OPIOIDS: STATE OF THE STATE
DAN EDNEY, MD, FACP
Where are we in 2018: National Perspective

- 65,000 overdose deaths in 2016
- 1.9 million Americans have opioid use disorder from prescription pain medications
- Number increases to 2.4 million if heroin is included
- 4.3 million individuals will use prescription opioids each month for non-medical purpose
- Estimated cost is $75 billion/year
During the first three quarters of 2017, over 2.5 million opioid prescriptions were dispensed in Mississippi.

On average, over half of a million dosage units (pills) were dispensed every day in 2017.

The number of prescriptions and dosage units for opioid drugs did decrease between the 1st and 3rd quarters of 2017.
Where are we: State Perspective

Thanks to the Mississippi Board of Pharmacy for providing data.
State Perspective

Opioid Dosage Units
January-September, 2017

- Total number: 140,723,874
- Average number per month: 15,635,986
- Average number per day: 515,472

Figure 2. Number of Opioid Dosage Units Dispensed in MS, January-September, 2017

- First Quarter: 48,459,335
- Second Quarter: 47,418,432
- Third Quarter: 44,846,107

-7.5%

Data Source: Mississippi Board of Pharmacy
State Perspective
Overdose Deaths

- Number of reported deaths due to suspected overdose shows an upward trend since the beginning of 2017
- Through 3rd quarter of 2017, 143 OD deaths reported
- Reported heroin-related deaths increase from 7 deaths in the 1st quarter to 13 deaths during the 3rd quarter
State Perspective

Overdose Deaths

Figure 3. Suspected Overdose Deaths, MS, January-September, 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>First Quarter, 2017</th>
<th>Second Quarter, 2017</th>
<th>Third Quarter, 2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All overdose deaths</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opioid prescription drugs (except fentanyl)</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heroin</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fentanyl (illicit and prescription)</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opioid prescription drugs and heroin</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other substances of abuse</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data Source: Mississippi Bureau of Narcotics
EMS data shows that naloxone was used 1,564 times through 3rd quarter of 2017

Remember, opioid toxicity can cause respiratory depression and/or cardiac arrest

Naloxone is a life-saving medication that can reverse an opioid overdose (opioid antagonist)
Emergence of highly potent synthetic opioids necessitates:

- Facilitating and expanding availability and use of naloxone
- Continuing to train first responders to administer naloxone
- Training persons at risk, family members, and friends to administer naloxone
State Perspective

Naloxone

As of 1/4/2018:
- 6,300 doses
- 3,597 First Responders
- 118 Agencies
- 52 Counties
- 29 Lives Saved
State Perspective

**Figure 4. Naloxone Administration by EMS: Number of Cases, MS, January-September, 2017**

- January: 214
- February: 157
- March: 182
- April: 158
- May: 180
- June: 198
- July: 194
- August: 164
- September: 107

First Quarter Totals = 563
Second Quarter Totals = 536
Third Quarter Totals = 465

Data Source: Mississippi State Department of Health
State Perspective

- Harrison County 215
- Hinds County 181
- Rankin County 85
- DeSoto County 59
- Lee County 46
State Perspective

OD Deaths

• Pearl River County 20
• Harrison County 19
• Hinds County 18
• DeSoto County 13
• Lee County 9

Number of Suspected Overdose Deaths, MS, January-September, 2017

Data Source: Mississippi Bureau of Narcotics
State Perspective

Crime

❖ Through 3rd quarter of 2017, there were 15,286 drug related crimes in our state
❖ Averages 1,698 per month
❖ Highest numbers reported in:
  ✗ DeSoto County 2,759
  ✗ Hinds County 1,704
  ✗ Harrison County 1,397
  ✗ Rankin County 1,243
  ✗ Madison County 797
## State Perspective

### Crime

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table 1. Drug-Related Crime Data, MS, 2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Type of Crime</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drug-related arrests</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pharmacy burglaries</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data Source: Mississippi Department of Public Safety and Mississippi Bureau of Narcotics
Where Do We Go From Here?

- Continue to treat this crisis as the epidemic that it is
- Treat it as the disease that it is
- Eliminate stigma
- Reduce access
- Increase access to treatment, MAT, and naloxone
- Community involvement and build coalitions
Where Do We Go From Here

- Reduce dosing units at time of discharge from hospital/ED
- Educate prescribers on new guidelines and regulatory changes
- Be involved in supporting community coalitions
- Support improved access in your community for treatment including working poor
Governor’s Opioid and Heroin Study Task Force

Chairman John Dowdy – Director, Mississippi Bureau of Narcotics
Vice-Chair Dr. Randy Easterling – MS State Board Medical Licensure

Dr. Claude Brunson – Senior Advisor to the Vice Chancellor, UMMC
Patricia Burchell – District Attorney, Forrest and Perry Counties
Larry Calvert, R.Ph. – President, Mississippi Board of Pharmacy

Dr. Frank Conaway, Jr. – State Board of Dental Examiners
Joey East – Chief, Oxford Police Department

Dr. Scott Hambleton – Medical Director, MS Physician’s Health Program
Joshua Horton – Ole Miss Law Student, Southern Recovery Advocacy
Phyllis Johnson – Executive Director, MS Board of Nursing

Ken Magee – Retired Deputy Administrator, MS Dept. of Public Safety
Dr. Carroll McLeod – Jackson Anesthesia Pain Center

Melody Winston – Bureau Director, MS Department of Mental Health
Prescribing Update

- Number of pills prescribed
- Use of Prescription Monitoring Program
- Benzodiazepine limits
- Use of drug testing
- Cancer related pain
Thank You!