#### EMERGING DRUGS OF ABUSE: SYNTHETIC MARIJUANA, HEROIN AND MORE... WHAT IS TRENDING NOW?

The Upstate New York Poison Center of Upstate Medical University

## Upstate New York Poison Center





# What do THESE people have in common?



# What do THESE people have in common?

#### "I couldn't get through my day without it!"



bdy. Not a real ad. Hire's what Rush really said about likit drug use on he ones who are geting away with R, connect them and send them up th



into a Republican and make you prone to tional statements and political views.









#### Synthetic Cannabinoids

□ Are they back ?

# SPIKE







# **Presenting Symptoms**

- Agitation
- Paranoia
- Hypertension
- Tachycardia
- Chest Pain

- Drowsy
- Pinpoint Pupils
- Bradycardia
- Nausea
- Vomiting



**New Onset Psychosis** 



#### Challenges

- Not Detected on Urine Drug Screens
  - Gas Chromatography-Mass Spectrometry
- Output Configurations Vary
- Product Can Be Tested





#### U-47700

- 4-methoxy-butyryl fentanyl
- Synthetic opioid
- 30 deaths
- Much stronger

#### Cocaine- Still A Problem?

PowderCrystal





#### Loperamide (Imodium®)



#### Liquid Nicotine



# Honey Butane Oil

- Marijuana plant ground up, place in a tube extractor
- Pour butane through the extractor to remove marijuana resin
- Wait for the butane to evaporate before use







#### Hallucinogens

Drugs that alter and distort perception, thought, and mood usually without clouding the ability to think







## Salvia Divinorum



- Perennial herb grown in Mexico
- Currently popular for "legal hallucinations", leaves can be smoked, chewed or infused
- Reports of "radically different" experience such as "switching realities"
- Erowid recommend: have a sitter and safe space when using
- Safe drug site www.Erowid.org





#### Other

- Antihistamines
- Jimson Weed
- Nutmeg
- Morning glory seeds
- Bufo toad







#### **Designer Drug**

Drugs that are manufactured or marketed to avoid laws or suspicion of drug trafficking

Names keep changing, chemical compounds keep changing





#### Are there still Raves?





# MDM A

#### Ecstasy; XTC; E; M & M

- One-tenth the stimulant effect of amphetamine
- "Hallucinogenic Amphetamir"



#### Methamphetamine

Continues to be a growing problem in NYS
Clandestine "Laboratories"

- Rural
- Urban







#### Volatile Substance Inhalation Abuse (VSIA)

Hydrocarbon derivatives



#### Nitrous Oxides





#### Alcohol.....













#### Powdered Alcohol.....

Equivalent to a shot

#### Mixes with 5 ounces of liquid







#### **Powdered Caffeine**

# Safe Dose is 1/16 of a tsp Comparable to a cup of coffee









#### Heroin: What is it

An opioid- man made

A depressant

Can be white or black powder







# Opium – Morphine - Heroin

- Opium has been used for centuries as a medicinal for severe pain
- In 1805 an organic alkaloid compound was isolated from the poppy plant that was 10 times more powerful than processed opium.
- The substance was named morphine, after Morpheus, the Greek god of dreams, for its tendency to cause sleep.





#### Heroin

Heroin was first manufactured in 1898 by the Bayer pharmaceutical company of Germany and marketed as a treatment for tuberculosis as well as a remedy for morphine addiction.





#### Heroin: Who Abuses it?





#### Heroin: What does it cost?

- Heroin is cheap, cheaper than prescription pills/opioids
- As drugs arrive in states, diluted with fillers like baking soda, talc or even other cheaper drugs
- The \$10 bags are about 25 percent pure heroin



#### How does it all begin?





#### Heroin: Why is it abused?



#### It produces euphoria- a state of "well being"

#### Impact.....

Highly additive- brain likes it, becomes use to it, person feels very sick without it



#### **Neurons and Receptors**



 Opioid receptors in the brain have a high affinity for heroin



#### Heroin

 Heroin is 2 to 3 times more potent than morphine.





### Heroin: What happens?

#### Impacts the brain and the lungs

- Varying degrees of lethargy to com<u>a</u>
- Respiratory depression
- Pinpoint pupils
- May develop-
  - Seizures
  - Tachycardia
  - Hypertension




# Complications...

AIDS
Endocarditis
Hepatitis C



## Naloxone



- Depending on route of administration delay in effects may be noted
- Staff need to protect themselves
- Withdrawal maybe precipitated
- Non medical staff are being trained to administer
  - Law enforcement
  - Police
  - School staff





# Naloxone- Onset of Action

| Route        | Response Time |
|--------------|---------------|
| IV           | 1-2 min       |
| Subcutaneous | 5 min         |
| Intranasal   | 3 min         |
| IM           | 6 min         |



# Narcan- complications?

In a patient "naïve" to opioids- no effect
 In a patient who is dependent on opioids may precipitate withdrawal symptoms





# Heroin: Excessive Craving

- Makes a person-
  - Do anything to get the drug
    - Steal from family and friends
    - Lie
    - Experiment with other drugs
    - Become violent
    - Loose control over their life.....



# How is Addiction Treated ?

- Methadone
- Buprenorphine/Naloxone- Suboxone
- Buprenorphine alone- Subutex
- Naltrexone-Vivitrol \*
- Behavioral Therapies
- A combination of medications and behavioral therapy
- \* once a month injection



# One Unintentional Outcome of abuse of Opiods

## Babies Born with

#### **Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome**



# Public Health Issue

Newborns with NAS were more likely to have:

- Low birth weight (19%)
- Respiratory complications (30%)
- Estimated mean hospital charge for drugdependent newborns exceeded \$53,000 (uncomplicated delivery \$10,891)
- The payer of hospital charges was more likely to be Medicaid (2009 -77%)

# What is being done...

- NYS DOH have issued a ban on the sale of these products
- On a federal level legislation has been introduced
- On a state level legislation has been introduced
- Poison Center has launched a public and professional awareness campaign
- State and Federal Taskforces and Round Table Discussions
- Public Forums

#### National Efforts to Reduce Opioid Abuse/Misuse

- National Awareness Efforts
- National Drug Take Backs
  - Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Take Back Days In 8 collections over 4 years, 4.1 million pounds collected
- I-Stop Prescription Monitoring Program

to detect prescription fraud an drug diversion

Since 2012 - 75% drop in patients seeing multiple doctors for

same drug



# Governor Cuomo's Recommendations 6/9/16

- Prescriber education
  - 7 days rather than 30 days
- Increase available treatments centers-beds
- Remove insurance barriers
- Encourage pharmacist to provide consumer education
- Expand Narcan education

#### **Federal Initiatives**

126 million allocated

- CDC's-Prevention of Drug Overdose Program
- SAMHSA
- National Institute on Drug Abuse
- NIH
- Community Health Centers



#### Thoughts.....

Contact the Upstate New York Poison Center

# www.upstatepoison.org

We are only a phone call away!

"This publication/presentation was supported by Grant from the Health **Resources and Services Administration's** Division of Healthcare Preparedness, Poison Control Program (PCP), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The contents of this publication/presentation are solely the responsibility of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the views of HRSA/PCP."