

# Lessons from Opana<sup>®</sup> ER: Policy, Behavior, and Reality

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- Opana ER and its complicated history
- Policy changes and interventions
- Effects of policy on behavior and trends
- Lessons learned



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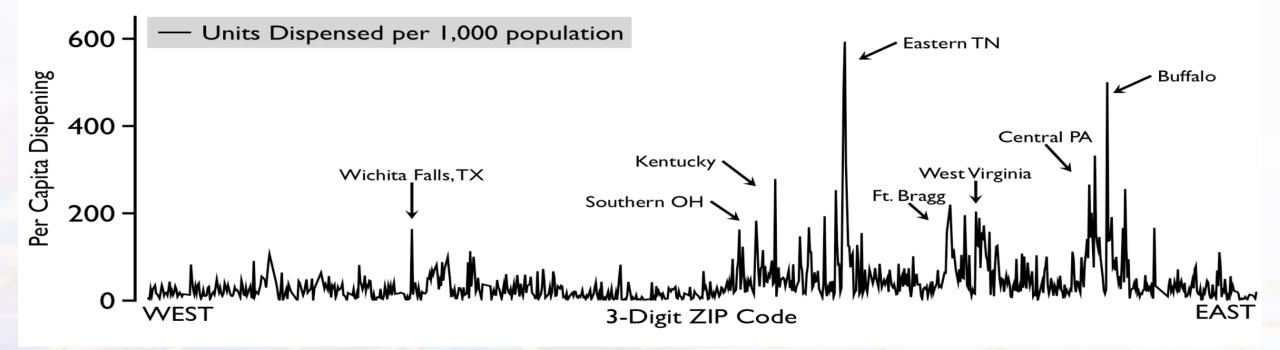
#### **Opana ER**

- Extended-release oxymorphone
- Oxymorphone developed in Germany 1914
- Patented 1955
- Opana ER formulation Initially approved in 2006
- Indications: moderate to severe pain requiring around-theclock treatment
- Geographic distribution





#### **Opana ER: Geographic distribution and heterogeneity**

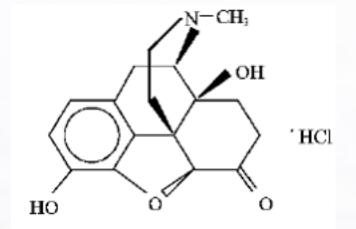


Time: 2009q3 – 2016q4 Source: IQVIA N: 360,432,541 units dispensed Analysis unit: 3-digit ZIP Metric: cumulative population-adjusted rate



#### Oxymorphone

- Poor oral bioavailability
  - 10x more potent intravenously than orally
- Leads to unusual behaviors
  - Single 40mg pill = split into quarters
  - Each quarter = 2-4 users
  - Single pill leads to 8-16 doses intravenously
  - Each dose 50-75 MME



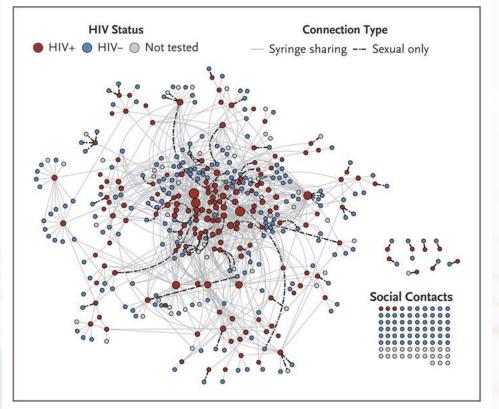


#### Oxymorphone

- Poor oral bioavailability
  - 10x more potent intravenously than orally
- Leads to unusual behaviors
  - Drug sharing
  - Unsafe injection practices
- Complications
  - -HIV
  - Hepatitis C



#### Syringe-Sharing Network of Persons with Newly Diagnosed HIV Infection.





#### **Opana ER: Interventions and Policy Changes**

- 2011: Reformulation approved
  - Released in 2012
  - Tamper resistant, but did not achieve ADF labeling
- Concern for transition from intranasal to intravenous abuse

