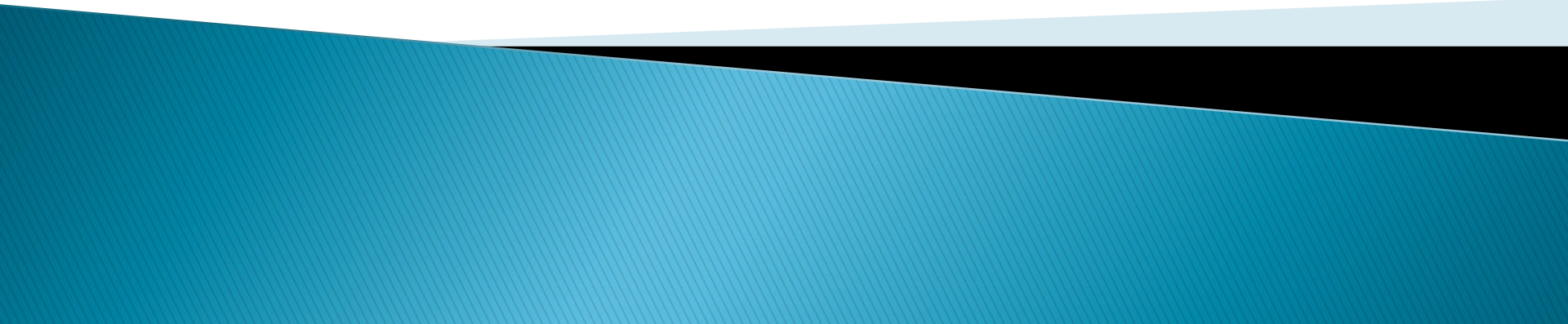


Understanding the Opioid Epidemic in Maryland



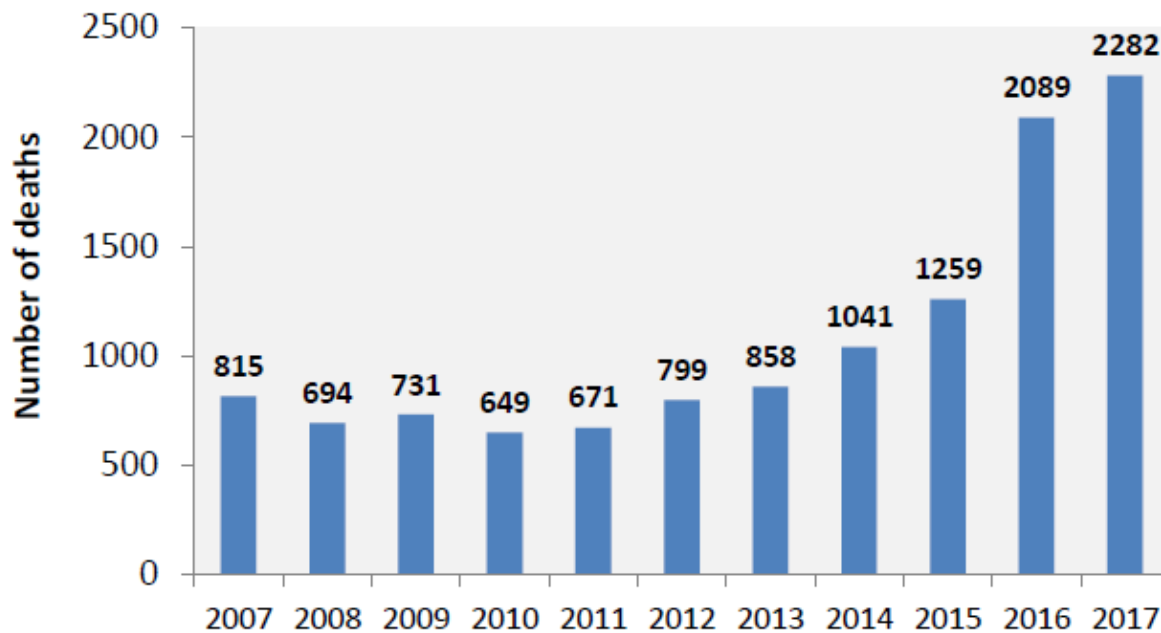
Opioid Abuse National Statistics

- Drug overdose deaths and opioid-involved deaths continue to increase in the United States
- The majority of drug overdose deaths (more than six out of ten) involve an opioid
- Since 1999, the number of overdose deaths involving opioids (including prescription opioids and heroin has quadrupled.
- From 2000 to 2015 more than half a million people died from drug overdoses and 91 Americans die everyday from an opioid overdose



Opioid Epidemic in Maryland

Figure 1. Total Number of Drug- and Alcohol-Related Intoxication Deaths Occurring in Maryland, 2007-2017.

