



CHANGING  
*Maryland*  
*for the Better*

# Maryland Overdose Response Program

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# Overview

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- I. Introduction and Maryland Overdose Response Program
- II. Core Curriculum
- III. Wrap-up

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Part I

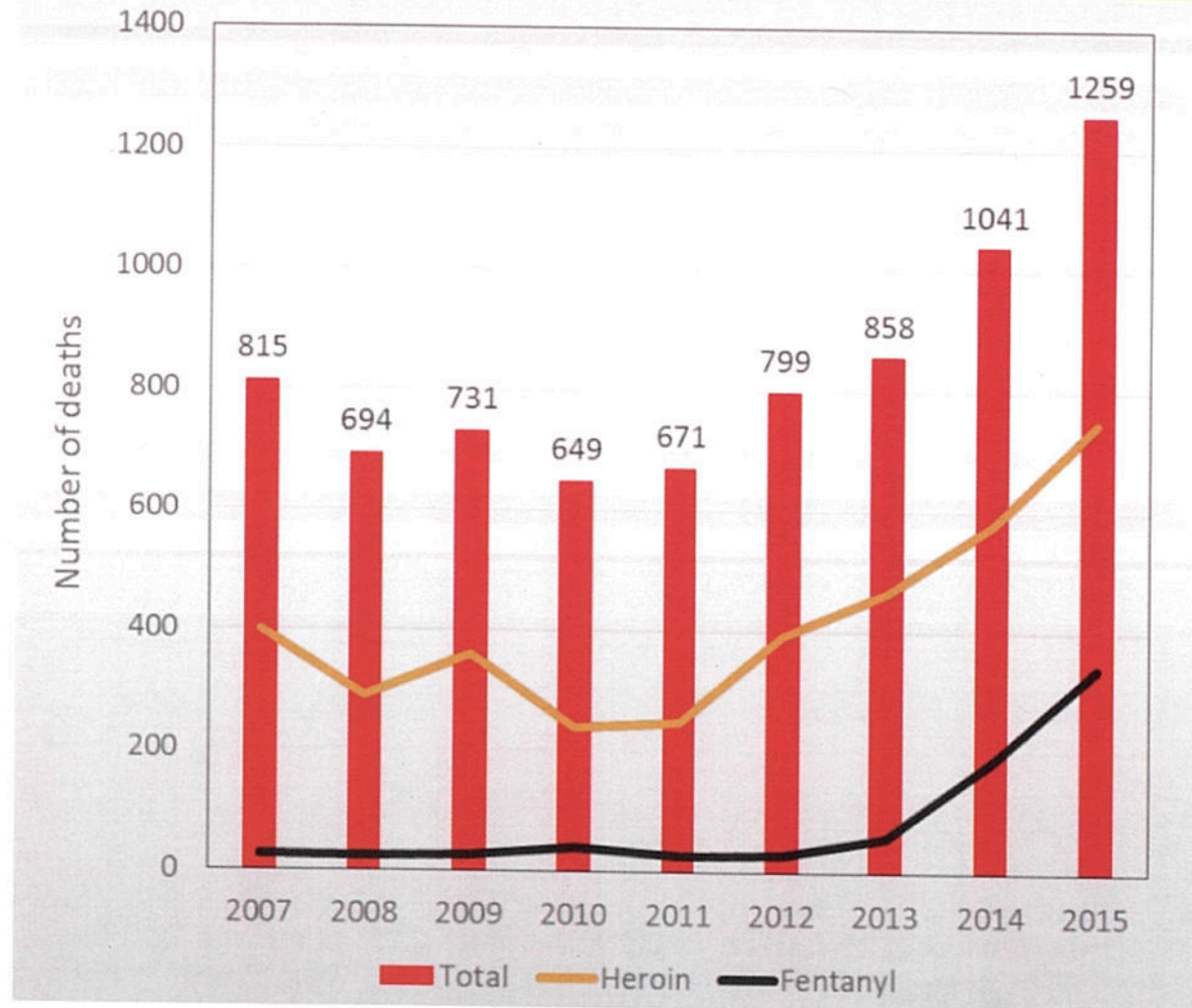
# INTRODUCTION

ORP Training of  
Trainers



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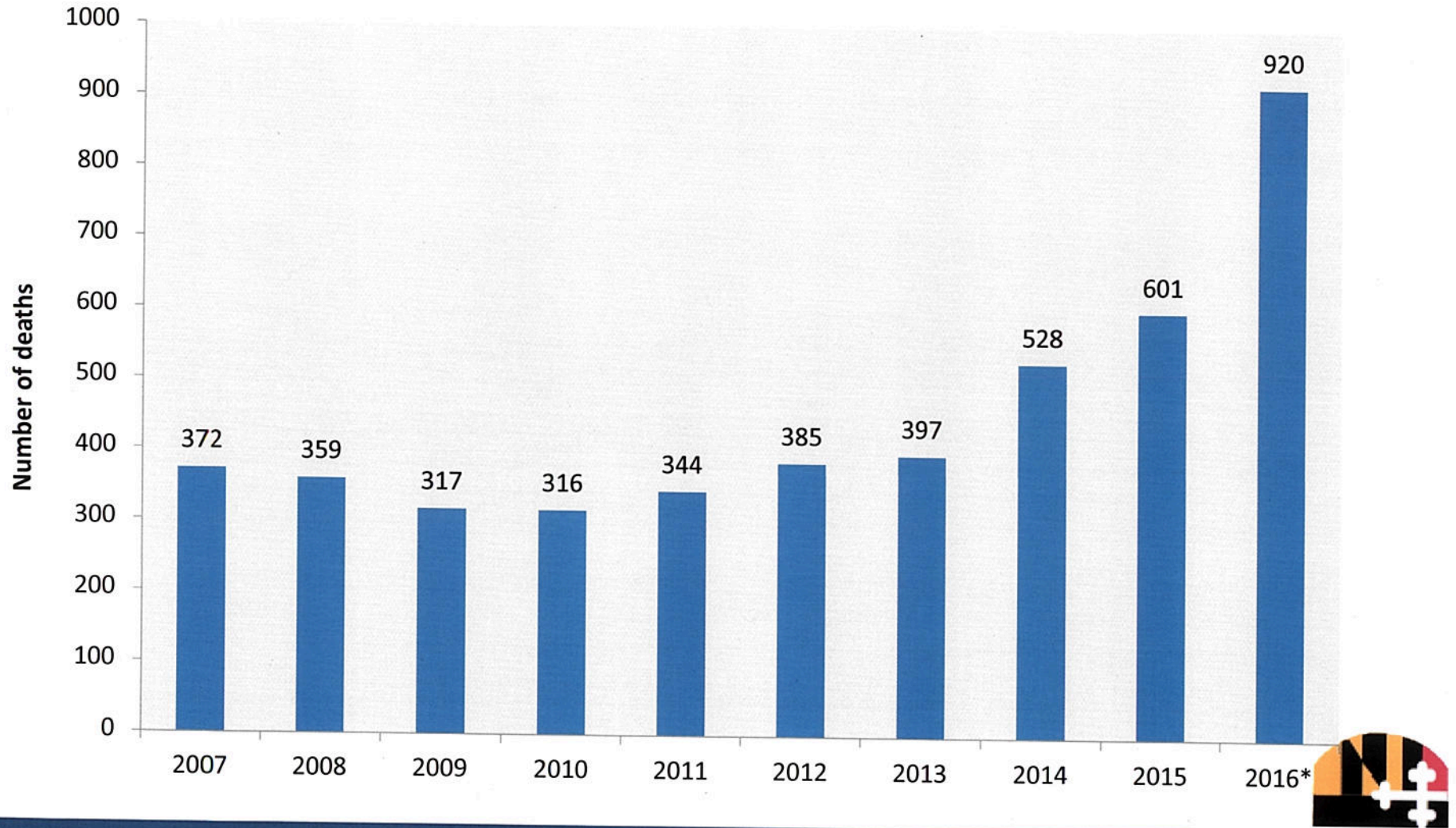
# Maryland: Drug- and Alcohol-Related Intoxication Deaths



Source: Drug- and Alcohol-Related Intoxication Deaths in Maryland, 2015. Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. [http://bha.dhmdh.maryland.gov/OVERDOSE\\_PREVENTION/Documents/2015%20Annual%20Report\\_final.pdf](http://bha.dhmdh.maryland.gov/OVERDOSE_PREVENTION/Documents/2015%20Annual%20Report_final.pdf)



**Figure 1. Total Number of Unintentional Intoxication Deaths Occurring in Maryland from January-June of Each Year.\***



\*2016 counts are preliminary.