Outbreaks associated with oxymorphone





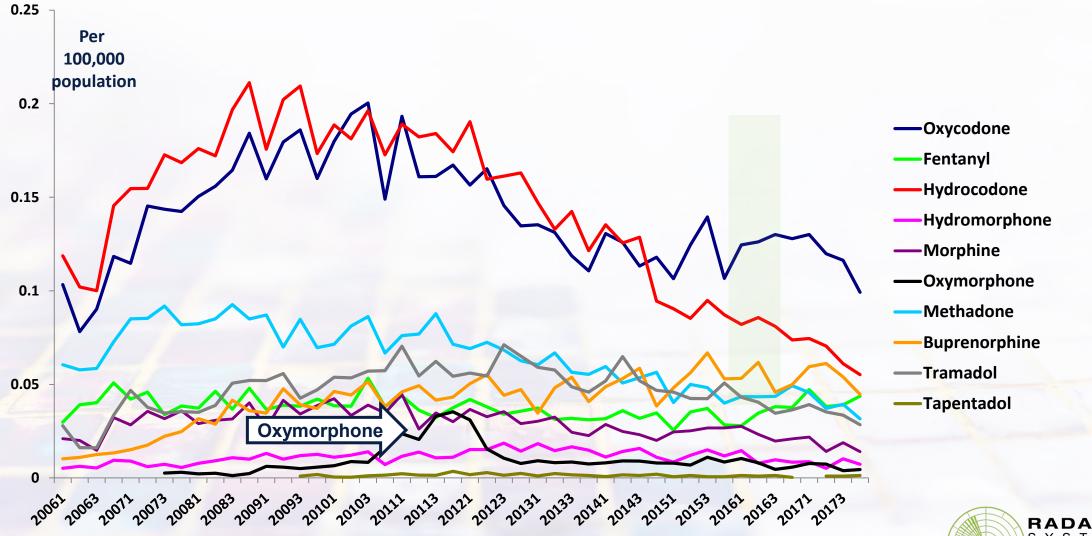
#### **Opana ER: Interventions and Policy Changes**

- March 2017:
  - FDA meeting
  - 18-8 vote, benefits no longer outweigh risks
- June 2017:
  - Recommended to be removed from market
- July 2017:
  - Opana ER removed
  - No change to generic forms or IR