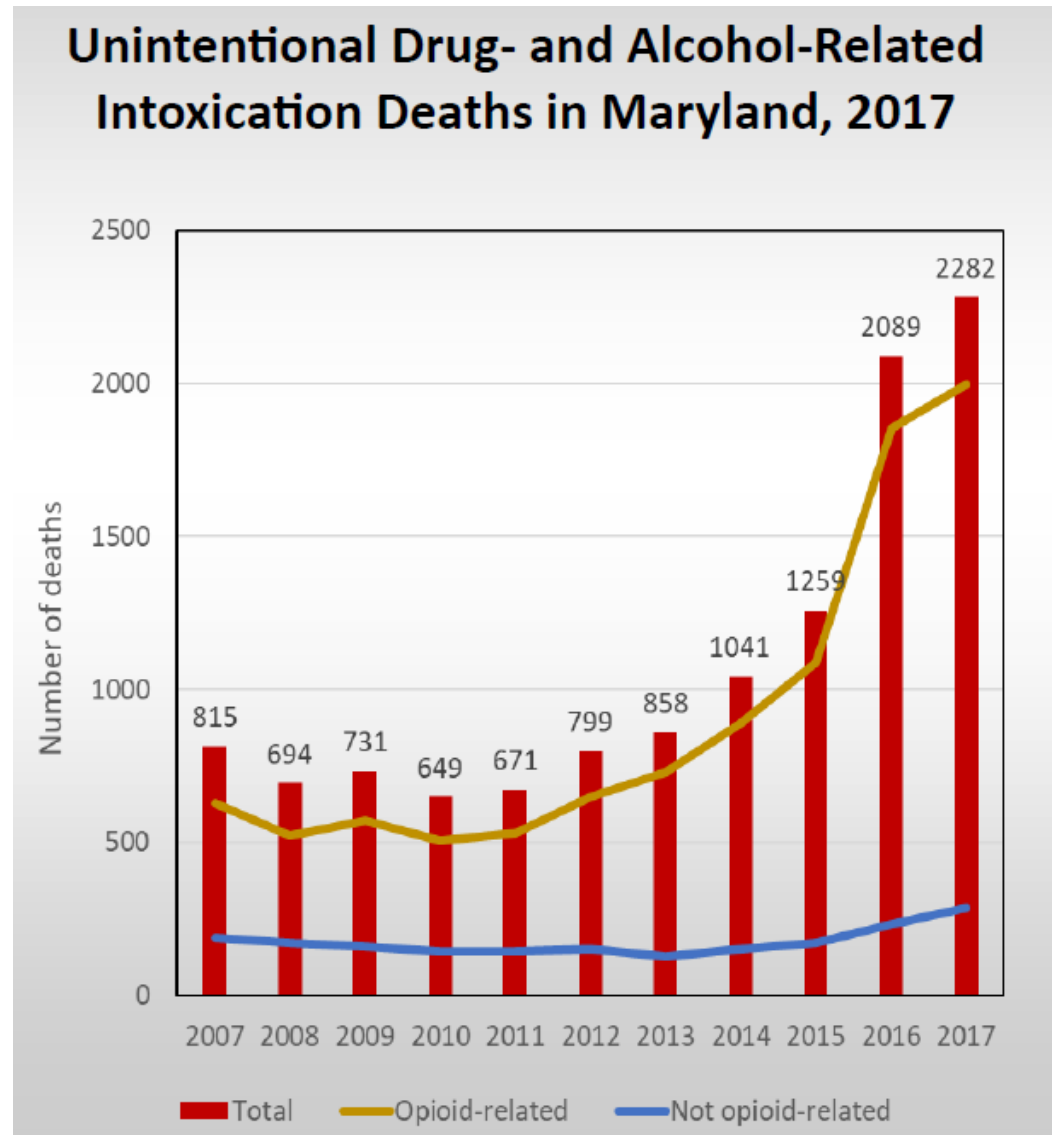


Source: Unintentional Drug- and Alcohol-Related Intoxication Deaths in Maryland Annual Report 2017

- Tragically, Maryland has faced massive increases in drug related deaths since 2007.
- This increase is driven almost entirely by opioids
 - Both heroin and prescription opioid overdoses are rising.
 - Other illicit drug overdoses are mostly static, except for cocaine
