

Battelle Public Health Center for Substance Use Research

ADVANCING THE FIELD OF OPIOID RESEARCH AND INTERVENTION



Expanding Usage

Opioids, including prescription opioids and heroin, killed more than 33,000 people in 2015, more than any year on record according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The opioid epidemic is a national priority that is garnering the need for rigorous data across the spectrum from biologics to public health perspectives. Battelle Public Health Center for Substance Use Research brings unique experience in poly-drug use related to opioids and other substances of abuse, surveillance data to monitor trends in consumption and user groups, and individual-level characteristics that impact the pathway between initiation and problem use.

Research Questions

- Which types of prescription opioid medications and formulations are more likely to lead to problem use?
- What are the factors that motivate people to seek treatment, including different types of medications approved for opioid use disorders?
- What are the trends that characterize the types of people who begin with prescription opioids and then move toward heroin?
- What are the most effective public policies, such as safe injection sites and naloxone distribution, that can curb the epidemic of opioid overdoses?
- What are the physiological markers that can be used for early identification of problem usage?
- What are the most vulnerable sub-groups for misuse, abuse and diversion, and what are the characteristics that differentiate various profiles?



Services

With people becoming addicted to opioids much more rapidly after initial use when compared to previous generations, it is imperative to identify the most effective way of getting individuals treatment sooner, before it's too late. Through partnerships with state agencies, we will be able to identify the evidence basis behind real world interventions and perform comparative analyses. Our aim is to not only target those who are at the highest risk of developing an addiction, but also to identify the most efficacious method of intervention based on an individual's unique risk profile and protective factors.



Features/Capabilities

Because of our unique infrastructure, Battelle is capable of bringing together scientists in the pre-clinical, clinical and population phases of research. We are able to break down disciplinary silos and collaborate across business units to develop methodologies and conceptual tools and ultimately gain a better understanding of the best ways to approach addiction. From our state-of-the-art facilities to our ability to conduct national population studies, Battelle is reaching new heights in opioid research.



Applications

Our Center works to help the public health community understand the types of opioids available, how consumers use those products and the risks associated with them. Our multidisciplinary team includes leading experts in Toxicology, Analytical and Physical Chemistry, Epidemiology, Pharmacology, Psychology, Clinical Research, Public Health, Health Communications and related disciplines. Our cutting-edge research is trusted by government agencies and industry leaders to deliver the objectives science needs to answer these questions.



Benefits

For more than 50 years, public health leaders have relied on Battelle for objective, science-based answers to complex questions about substance use, from measuring its impacts to understanding its triggers. With opioid usage quickly becoming an epidemic, effective research is critical now more than ever. Battelle is building on deep experience and applying lessons learned from tobacco science to better understand the use and problem use of opioids.



Who is Battelle?

We are the world's largest independent research and development organization, operating at the forefront of scientific discovery. We apply cutting-edge research methods to some of today's most pressing health and environmental concerns, including opioid exposure.

Experience: We have led tobacco and nicotine research for decades, as a trusted research provider for the NIH, CDC, FDA, EPA and other public and private entities.

Expertise: We bring together leading experts in behavioral and social sciences, analytical and physical chemistry, pharmacology, psychology, toxicology and related disciplines to answer complex health questions.

Objectivity: Our research is grounded in solid, objective science and proven methods to deliver trusted data for industry, regulation and public policy.

What can we answer for you today?

Contact us to see how we can help you with your opioid research needs. <http://www.battelle.org/opioids>

Every day, the people of Battelle apply science and technology to solving what matters most. At major technology centers and national laboratories around the world, Battelle conducts research and development, designs and manufactures products, and delivers critical services for government and commercial customers. Headquartered in Columbus, Ohio since its founding in 1929, Battelle serves the national security, health and life sciences, and energy and environmental industries. For more information, visit www.battelle.org.

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