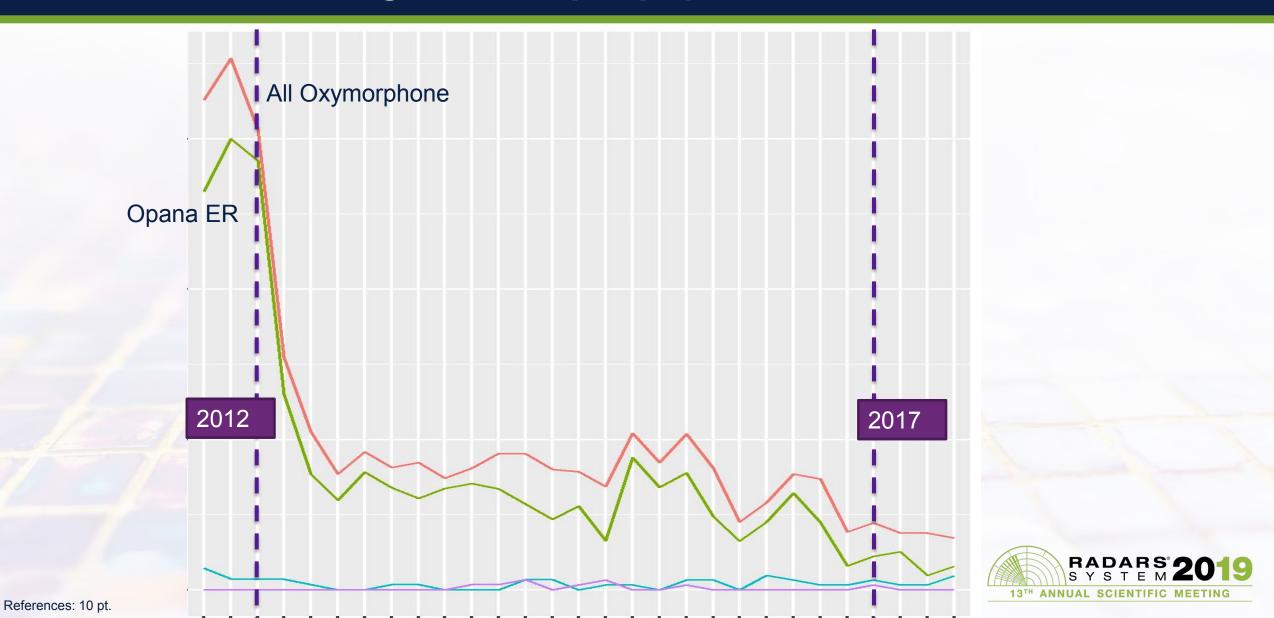


# Oxymorphone: Big picture Poison Center Program

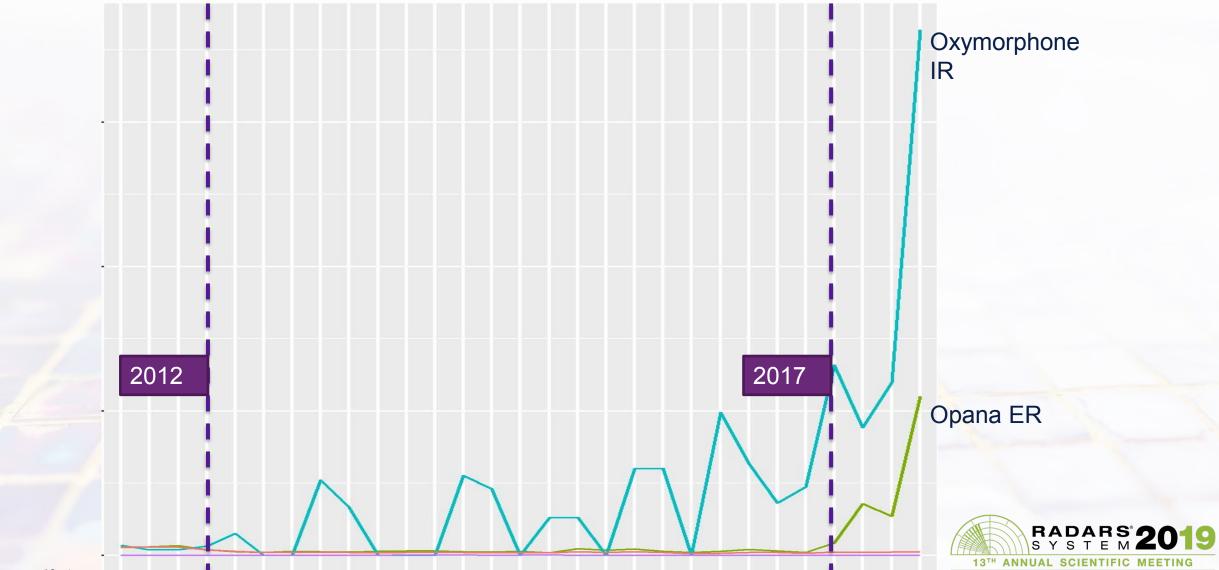


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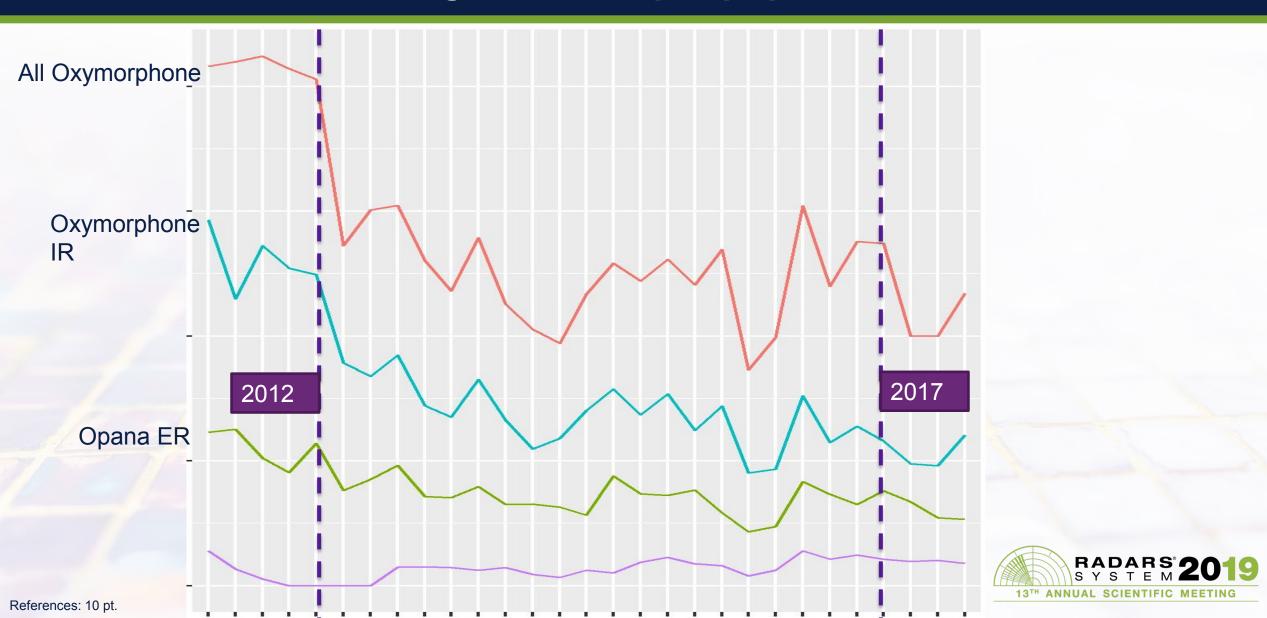
#### Opana ER: Effects of Policy on Behavior and Trends Poison Center Program, rate per population



