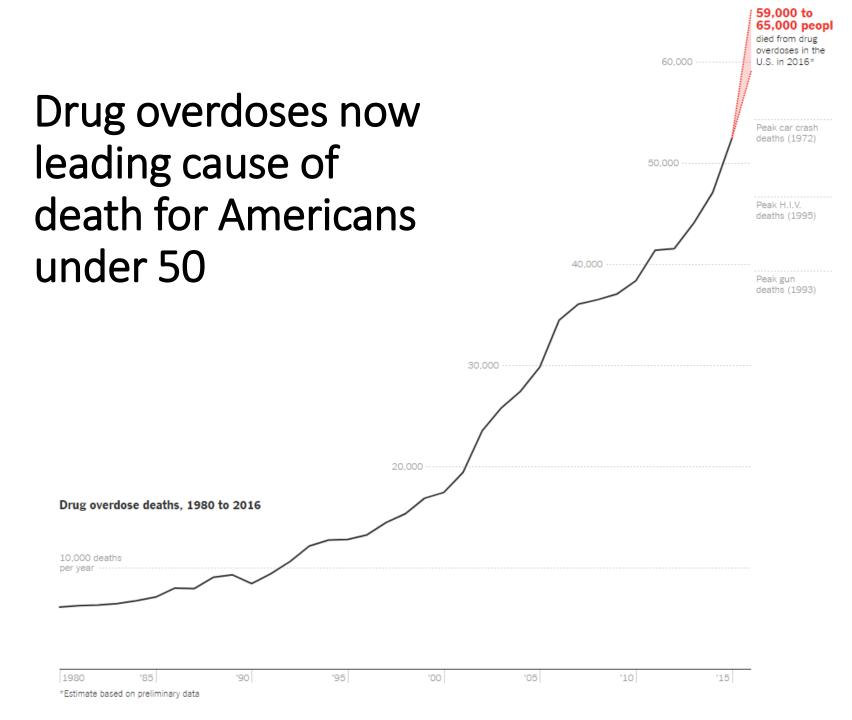
Changing Systems to Effectively Respond to the Overdose Crisis

Sarah E. Wakeman, MD, FASAM

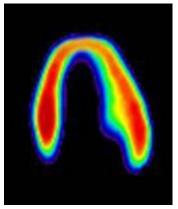
Medical Director, MGH Substance Use Disorder Initiative Assistant Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School Medical Director, RIZE Massachusetts



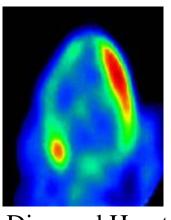
Substance Use Disorder is a Chronic but Treatable Illness

