


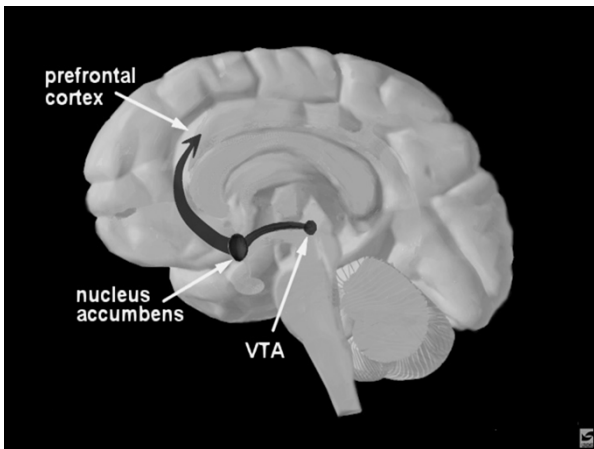
A Nurses Impact On A Substance Abuse Treatment Practice in the Heart of "Pill Mill" Country

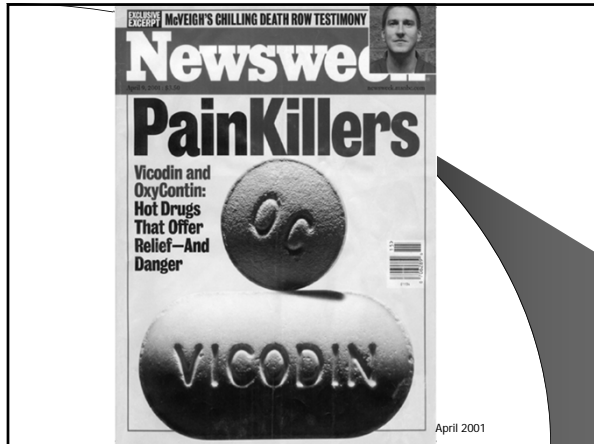
David Myers, MD,CAP,FASAM
Medical Director of ACTS &
HealthCare Connection
Tampa, Florida

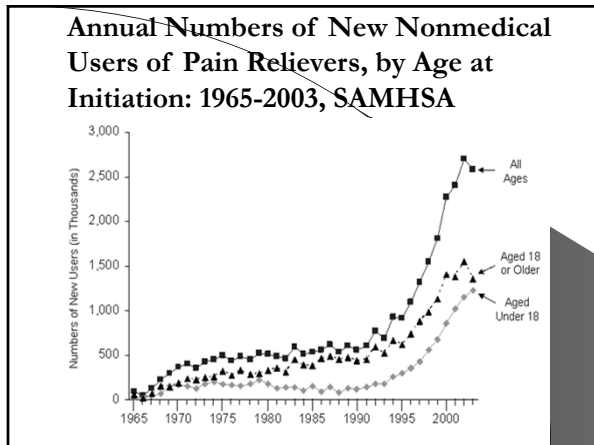
In Memory of Bob

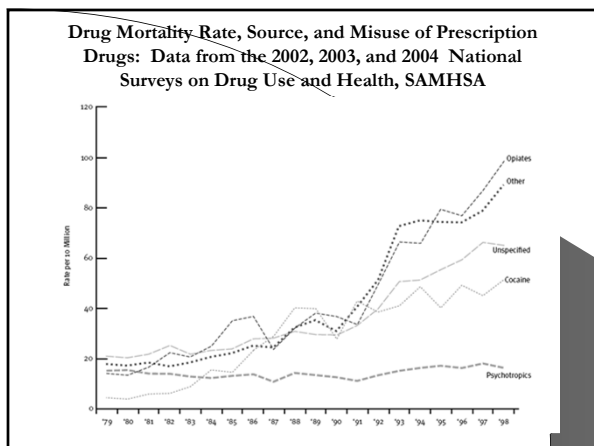


Robert Gerald Colern, RN
February 12, 1963
August 12, 2012









The Florida Experience

- 3317 of prescription overdose deaths were 70% of total drug deaths in 2007
- Over 700,000 Floridians misuse prescription pain meds yearly
- Top 25 US dispensing practitioners of oxycodone are all in Florida in 2008
- Florida is the largest state without a Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP)
- Florida has become a major distribution center for opioids and benzodiazepines for the south eastern United States

Source: Broward County Commission on Substance Abuse, United Way, 2008.

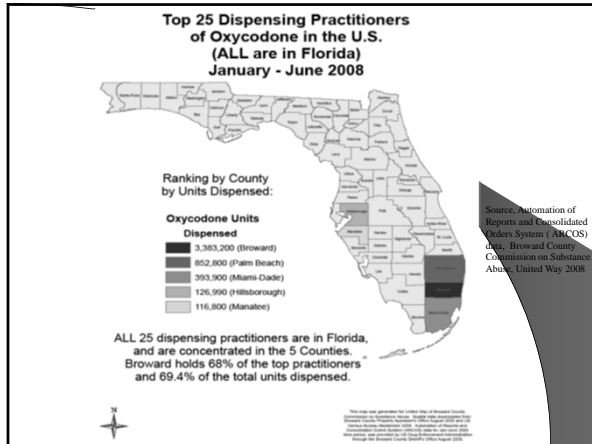
Factors Contributing to Opioid Over-Prescribing in Florida