# Context: Overdose Education & Naloxone Distribution

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- History:
  - Overdose education and naloxone distribution (OEND) has been part of the harm reduction landscape for decades.
  - OEND was originally provided through syringe exchange programs.
- OEND provides vital **education on overdose risk**.
- Naloxone is an **empowerment tool** for individuals and communities.

# ORP Law and Regulations

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ORP = Maryland Overdose Response Program

- **Law:** Article-Health-General, Title 13, Subtitle 31, Annotated Code Maryland, [§§13-3101 – 3109](#)
- **Regulations:** [COMAR 10.47.08.01-.11](#) (3/3/14)

# Key Elements of the ORP

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- Authorization by DHMH
- Medical practitioner supervision
- Use of Core Curriculum
- Standardized data collection form and certificate
- Monthly reporting





# Key Elements: Naloxone distribution

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- One-stop-shop: Naloxone provided at the time of training
- Pharmacy partnerships/ voucher system
- Statewide standing order

*Naloxone can also be provided by a physician to any patient at risk for overdose or likely to witness and respond to an opioid overdose.*



# ORP Achievements

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Since FY 14...

- 34,799 individuals trained
- 37,755 doses of naloxone dispensed
- 1,181 naloxone administrations reported



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Part II

# CORE CURRICULUM

ORP Core  
Curriculum



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# Core Curriculum Overview

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- A. What is an Opioid?
- B. Recognizing an Opioid Overdose
- C. Responding to an Opioid Overdose
- D. Information for Certificate Holders

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Core Curriculum: Section A

# WHAT IS AN OPIOID?



# Opioids

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Opioids are substances that interact with the opioid receptors in the body.

Opioids can be:

- Natural (derived from opium) or synthetic
- Prescription medications or illegal drugs
- Pills, capsules, powder or liquid
- Swallowed, smoked, snorted or injected

# About Opioids

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## Opioids:

- Manage pain, suppress coughs and treat opioid use disorders (addictions)
- May cause feelings of euphoria, contentment and/or detachment
- Have effects lasting from 3 to 24 hours

**Using too high a dose of opioids can stop breathing.**

# Examples of Prescription Opioids

Generic Name	Brand Name
Oxycodone	Oxycontin, Percocet, Roxicodone
Oxymorphone	Opana
Hydrocodone	Vicodin, Lorcet, Zohydro, Zortab
Hydromorphone	Dilaudid
Morphine	
Meperidene	Demerol
Codeine	Tylenol 3 & 4
Buprenorphine	Suboxone, Subutex, Zubsolv
Methadone	
Fentanyl	Duragesic



# Examples of Illicit Opioids

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- Heroin
- Non-pharmaceutical fentanyl
  - Illicitly produced, synthetic drug
  - Pill form packaged to look like prescription medications
  - Powder form looks similar to heroin

Fentanyl + heroin can be a deadly combination.

*Fentanyl may be hundreds of times more potent than heroin.*

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Core Curriculum: Section B

# RECOGNIZING AN OPIOID OVERDOSE

ORP Core  
Curriculum



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# What is an Opioid Overdose?

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Opioid overdose happens when a toxic amount of an opioid—alone or mixed with other opioid(s), drugs and/or substances—overwhelms the body’s ability to handle it.

*Many opioid-related overdoses result from **mixing** prescription painkillers or heroin with benzodiazepines (benzos), cocaine and/or alcohol.*

# What Leads to Overdose Death?

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Respiratory failure



Lack of oxygen in the blood



Vital organs like heart and brain start to fail



Unconsciousness, coma, death

# Risk Factors for Overdose

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## Incident Factors

- Period of abstinence
- Mixing substances
  - Benzodiazepines
  - Alcohol
- Setting (public or private space)
- Adulterated substances
- Route of administration

## Individual Factors

- History of overdose
- Co-occurring health conditions
  - Asthma, sleep apnea
- History of suicide attempts or ideation
- Transience/homelessness



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What are some signs and symptoms of  
opioid overdose?