High

Decreased Heart Metabolism in Coronary Artery Disease

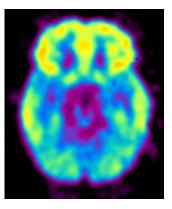


Healthy heart

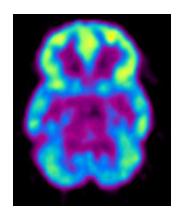


Diseased Heart

Decreased Brain Metabolism in Substance Use Disorder



Healthy Brain



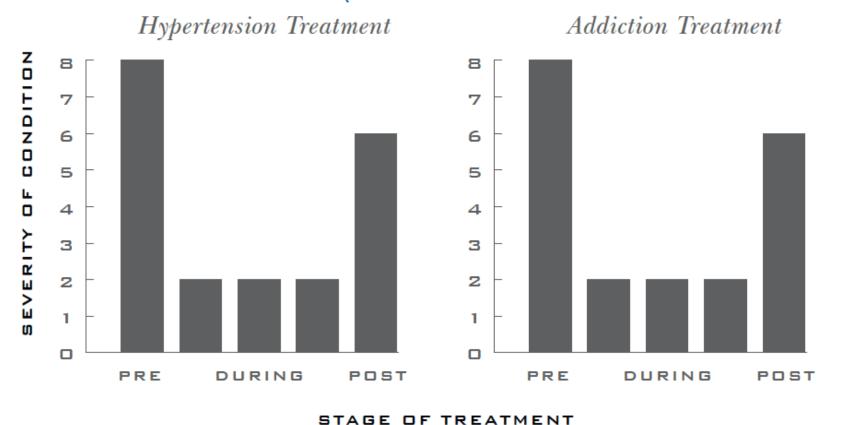
Diseased Brain



Treatment Outcomes as Good as for Other Chronic Diseases

WHY IS ADDICTION TREATMENT EVALUATED DIFFERENTLY?

BOTH REQUIRE ONGOING CARE

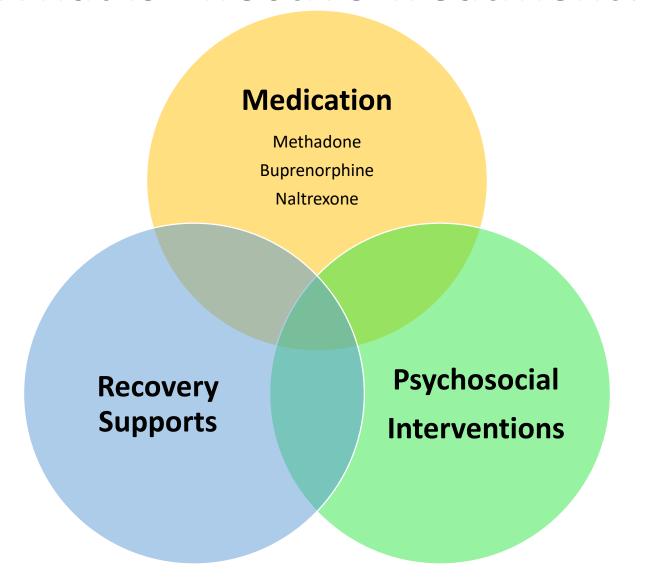


NIDA. Principles of Drug Addiction Treatment. 2012. McLellan et al., JAMA, 284:1689-1695, 2000.

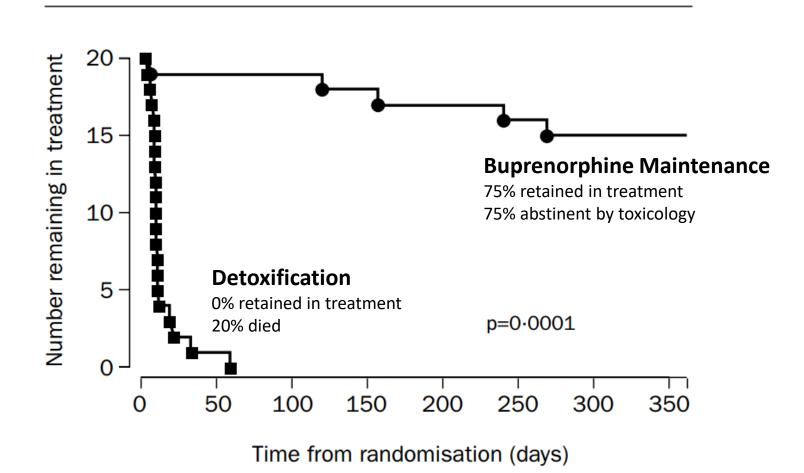
Similar to Management of Diabetes

- No cure
- Goal is normalize blood sugar and prevention of acute and chronic complications
- Individualized treatment plans and goals
- Treatment includes:
 - Medication
 - Lifestyle changes
 - Regular monitoring for complications
 - Behavioral support