#### Opana ER: Effects of Policy on Behavior and Trends Poison Center Program, rate per prescriptions



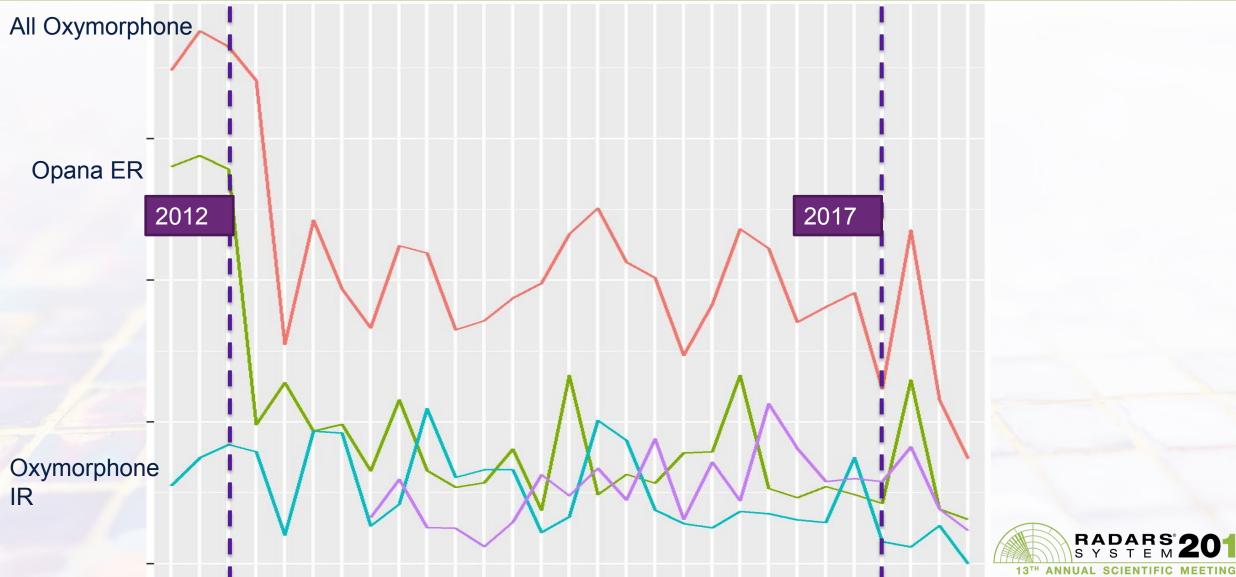
#### Opana ER: Effects of Policy on Behavior and Trends Treatment Center Programs, rate per population