- **88%** of all intoxication deaths that occurred in Maryland in 2017 were opioid-related.

Opioid Deaths in Maryland

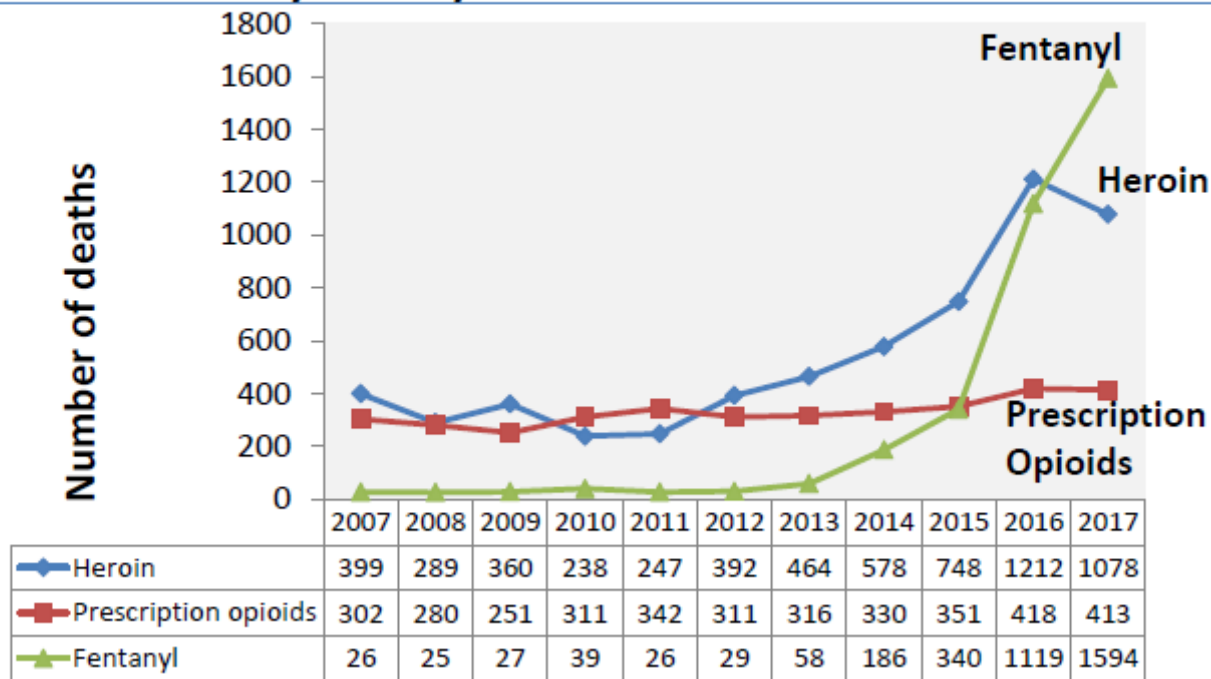
- Over ten thousand Marylanders have died from opioid overdoses since 2007.
- The economic—and emotional—impact of these lives being cut short is difficult to overstate.
- Municipalities struggle with the aftereffects:
 - Diminished labor force
 - Reduced tax revenues
 - Orphaned children
 - Stigma in the community