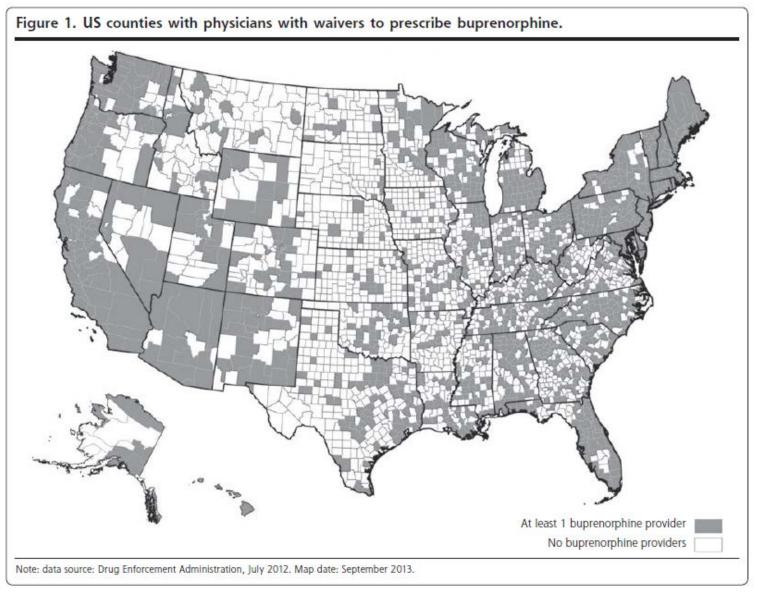
What is Effective Treatment?



What is Effective Treatment?



Lack of Access to Treatment



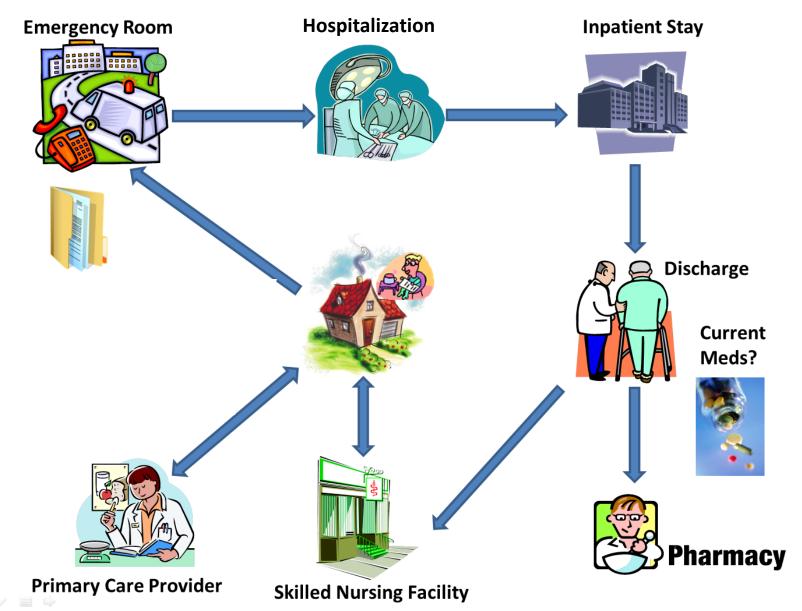
The Need for Change

"For nearly a century, physicians were indoctrinated with the societal attitude that [people with addiction] brought upon themselves the suffering they deserve. Even after we began to regard [people with addiction] as having a disease, our policies continued to reflect our attitude: they are sick, they need help, but they also sin, so do not help them too much. Until the correct mindset is restored in the physician, the mere availability of an effective medication will not make a difference. To put it another way, for buprenorphine to succeed clinically, physicians themselves must first change before they can help patients change their lives."

What Does Care Look Like Currently?



What Could Person-Centered Care Look Like for Substance Use Disorder?



New Models of Care Across MGH







The MGH Substance Use Disorder Initiative



Evidence Based Care Checklist

• Immediate access to all types of medication for addiction treatment

 Treatment based on clinical need & patient preference/experience (i.e. not a one-size-fits-all approach)

Patients aren't terminated from care for recurrence of illness (i.e. relapse)