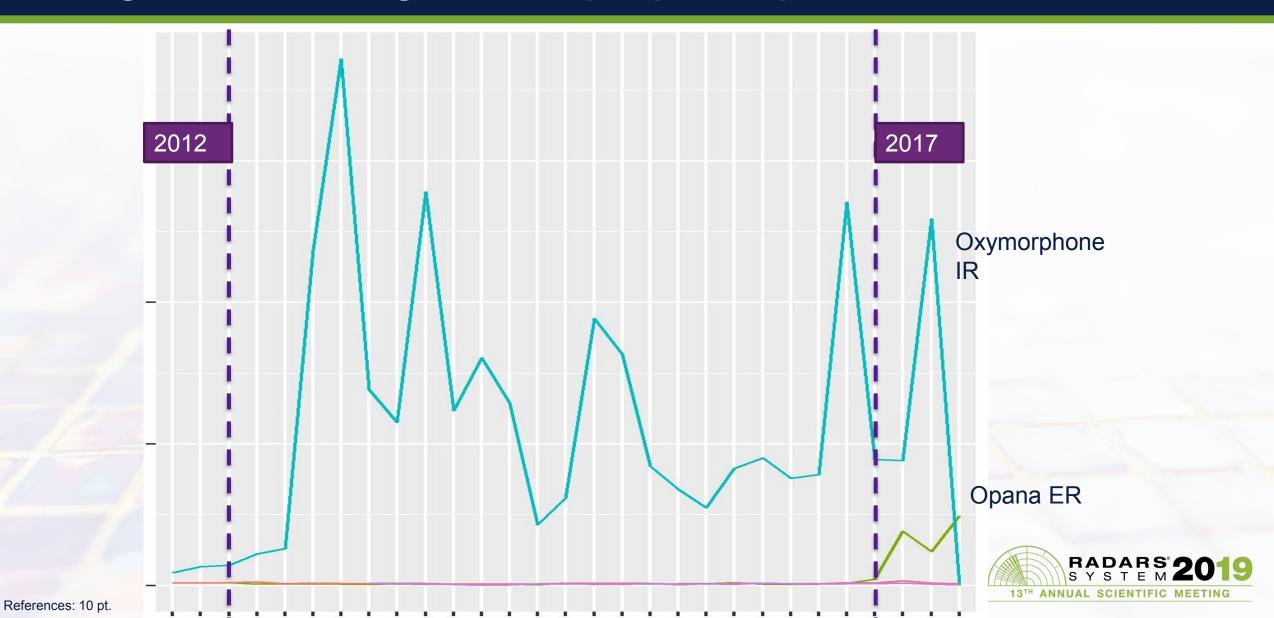
#### Opana ER: Effects of Policy on Behavior and Trends Treatment Center Programs, rate per prescriptions



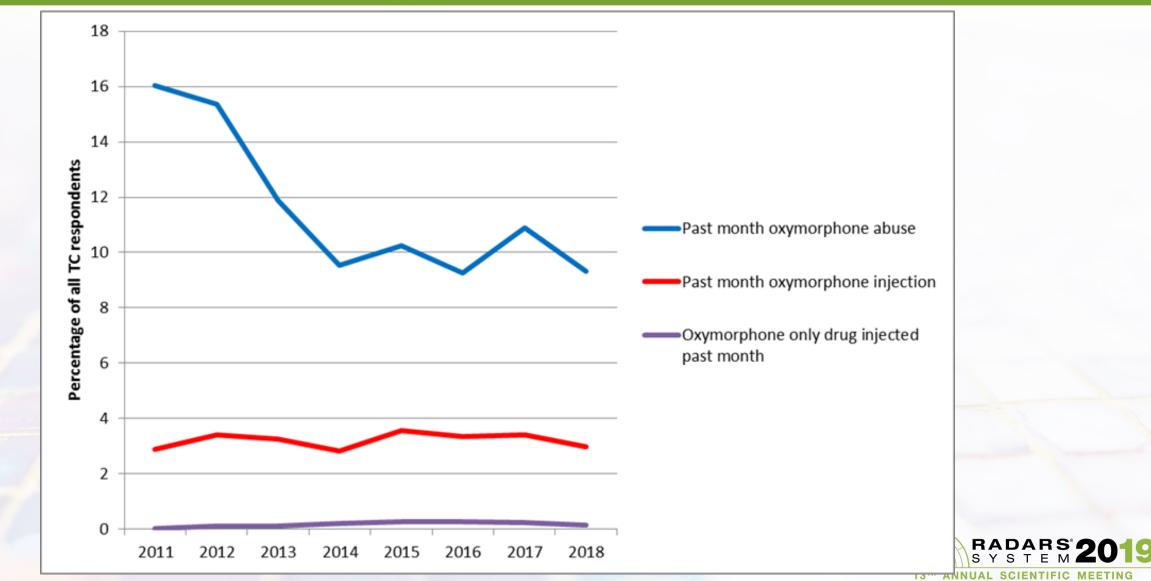
#### Opana ER: Effects of Policy on Behavior and Trends Drug Diversion Program, rate per population