Source: *Unintentional Drug- and Alcohol-Related Intoxication Deaths in Maryland Annual Report 2017*

Overdoses driven by Fentanyl

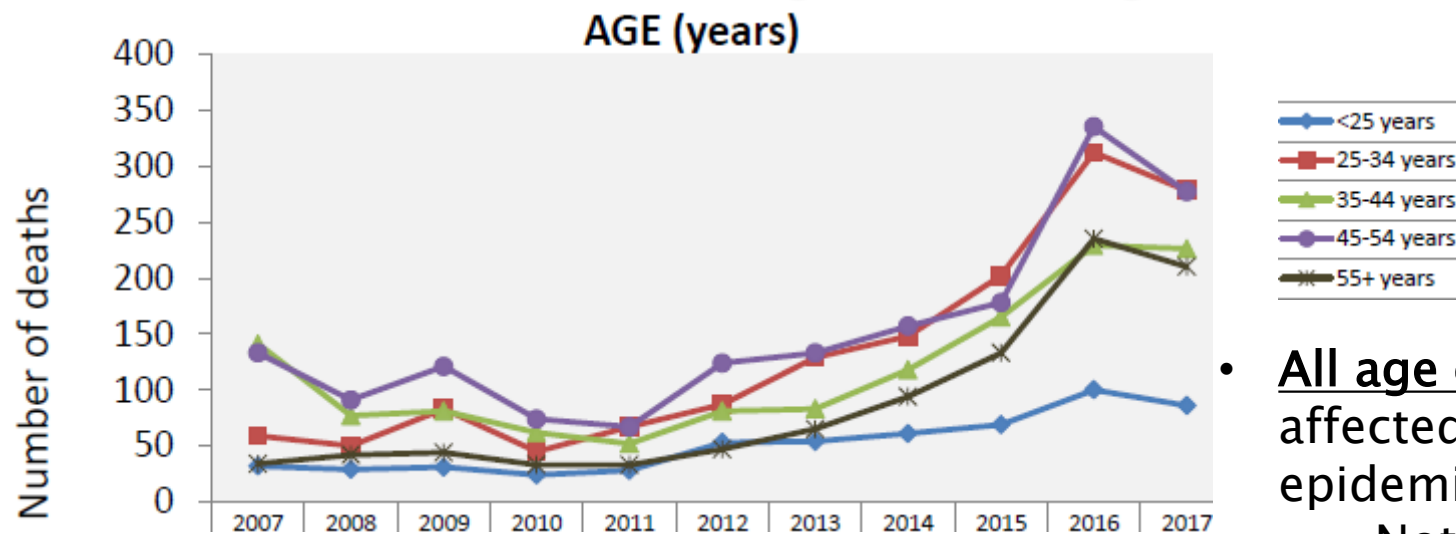
Figure 7. Number of Opioid-Related Deaths Occurring in Maryland by Substance, 2007-2017.



