent Alert

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Middle School PSA Challenge
New Jersey Shout Down Drugs
Community Based Programs
15 Minute Child Break

PARENTS:
WE ARE LOSING KIDS!

FAQs:
- A PDFNJ Parent Educator will present at the location of your choice
- The presentation is for Adults only
- This FREE presentation is offered to Schools, Community Organizations, Businesses and Religious Organizations
- The presentation can be open to the entire community
- Online promotional materials provided to promote/advertise

NJ BREAKING NEWS:
Prescription drug abuse and heroin abuse have reached epidemic levels in New Jersey!

15 MINUTE CHILDBREAK
A FREE SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION PROGRAM
FOCUSING ON THE EPIDEMIC OF PRESCRIPTION AND HEROIN DRUG ABUSE IN NEW JERSEY.
Drugs Don’t Work In New Jersey

- Participation continues to rise with over 900,000 New Jersey Employees
- Member training to be held July 15, 2015
In the Media
Focus on Patent Education of Signs and Symptoms of Opiate Abuse

Visit this website if your child is depressed.
Visit this website if your child is nodding off.

Every day, two families in New Jersey lose a child to opioid abuse. Are you talking to your kids yet?
Visit drugfreenj.org

Only watch this video if you love your children
An Award Winning Year..

Resolution from Senate President Sweeney
On the Horizon..

• Focus on rise in Synthetics

Synthetic marijuana sending dozens to ERs in NJ

What's being sold as synthetic marijuana has sent about 30 people to emergency rooms around New Jersey, including one person in Monmouth County, health authorities said.

The New Jersey Poison Information and Education System has issued an alert to warn people about the dangerous, man-made drug and anything going by the street names "spice" or "K2."

Dr. Steven Marcus, the executive director and medical director of the poison information system, said the reactions have puzzled medical professionals because they have included both extreme agitation and the extreme opposite — coma.

"The bottom line is it's very, very dangerous. It's dangerous stuff that could kill," Marcus said. "This is not just a strong version of marijuana."

The same drug may be linked to as many as eight overdose deaths in Lehigh County, Pennsylvania, officials said. Toxicology tests are pending. Adding to the public health crisis, some of the people treated there became "very combative and did not appear to feel any pain, making restraint extremely difficult," according to a statement from the Lehigh County District Attorney's office and Allentown Health Bureau.

Victims in Lehigh County range from 13 to 68, according to the statement.

No one in New Jersey is reported to have died from the drug.
On the Horizon..

• Updated DrugFreeNJ.org

Welcome to www.DrugFreeNJ.Org
On the Horizon..

• Continue Safe Prescribing Efforts and Opiate Abuse Prevention Efforts

Deaths from fentanyl, 50 times more powerful than heroin, nearly triple in N.J.

NEW JERSEY’S HEROIN CRISIS

Fentanyl is not as dangerous as it is extremely difficult to control. You can’t just
snort fentanyl like you can snort heroin, and if you do, you can easily
overdose or die.

Overdose deaths attributed to fentanyl, a prescription opioid up to 50 times more
powerful than heroin, tripled in New Jersey in 2016, new data show, adding a
destructive new variable to the region’s heroin and opioid crisis.

State data show that 43 overdose deaths were attributed to fentanyl in 2016, up from 14 in
2015. It’s a growing worry for law enforcement officials who know a single use of the
drug, often unknowingly used to lace heroin, can lead to death.

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