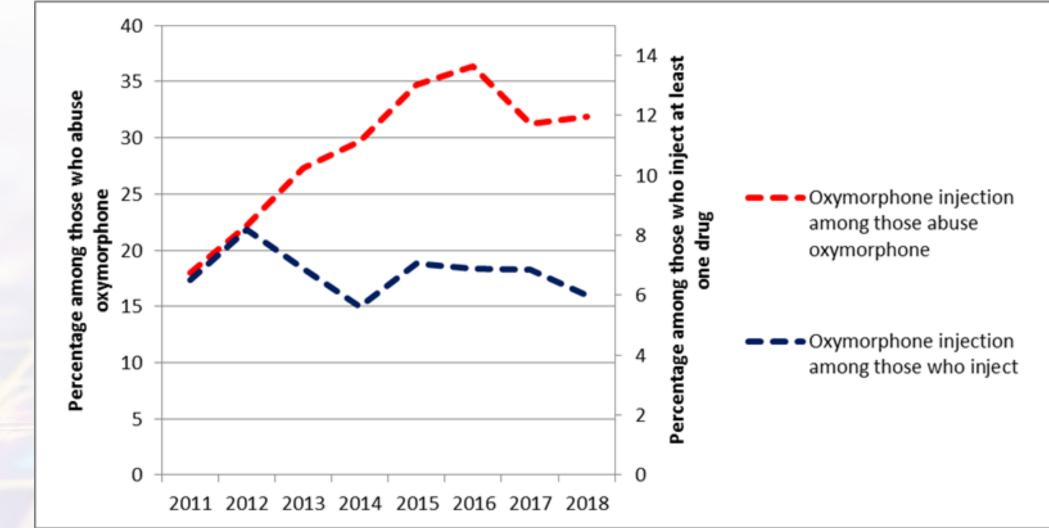
### Opana ER: Effects of Policy on Behavior and Trends Drug Diversion Program, rate per prescriptions



# Opana ER: Effects of Policy on Behavior and Trends Did injection behavior change?

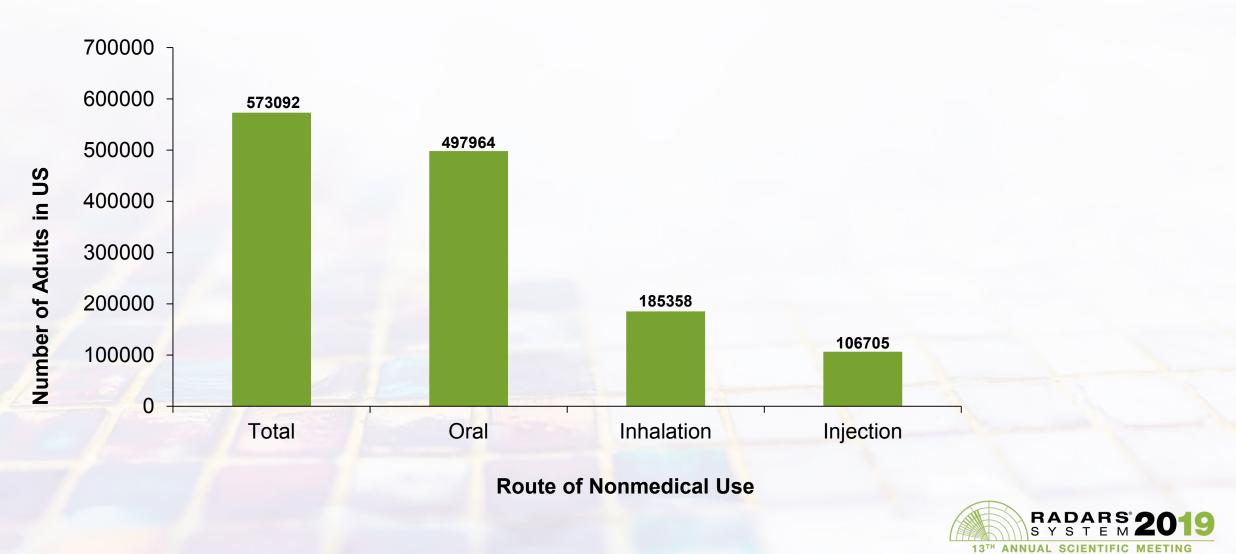


# Opana ER: Effects of Policy on Behavior and Trends Did injection behavior change?





### Opana ER: Effects of Policy on Behavior and Trends Did injection behavior change? NMURx data



#### Conclusions

- Oxymorphone as a molecule lends itself to dangerous behaviors
  - Low oral bioavailablity, high intravenous potency
  - Sharing behaviors are common
- Policy changes and interventions with Opana ER are a good first step
  BUT do not seem to have impacted injection use as much as desired
- To see a significant impact, would likely need to take a step further
  - Is it worth considering removing all oxymorphone?
- Lessons learned



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# Questions?

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