- Fentanyl is causing the most opioid-related deaths in Maryland by far.
- Fentanyl is between 50–100 times more potent than Morphine
 - Prone to causing overdose due to the narrow overdose range
 - Commonly cut into street drugs to increase potency

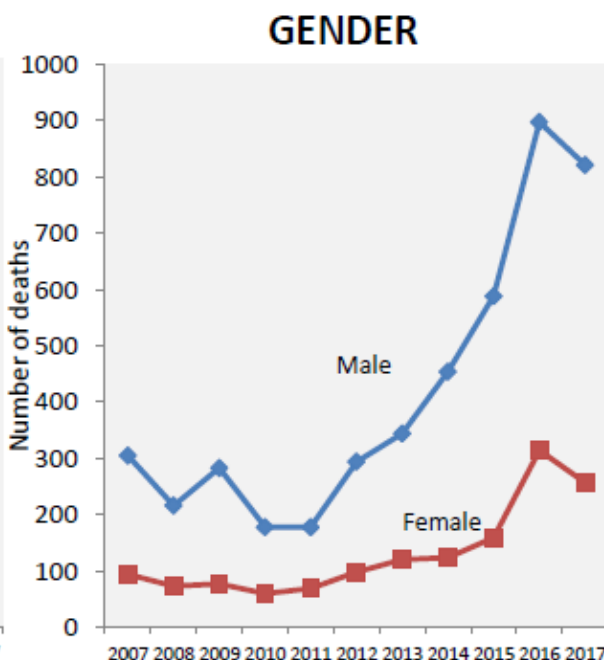
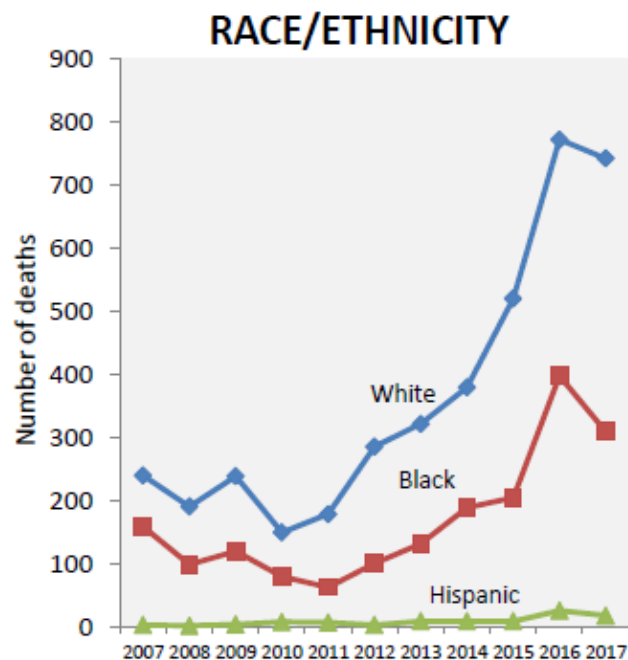
Source: Unintentional Drug- and Alcohol-Related Intoxication Deaths in Maryland Annual Report 2017

Affecting All Ages, All Colors



- All age groups are being affected by the opioid epidemic

- Not just the heaviest users of prescription opioids (elderly)
- Overzealous prescribing and marketing has created young addicts as well



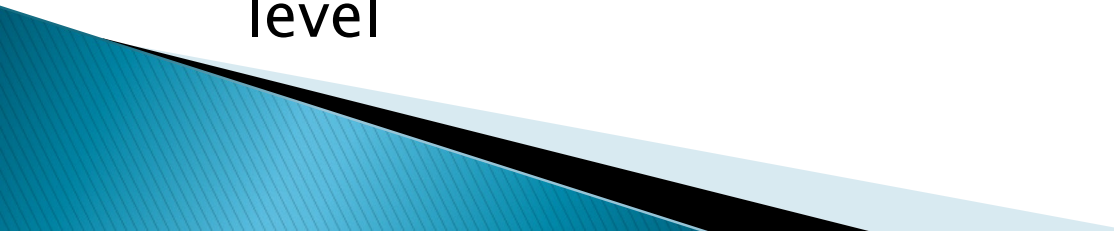
Source: Unintentional Drug- and Alcohol-Related Intoxication Deaths in Maryland Annual Report 2017

How Would Damages Be Determined?