- Lack of prescription drug monitoring program in Florida
- The infiltration of “pill-mills” (2005)
- Lack of understanding of comprehensive pain management
- Lack of physician education of opioid pharmacology and addiction medicine

Hitt, Gourlay, Pain Medicine, 6,2005. Universal Precautions in Pain Medicine: Rational Approach to the Treatment of Chronic Pain

Motivation for Pill Mills

Money



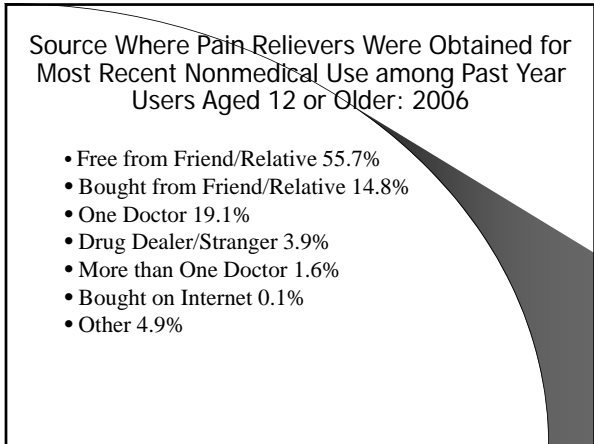
Life or Death Issue

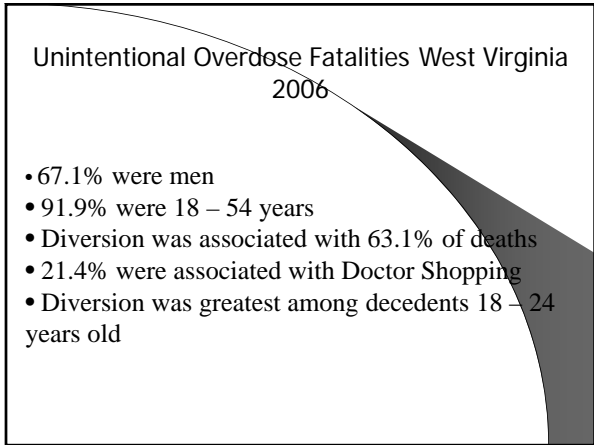
- In Florida the death rate for prescription drugs is three times that for illicit drugs
- In 2007 Florida deaths due to prescription opiates was 2,328. There were 743 deaths due to sedative/hypnotics. There were 989 deaths due to illegal drugs
- Illicit use of prescription opioid abuse was more than double the abuse of illicit drugs.
- The number of deaths due to prescription opiates increased 36% from 2006 to 2007 and that from Heroin increased by 14%

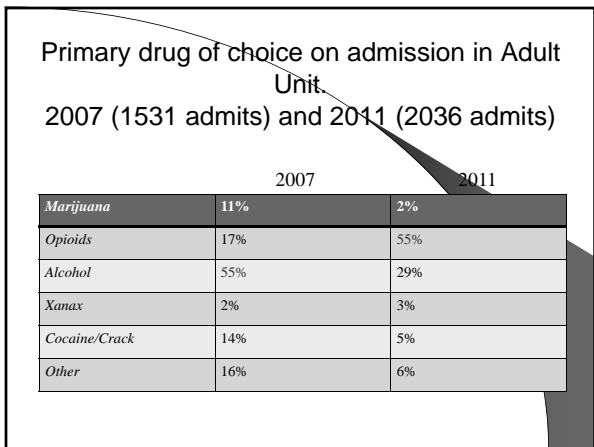
NewYorkTimes 2008

Who is at Risk?

- \$50,000 plus – The family income bracket reported by 42% of Oxycodone abusers
- 1 in 4 troops admit abusing prescription drugs within a one-year period
- 40-49 – The age bracket that accounts for about half of all prescription drug abuse
- More than 9 million Americans are currently abusing prescription drugs
- Seven of the top ten drugs abused by high school seniors are sold in pharmacies
- Prescription pain killers now kill more people than heroin and cocaine combined







Secondary drug of choice on admission in Adult Unit.
2007 (1531 admits) and 2011 (2036 admits)

	2007	2011
<i>Marijuana</i>	13%	9%
<i>Opioids</i>	17%	15%
<i>Alcohol</i>	15%	10%
<i>Xanax</i>	8%	40%
<i>Cocaine/Crack</i>	33%	9%
<i>Other</i>	15%	17%

Solution

- Tough New Laws – July 1, 2011
- Federal Regulation allowing private clinics to prescribe Suboxone and Subutex for maintenance of Opioid addicts in a private practice setting.

Bob's Job

- Create and organize the Suboxone Clinic
 - Remain in compliance with both State and Federal laws
 - Screen and interview all applicants which were appropriate
 - Drugs screens on each visit
 - Schedule physician visit into existing schedule
 - Create all the paper work that needed to be done prior to administration of Subone

Bobs Job

- Maintain all necessary records to monitor quality controll
- Refer all relapses to the physician

Screening Process

- Bob was to screen out all candidates which wanted to stay on another control (Benzo's)
- Provide literature
 - Where and When for Tampa
 - Provide the book "Living Sober"
 - Appropriate Subutex and Suboxone literature

Sucess

- 10 patients have been admitted to the program
- 5 remain in full compliance
