TEENS, OPIOIDS, AND THE PATH TO ABUSE AND ADDICTION PART 3

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Prescription Opioids in Adolescence


- Teens who received a prescription for opioid pain medication by Grade 12 were at **33 percent** increased risk of misusing an opioid between ages 19 and 25.

- Among those with low predicted risk of future opioid use in 12th grade, having an opioid prescription increased their risk of post-high-school opioid misuse **three-fold**.
Predictors of persistent opioid use in adolescence include:

• Marijuana use prior to receiving opioids

• Higher pain scores prior to receiving opioids

• Emotional abuse prior to receiving opioids

• If the surgery is cholecystectomy or Colectomy
DID YOU KNOW
drug abuse starts early?

More than 90% of adults with substance use disorders started using before age 18\textsuperscript{45}

Encourage Caregivers to talk to their children

Children who learn about the dangers of drugs at home are up to 50 percent \textbf{less likely} to use drugs\textsuperscript{46}
Opioids are powerful (temporary) mental health medications

Opioids have very powerful calming and antidepressant properties.

- That effect decreases with continued exposure to opioids
- Ultimately, opioids may cause an increase in anxiety and depression
- For that reason, you should be very cautious using opioids in those with:
  - Mood disorders (depression or bipolar)
  - Anxiety disorders
  - PTSD

A recent study concluded that: “the 16% of Americans who have mental health disorders receive over half of all opioids prescribed in the United States.”

48
Treatment of Opioid Use Disorder

OUD is a life-threatening illness. Make sure you help your patient receive care.

- Abstinence-based programs are the least effective treatment.
- MAT with buprenorphine or methadone are the most effective.
- Naltrexone injection may be helpful in highly motivated individuals.
TREATMENT OF OPIOID USE DISORDER

• Detox and abstinence: Success rate ≈ 10%
• Methadone: Success rate ≈ 60%
• Buprenorphine: Success rate ≈ 60%
• Naltrexone injection: Success rate ≈ 10-50%
Why MAT

• The use of the opioid agonists methadone and buprenorphine reduces:
  • Overdose
  • Illicit drug use
  • Crime
  • Transmission of infectious diseases.
SUMMARY
So I hope you can...

✓ Describe the impact of the opioid crisis
✓ Describe addiction
✓ Describe opioids impact on teens
✓ Describe preventative measures
✓ Describe treatment options


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