► Examples of costs:

▪ Foster Care (increased costs/placements/court hearings)	▪ Substance abuse treatment
▪ Emergency call and response volume	▪ Cost of Overdose medications
▪ Drug screening tests	▪ Increased jail costs
▪ Treatment for uninsured at hospital/public health department	▪ Hospital costs for babies delivered with positive toxicology
▪ Coroner/medical examiner costs	▪ Court costs
▪ Increased sheriffs department costs	▪ <u>Decreased tax revenue!</u>

Relief for Maryland

- ▶ Remedies for the opioids crisis will not be ‘one size fits all’
 - Cities and counties, more than states, are capable of responding to the specific needs of their residents on a personal level
 - ▶ Each municipality in Maryland faces its own unique challenged in the opioid crisis
 - The surest way to make certain the municipalities of Maryland are represented is to file a case now while the litigation is still being shaped on the national level
- 

Relief for Maryland

▶ Benefits of Filing

- Compensation for municipalities outside of the national deal
 - Lessons from tobacco: states, counties, and cities that pursued their own cases received higher settlements

▶ Low Risk, High Reward

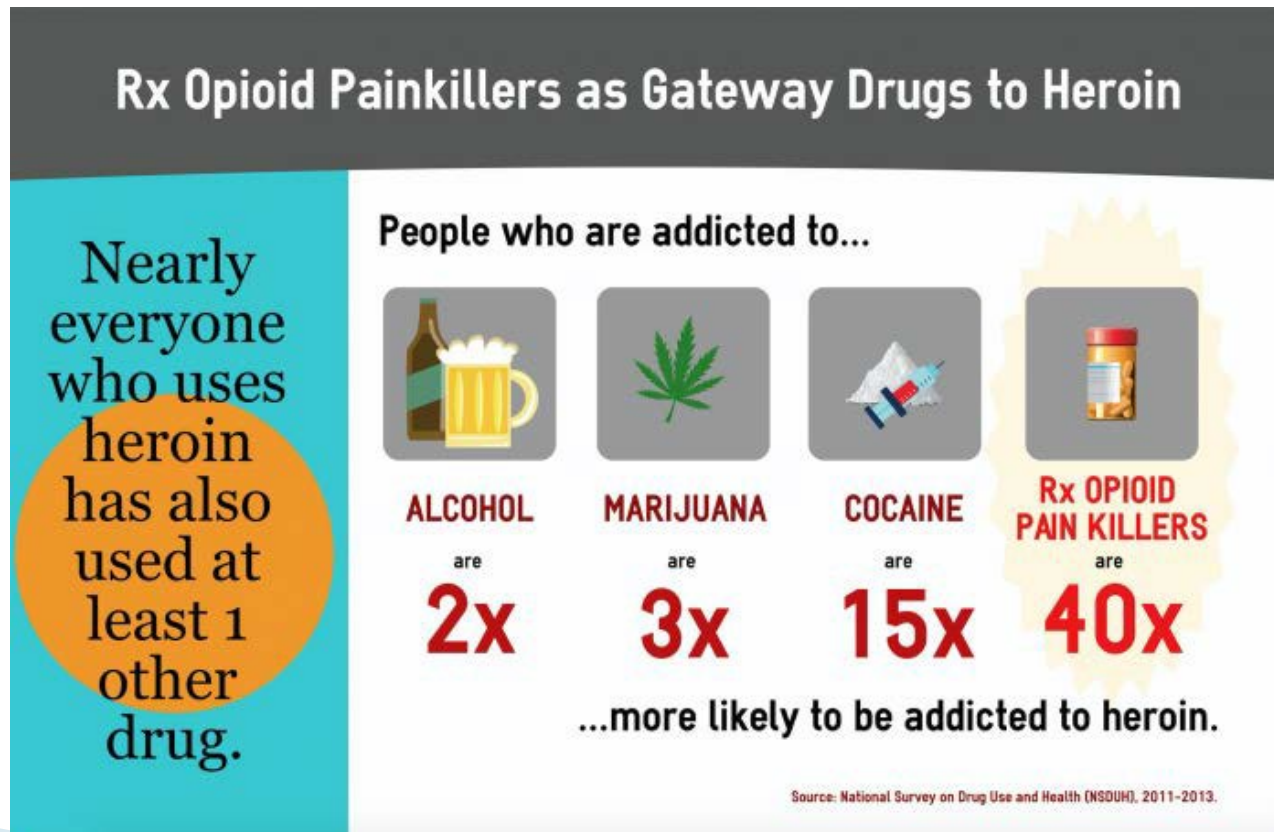
- No out of pocket expenses to pursue litigation
- Contingency fee model

