Pharmacovigilance of Prescription Drugs: Misuse, Abuse and Diversion in the RADARS® System

> Richard C. Dart, MD, PhD October 22, 2008

### Outline

- What is the RADARS System?
  - Owned by Denver Health and Hospital Authority
  - Relationship to subscribers
  - RADARS System concepts
- Application of RADARS System Data
- Application of Prescription Monitoring Program Data

# RADARS® SYSTEM

### What is the RADARS System?

- History of the RADARS System
  - Purdue Pharma, 2002
  - Transfer to Denver Health and Hospital Authority, 2006
    - Independent program
    - Public Safety Net hospital
    - Not for Profit
    - State sanctioned independent authority

### What does the RADARS System Do?

- Gather data related to prescription drug misuse, abuse, and diversion
- Conduct research
- Publish research
- Sell data to subscribers

## Relationship to Subscribers

- Provide surveillance data to pharmaceutical manufacturers for risk management activities
  - Quarterly reporting brand or drug specific
  - In-depth custom analyses for specific issues
  - Data may be used only for risk management

### **Product Specificity**

### **RADARS System Opioid Drugs**

Hydrocodone

Oxycodone

Morphine

Fentanyl

Methadone

Hydromorphone

**Buprenorphine** 

Oxymorphone

Tramadol

### Scientific Advisory Board

- Consult with RADARS System staff
  - Oversee research
  - Recommend new research
  - Review manuscripts
- Consult with subscribers
  - Anticipate issues regarding misuse, abuse or diversion of their product.

### Scientific Advisory Board

### Substance Abuse Experts

- Herbert D. Kleber, MD
  Columbia University
- Sidney Schnoll, MD, PhD Pinney Associates
- Edward Senay, MD University of Chicago
- George E. Woody, MD University of Pennsylvania
   Law Enforcement
- John Burke

National Association of Drug Diversion Investigators Prescription Monitoring Programs

• Danna Droz, RPh, JD Ohio State Board of Pharmacy

### