

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

Patient Case Study

Larry – a patient with low back pain

– Treatment plan:

- Initially started on NSAIDs and tramadol PRN
- Due to unresolved pain, and diminished functioning, two months ago the patient's primary care physician prescribed the following:
 - » Gabapentin, of which the patient is currently receiving 600 mg TID
 - » Oxycodone 5 mg, 1 tablet up to four times a day. Patient states that he takes on a regular basis 3-4 times a day.
 - » Pharmacist notes that the patient appears to be compliant with his gabapentin and is using about 120 tablets of the oxycodone per month.



Determining the Right Patient

Pain Relief Seeking

Disease progression
Poorly opioid responsive pain
Withdrawal mediated pain
Opioid analgesic tolerance
Opioid-induced hyperalgesia

Pain Relief and Drug Seeking

e.g. pain with co-morbid addiction, patient taking some for pain and diverting some for income

Drug Seeking

Addiction
Other psychiatric diagnosis
Criminal intent (diversion)



Effects of Unmanaged Pain

Physical Functioning

- Ability to perform activities of daily living
- Sleep disturbances

Psychological Morbidity

- Depression
- Anxiety
- Anger
- Loss of self-esteem

Social Consequences

- Relationships with family and friends
- Intimacy/sexual activity
- Social isolation

Societal Consequences

- Healthcare costs
- Disability
- Lost workdays

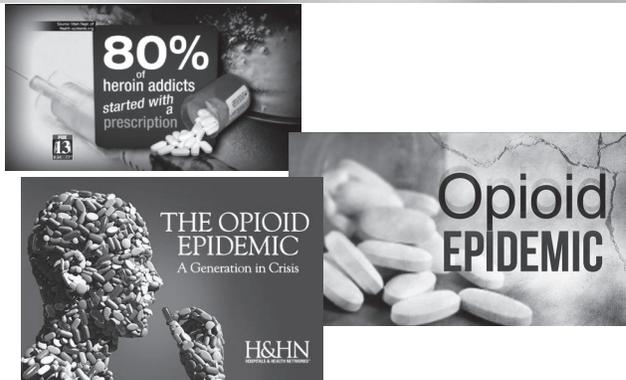
Abuse and Diversion of Opioids a Public Health Issue

- Four-fold increase in deaths associated with opioids since 1999^{1,2}
- 420,000 ED visits in 2011 related to misuse or abuse of Rx opioids³
- Abuse costs payers >\$72 billion per year in direct healthcare costs⁴

1. CDC/HCHS, National Vital Statistics System, Mortality File. Available at: <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nvss/deaths.htm>.
2. CDC National Center for Health Statistics 2016. Available at: <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/databriefs/db166.htm>.
3. SAMHSA: Highlights of the 2011 Drug Abuse Warning Network (DAWN) findings on drug-related emergency department visits. 2013. Available at: <https://www.samhsa.gov/data/sites/default/files/DAWN127/DAWN127sr127-DAWN-highlights.pdf>.
4. Katz NP, et al. *Am J Managed Care*. 2013;19:295-302.



Opioid Epidemic



Opioid Abuse

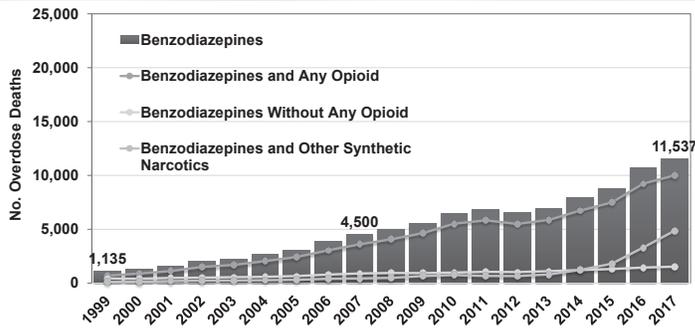
Drug overdoses:

