CIAO Time Presents: Fentany

The Center for Innovation in Academic Detailing on Opioids San Francisco Department of Public Health

Agenda

- 1. Introduction to CIAO
- 2. Review of Fentanyl and Impact of Interventions
- 3. Academic Detailing Demonstration
- * Please post questions in the **Chat Box**





Our Team



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The Center for Innovation in Academic Detailing on Opioids



Our vision: We aim to decrease opioid-related morbidity and mortality by promoting balanced approaches to opioid management.

Our mission: We collaborate with healthcare providers to improve opioid and chronic pain-related care through innovative training and technical assistance services.



Opioids and Chronic Pain

A GUIDE FOR PRIMARY CARE PROVIDERS







Opioids and Chronic Pain: A

California edition National Edition

guide for primary care providers (book)

Technical Assistance Services (PDF)



Managing Chronic Non-Cancer Pain (poster)

California edition National Edition



California Pharmacists and Furnishing Naloxone: What you need to know (PDF)

CIAO's Academic Detailing and

First Poll





Amount needed for similar effect

Analogues

- ~ 5x more potent than heroin
 - Acetylfentanyl
 - Lasts longer (4-5h)
 - Common
 - Butyrfentantyl

- ~50x more potent than fentanyl
 - Carfentanil
 - Veterinary anesthetic
 - Rare (results in short-lived spike in deaths)

Second Poll



Appearance of Fentanyl

Eastern US:

- Usually mixed with heroin
- Ranging from white to brown powder
- Sometimes stamped as pills

Western US:

- Heroin is "black tar" and rarely mixed with fentanyl
- Off-white powder, crystals, etc
- Sometimes stamped as pills









How is it used?

- Medicinal: dissolve patch
- Injection: most common nationally
- Smoking/chasing
 - Common in San Francisco
 - Fewer injection-related consequences
 - May not reduce overdose risk





Third Poll

Can someone overdose from touching fentanyl?

- Simple answer: No
- More complex answer:
 - With massive exposure (~ ½ kilogram), some forms of fentanyl might slowly (e.g., over 10 hours of continuous exposure) penetrate the dermis
 - But isn't there a transdermal fentanyl patch??
 - This is specially formulated to penetrate dermis and takes many hours to do so
 - Even carfentanil exposure cannot result in rapid, significant toxicity
- Most law enforcement believe any contact can be deadly, resulting in worsened stigma



Lent, Tox in Vitro 2020; Thors, Tox in Vitro 2020; Attaway IJDP 2021

Potential Opportunities for Intervention, Jan-Jun 2019



Hedegaard, NCHS Data Brief No. 394, 2020

Rx Opioids Heroin Fentanyl



Window for Bystander Response



Rising CO2 levels
Declining O2
levels

*Times are estimates intended to illustrate magnitude of difference

Predicted Opioid Overdose Death Rate by Presence of Fentanyl and Naloxone Access



—No Naloxone —80% Naloxone Coverage

Strategies

- Naloxone coverage
- MOUD access
- Behavioral interventions
- Safe spaces
- Safe supply
- Drug checking
- Structural/social determinants (longer term)

Naloxone Coverage

Harm Reduction programs

 Targeted outreach (crim just / low-incom housing...)

Prescribing / dispensing

- Medical providers
- Pharmacies

PWU

Opioids

Emergency medical

- EMS
- ED

PWU other drugs

Friends/family/neighbors

Other settings

- SUD Rx
- Mental health
- Faith-based
- Nightlife

MOUD Access

- Increase availability
- Low-threshold services
- Novel initiation approaches

MOUD Access

- Increase availability
- Low-threshold services
- Novel initiation approaches
 - Higher dose methadone
 - Overlap initiation for buprenorphine
 - Macro-dosing (inpatient)
 - Micro-dosing (outpatient)



Drop-In Programs

- Spaces for people to be
 - Traditional drop-in programs
- Sobering spaces
 - Boston's "The Spot"
- Consumption spaces
 - Vancouver's Insite

Behavioral interventions

- Public messaging / education
- Contingency management
- Non-injection routes of administration?
- Counseling





Coffin et al., Plos One, 2017

Safe Supply

- Providing safe opioids
 - Agonist treatment
 - Innovative agonist treatments (e.g. morphine, hydromorphone, heroin)
 - Easier access to the supply (e.g. vending machines)
- Adjusting prescribing reforms



i. Increased illicit opioid use²



iii. Increased mental health crises and overdose events.⁴



ii. Increased emergency department visits and hospitalizations for opioid-related reasons³



Each additional day of taper was associated with a 1% reduction in the likelihood of an opioid-related event.

iv. Increased death from suicide or overdose.⁵



Days of opioid treatment prior to discontinuation

Drug Checking

- Fentanyl test strips
 - False positives with methamphetamine, MDMA, and diphenhydramine
 - Need better technology!
- Mass spectroscopy or Fourier-transformed infrared spectroscopy
 - Europe
 - Canada
 - Chicago
- Affects behavioral intent; uncertain impact on behavior

Maghsoudi, et al., www.qeios.com/read/TXE86U

Structural / Social Determinants

- "Deaths of despair"
 - Poverty, income inequality, unemployment
 - Lack of access to social capital
 - Social isolation
- Structural racism

Dasgupta, et al., Addressing long overdue social and structural determinants of the opioid epidemic. *Drug and Alc Dep*. 2021. Volume 222.

Why are most fentanyl deaths attributed to both stimulants and fentanyl?

• Are these really "fentanyl" deaths?

• How often is the fentanyl exposure unintentional?

Arguments for Intentional Exposure	Arguments for Unintentional Exposure
Co-use of stimulants and opioids is longstanding and common	Multiple case reports of people intending to use stimulants who died from fentanyl overdose
Stimulant-opioid decedents prior to fentanyl appeared demographically similar to opioid decedents	Fentanyl rarely mixed with heroin in western US, so unintentional exposure may be more common among people who use non-opioid drugs
People using fentanyl may use more stimulants due to potent sedating effects of fentanyl	Fentanyl appears similar to various forms of methamphetamine and cocaine
Fentanyl was present in 5.9% of samples thought to be methamphetamine in Vancouver	

Is Fentanyl Use Intentional in Overdose Deaths? Preliminary data from San Francisco



Takeaways

- Fentanyl is much more potent than other opioids
- Fentanyl is here to stay
- Our interventions still work, but we still see up to a 4-fold increase in mortality
- OUD treatment is more difficult due to higher tolerance
- We must be bold





Academic Detailing Mock Session

What to watch for...





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CENTER FOR INNOVATION IN ACADEMIC DETAILING ON OPIOIDS



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention OD2A / P2P