▶ Experienced Counsel

- Join with firms that have firsthand experience winning against drug companies
- Have already retained nation-leading experts in modeling damages and neuroscience causation

Origins of the Epidemic

- ▶ Individuals seeking treatment who for opioids in the 2000's, 75 % reported that their first opioid was a prescription drug.

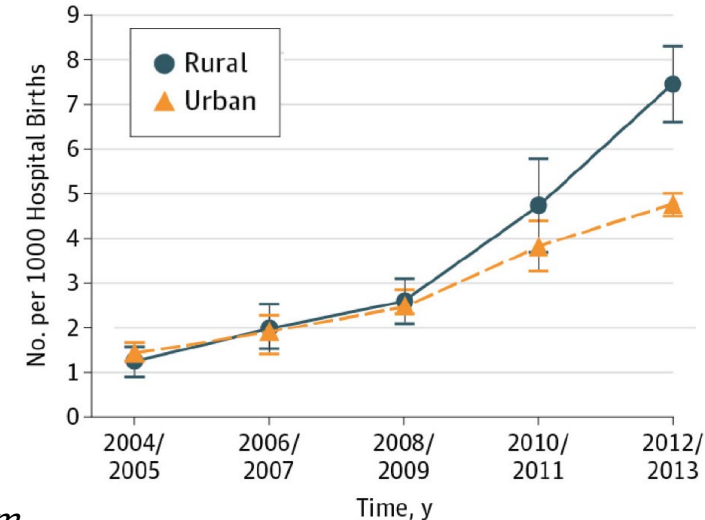


Early Exposure to Opioids

- ▶ Neonatal abstinence syndrome (NAS) may occur when a pregnant woman takes prescribed drugs or illicit drugs
 - Substance passes through the placenta.
- ▶ Symptoms vary greatly
 - Type of drug used, number of drugs used, genetic factors that effect metabolism, quantity, frequency and duration of use, and prematurity
 - Need for greater research
- ▶ Infants with NAS are often harder to soothe, struggle with feeding and weight gain, over-react to stimulation, and may show long term developmental and educational deficits
 - Require low light, gentle rocking, swaddling, and minimal to no noise or stimulation

Sources:

- <https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/007313.htm>
- MGH Center for Women's Mental Health



Rates of NAS are growing faster in rural areas

Opioid Defendants

- ▶ **Manufacturer Defendants**
 - Purdue Pharma
 - Janssen (a subsidiary of Johnson & Johnson)
 - Teva/Cephalon
 - Endo Health Solutions
- ▶ **Distributor Defendants – These 3 Fortune 500 companies control 85% of the market share**
 - McKesson
 - AmerisourceBergen
 - Cardinal Health

Need Systemic Prevention & Treatment Options

CONTINUUM OF CARE: INTENSITY SPECTRUM OF SERVICES



SAMHSA; <http://www.alcoholandcrime.org/the-voice/issues/jun13/Continuum-of-Care-The-Voice-June2013.pdf>