- From 2002–2010, prescriptions for opioids, rates of opioid diversion and opioid-related deaths increased significantly.
 - All three plateaued or decreased from 2011–2013
 - From 2013–2014, rates of opioid overdose deaths increased 14%
- 2015: 33,091 deaths (15.6% increase from 2014)
 - Much of increase due to:
 - Heroin deaths, increased by 20.6%
 - Synthetic opioids deaths, other than methadone (e.g. tramadol, fentanyl) increased by 72.2%
 - Fentanyl mixed with heroin and cocaine
 - Carfentanil – 100x more potent than fentanyl, approved for veterinary use

Dart RC. *NEJM*. 2015;372:241-8.
Brauser D. Prescription opioid abuse warning. Available at: <http://www.Medscape.com/viewarticle/838538>.
Rudd RA et al. *Morb Mortal Wkly Rep*. 2016; 64:1378-82.
Rudd RA et al. *Morb Mort Wkly Rep*. 2016;65(50-51):1445-52.
CDC. Opioid Overdose. Available at: <https://www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/opioids/fentanyl.html>.
Ludden J. <http://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2016/09/02/482108992/an-even-deadlier-opioid-carfentanil-is-hitting-the-streets>.



Opioids and Benzodiazepines



National Institute of Drug Abuse. Overdose death rates. Available at: <https://www.drugabuse.gov/related-topics/trends-statistics/overdose-death-rates>.



Balancing Access to Chronic Pain Therapy While Lessening Abuse

- Opioids have proven benefit for patients with pain disorders
- Patients need access to opioids to optimally treat chronic pain conditions
 - Pharmacies not stocking opioids
 - Pharmacists rejecting prescriptions / refusing to fill
- Physicians ostracized if they treat “too many” pain patients
- Prescribers need to work jointly to manage risk while maintaining availability



How Fearful Should We be of Managing Pain with Opioids?

FDA 2014 REMS Blueprint

- **Step 2: FDA ER Opioid Labeling Changes**

- New indication for ER/LA opioid analgesics:

- “Indicated for the management of pain severe enough to require daily, around-the-clock, long-term opioid treatment and for which alternative treatment options are inadequate.”
- “Because of the risks of addiction, abuse and misuse with opioids, even at recommended doses, and because of the greater risks of overdose and death with extended-release opioid formulations, reserve [Tradename] for use in patients for whom alternative treatment options (e.g., non-opioid analgesics or immediate-release opioids) are ineffective, not tolerated, or would be otherwise inadequate to provide sufficient management of pain.”

Barlas S. P&T. 2013;28(9):531–534.



FDA 2014 REMS Blueprint

- **Step 2: FDA ER Opioid Labeling Changes (continued)**

- Updated language for the following Warnings and Precautions:

- **Addiction, Abuse, and Misuse**
 - ER/LA opioid analgesics expose users to risks of addiction, abuse and misuse, which can lead to overdose and death. Assess each patient’s risk before prescribing and monitor regularly for development of these behaviors and conditions.
- **Life-Threatening Respiratory Depression**
 - Serious life-threatening or fatal respiratory depression may occur. Monitor closely, especially upon initiation or following a dose increase. Instruct patients to swallow ER/LA opioid analgesics tablets whole to avoid exposure/ingestion to a potentially fatal dose.

Barlas S. P&T. 2013;28(9):531–534.



CDC Guidelines for Prescribing Opioids for Chronic Pain (2016)

- Twelve specific recommendations surrounding patient selection, dosing limits, monitoring patients, referrals for addiction, and goals of care.
- Categorization of recommendations based on their assessment:
 - No evidence shows a long-term benefit of opioids in pain and function for chronic pain with outcomes examined at least 1 year later (with most placebo-controlled randomized trials <6 weeks in duration).
 - Extensive evidence shows the possible harms of opioids (including abuse and dependence, overdose, myocardial infarction, motor vehicle crashes).
 - Extensive evidence suggests benefits of alternative treatments compared with long-term opioid therapy, including nonpharmacologic therapy and nonopioid pharmacologic therapy, with less harm.

CDC. Available at: https://www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/pdf/guidelines_at-a-glance-a.pdf.



What are Some Common Methods of Abuse?

Primary routes of opioid abuse¹

- Oral (chewing, swallowing additional pills)
- Inhaling (e.g., snorting, vaporization)
- Parenteral (IV, IM, SC)
- Smoking

Primary forms of opioid manipulation²

- Crushing or grinding into small particles or powder
- Dissolving in a solvent (e.g., alcohol, acetone)
- Extraction by exposure to hot or cold temperatures (microwaving, freezing)

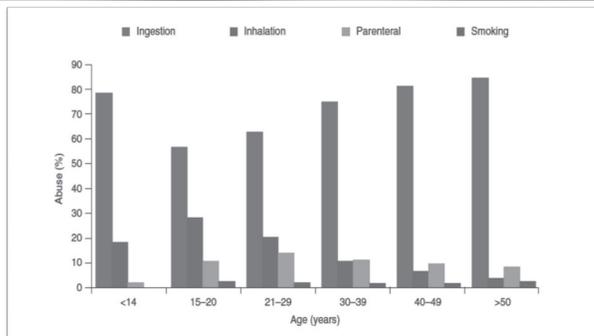
IV, intravenous; IM, intramuscular; SC, subcutaneous

1. Schaeffer T. *J Med Toxicol.* 2012;8(4):400-407.

2. U.S. Food and Drug Administration. Guidance for Industry: Abuse Deterrent Opioids – Evaluation and Labeling. April 2015 <https://www.fda.gov/downloads/Drugs/Guidances/UCM334743.pdf>.



Route of Abuse of Prescription Opioid Analgesics According to Age



Graphic from: Gasior M, et al. *Postgraduate Medicine.* 2016;128:85-96.
Katz N, et al. *Am J Drug Alcohol Abuse.* 2011;37:205-217.



Opioid Abusers Usually Seek to Convert ER Opioid to IR Opioid

- **Physical manipulation of ER opioid is typical**
 - Abusers crush and grind
 - Some seek chemical extraction with solvents
- **Abuse quotient (AQ = C_{max}/T_{max})**
 - A measure of the average rate of increase in plasma opioid concentration over the interval between treatment administration and the time of maximum opioid concentration
 - High C_{max} and short T_{max} = HIGH abuse quotient

Webster LR. *Drug Alcohol Depend.* 2015;156:e235-236.



Majority of Abusers Spend <10 Minutes Manipulating ER Opioids

- Goal of ADF is to curb abuse for majority of abusers
- Many ADFs can be defeated with time and effort
- Knowing most common abuse methods allows appropriate evaluation of AD potential

Sellers EM, et al. *J Psychopharmacol*. 2013;27:808-16.
Perrino PJ, et al. Relative attractiveness of oxycodone/naloxone (OXN): comparative assessment of tampering potential and recreational drug user preferences for different opioid formulations. Presented at PainWeek. 2013. Abstract #66.



Defeating ADT...

(Fudin J. Pharmacy Times. January 25, 2015)

"None of the ADFs can address one lingering concern: all medications can be misused and abused if the user ingests medications that are not prescribed to them or ingests more tablets than prescribed, regardless of the technology."

"Furthermore, there are ways to circumvent some of these ADFs. Google "methods to crush OxyContin." There are several blogs and YouTube videos that offer techniques to crush the new formulation of OxyContin. A blog called [BlueLight](#) suggests that OxyContin users can place the drug into their mouths for roughly 1 to 2 minutes to dissolve the coating, and then allow it to dissolve in acidic beverages such as lemon juice or root beer. Once in the beverage, the tablets expand and start to break apart (in as little as 2 to 4 hours) and are easy to consume."



Patient Case Study *(continued)*

Larry – a patient with low back pain

- Follow-up
 - Primary care physician wants to put the patient on an extended-release opioid
 - The physician calls you to inquire regarding the safety of extended-release opioids with abuse-deterrent technologies (ADT).
 - The physician understands that there are a variety of different extended-release opioids available with many claiming to have some sort of ADT, but are there differences between the products that would help the prescriber make the best decision for Larry?



Currently Available ER Opioids with ADT (continued)

Product Name	Opioid used	Description of technology (in descending order of date of FDA product approval)
Hysingla®	Hydrocodone	Resistec polymer matrix – designed to be plastic-like, hard to break, becomes gel in water, thus difficult to use in a syringe
Zohydro®	Hydrocodone	BeadTek formulation – designed to make it hard to crush and snort. Not FDA-approved as ADT technology
Xtampza®	Oxycodone	DETERx microsphere technology – manipulation resistant, has no FDA warnings regarding crushing, chewing or breaking
Troxyca®	Oxycodone	Addition of sequestered naloxone – designed to release antagonist if crushed, and then snorted, or crushed, dissolved and then injected intravenously
Ventrella®	Hydrocodone	CIMA technology combines three physical and chemical barriers (gelling, barrier and matrix) as a deterrent against the main forms of abuse: Crushing for snorting, IV extraction and dose dumping in alcohol.
MorphaBond®	Morphine	SentryBond technology using multiple overlapping abuse deterrent barriers. Retains ER properties if crushed or broken.



Currently Available Immediate-Release (IR) ADF Opioids

Product Name	Opioid used	Description of technology (in descending order of date of FDA product approval)
Oxaydo®	Oxycodone	According to the FDA, product is not a true ADF, more of an irritant. Nasal inhalation leads to burning, discouraging nasal abuse.
RoxyBond®	Oxycodone	First and only immediate-release opioid classified by the FDA as abuse deterrent. Formulated with SentryBond® technology using inactive ingredients that make the tablet more difficult to manipulate for misuse and abuse even if the tablet is subjected to physical manipulation and/or attempts at chemical extraction. Laboratory test data have shown that, compared oxycodone immediate-release tablets, product has increased resistance to cutting, crushing, grinding, or breaking using selected tools. Both intact and manipulated product resisted extraction in selected household and laboratory solvents under various conditions, including selected pretreatments. Compared with oxycodone immediate-release tablets, the product forms a viscous material that resists passage through a needle; it is also more difficult to prepare solutions suitable for intravenous injection. Compared to oxycodone IR, when crushed and snorted nasally, blood levels are lower.

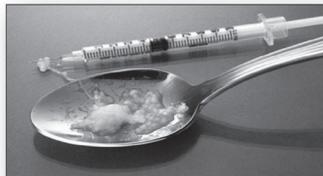
Polymer matrix ADT (usually polyethylene oxide-based)

(similar to INTAC / Resistec ADT technologies)

Original formulation

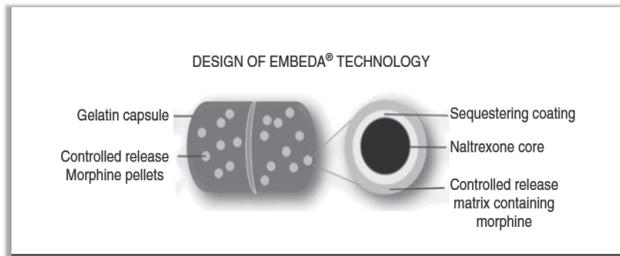


ADF



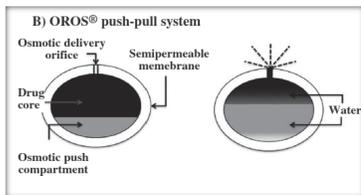
Nguyen V, et al. J Clin Pharm Therap. 2015;40:629-34.

Sequestration of Antagonist



Mastroietro DJ, Omidian H. *Expert Opin Pharmacother.* 2015;16:305-323.

Osmotic Controlled-Release Oral Delivery System (OROS)



Graphic from: Coluzzi P. *Minerva Anestesiol.* 2010;76:1072-84.

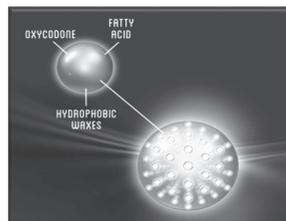
- Semi-permeable capsule with a laser-drilled hole in it
- The opioid is placed inside the hollow casing
- Tablet moves through the body, water passes through the case and is absorbed by an expandable chamber, which slowly pushes the drug out through the hole over several hours for an extended effect.

ADT Technology Elements

- The hardened case functions as a barrier to drug abusers, making it extremely difficult to crush.
- Crushing the tablet typically results in large fragments of irregular shape that form a thick solution in small volumes of aqueous solution.

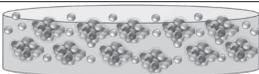
DETERx® ADT Technology

Oxycodone base + inactive ingredients form a lipophilic salt^{1,2}



1. Xtampza® ER [prescribing information]. Canton, MA: Collegium Pharmaceutical, Inc.; 2016.
 2. US Food and Drug Administration. FDA advisory committee briefing document: Xtampza® ER (extended-release oxycodone). Available at: https://www.pharmamedtechbi.com/~media/Supporting%20Documents/The%20Pink%20Sheet%20DAILY/2015/September/Collegium_oxycodone_AC_company_briefg.pdf. Published September 11, 2015.

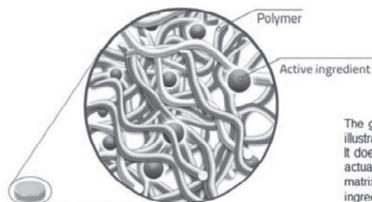
CIMA ADT: A Multifaceted Approach

CIMA ADT	
Formulated with 2 polymers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Polymer 1 is insoluble in alcohol • Polymer 2 is insoluble in water 	
Undergoes high shear granulation to resist crushing and small volume solvent extraction	
Fluid bed coating applied to provide an additional barrier to crushing	
Blended with additional polymers and compressed into tablets to add another barrier to alcohol-induced dose dumping and small volume solvent extraction	

Data on file; Teva Pharmaceuticals USA, Inc.

SentryBond™ Technology

The active ingredient – contained within a polymer matrix of inactive ingredients – is difficult to visibly distinguish or physically separate from the polymer matrix²



The graphic is for illustrative purposes only. It does not depict the actual tablet, polymer matrix, or active ingredient.

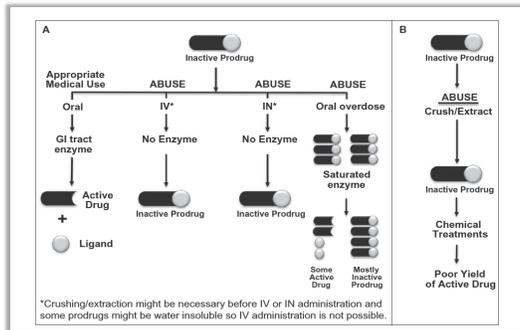
- Retains ER properties when manipulated or crushed
- Forms viscous mass that resists passage through a needle when placed in a liquid environment
- For IR products, when crushed and snorted, blood levels are lower than that obtained with comparable product without abuse-deterrent technology.

Data on file, DSI pharmaceuticals Inc.

Prodrug Technology for Abuse-Deterrent Opioids

- Prodrugs are chemically-modified versions of pharmacological agents that must undergo transformation in the body to release the active drug
- FOR ADT:
 - Prodrug itself would be inactive at opioid receptors.
 - Only through oral administration would the prodrug become activated as the enzymes necessary to release the active drug are only present in the GI tract.
 - Intravenous and intranasal administration would yield little or no active drug.
 - Overdose protection may be possible if the activating enzyme system is saturable.

Ideal Abuse-Deterrent Prodrug



IN, Intranasal; IV, Intravenous.

Diagram from: Gudin JA, Nalamachu SR. *Postgraduate Medicine*. 2016;128:97-105.



Patient Case Study - continued

Larry – a patient with low back pain

- Physician calls the pharmacist:
 - Primary care physician asks you if the use of an ADT opioid product will eliminate the risk of abuse and/or misuse of the opioid by the patient or his children.



Mythology of ADT Technology

- **MYTH:** ADT prevents all abuse/misuse/diversion
 - Pearls:
 - The right ADT product (ER and IR) can be an important extra tool to assist providers in preventing misuse / abuse
 - ADT does not prevent the swallowing of supratherapeutic doses of non-manipulated product
 - ADT does not prevent improper prescribing
 - PRN use of extended-release opioids
 - Prescriptions for “half-tablets”



Common Universal Precautions

- Patient Prescriber Agreements (PPA)
- Informed Consent (goals and risks)
- Plan of Care
- Efficacy not well established but no evidence of a negative impact on patient outcomes
- Monitoring for adherence, misuse, and diversion
 - Urine drug testing
 - Pill counts
 - Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) data

FSMB Model Policy 2013. Available at: https://30qkon2g8elf@wrj03zeh041-wpengine.netdna-cdn.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/FSMB-Model-Pain-Policy_July-2013.pdf

Courty D.L, et al. *Pain Med.* 2009;6(2):107-12.

Chou R, et al. *J Pain.* 2009;10(2):147-59.

Cheate MD, Savage SR. *J Pain Symptom Manage.* 2012;44(1):105-16.

Fishman SM, Kreis PG. *Clin J Pain.* 2002;18(4 Suppl):S70-5.

Arnold RM, et al. *Am J Med.* 2006;119(4):292-6.

Starrels J, et al. *Ann Intern Med.* 2010;152(11):712-20.

Franklin GM. *Neurology.* 2014; 83:1277-1284



Mythology of ADT Technology

- **MYTH:** ADT technology has been proven to decrease addiction, abuse, over-dosages, misuse, diversion, etc.
 - Pearls:
 - Category 4 studies have not been completed with any FDA-approved product demonstrating a reduction in these areas.



Patient Case Study - *continued*

Larry – a patient with low back pain

- Physician calls the pharmacist:
 - Primary care physician asks you if all of ADT technologies are relatively the same



Counseling Tips for All Patients on Extended-Release Opioids

- **ALWAYS....**

- Store medication in a safe (preferably locked) place
- Keep opioids away from children, teens
- Adhere to the instructions listed on the prescription
- Adhere to your medication agreement
- Ask your pharmacist or physician **FIRST** if you are planning to take any OTC medication or herbal/vitamin product while on LA/ER/IR opioids
- Call 911 if you experience shortness of breath or have difficulty breathing while on LA/ER/IR opioids



Balancing Medication Use in Patients

- √ **Non-pharmacological strategies**

- √ **Pain control**
- √ **Comfort level**



- √ **Improve overall function**
- √ **Minimize side effects**
- √ **Maximize safety**

- √ **Medical / legal guidelines for opioid use**
- √ **Use all available tools, including abuse-deterrent technology, to diminish risks**



Continuing Professional Development

Reflect | Plan | Do | Evaluate

Center for Independent Healthcare Education is committed to supporting pharmacists in their Continuing Professional Development (CPD) and lifelong learning. Please use this form to incorporate the learning from this educational activity into your everyday practice. Continuing Professional Development: a self-directed, ongoing, systematic and outcomes-focused approach to learning and professional development that assists individuals in developing and maintaining continuing competence, enhancing their professional practice, and supporting achievement of their career goals.

CPD Value Statement:

“Pharmacists who adopt a CPD approach accept the responsibility to fully engage in and document their learning through reflecting on their practice, assessing and identifying professional learning needs and opportunities, developing and implementing a personal learning plan, and evaluating their learning outcomes with the goal of enhancing the knowledge, skills, attitudes and values required for their pharmacy practice.”

REFLECT

Consider my current knowledge and skills, and self-assess my professional development needs and goals in the area of ADFs.

PLAN

Develop a "Personal Learning Plan" to achieve intended outcomes, based on what and how I want or need to learn.

Develop objectives that are specific for you, measurable, achievable, relevant to the learning/practice topic, and define the time frame to achieve them.

DO

Implement my learning plan utilizing an appropriate range of learning activities and methods.

List learning activities that you will engage in to meet your goals.

List resources (e.g. materials, other people) that you might use to help achieve your goal.

EVALUATE

Consider the outcomes and effectiveness of each learning activity and my overall plan, and what (if anything) I want or need to do next.

Monitor progress regularly toward achievement of your goal.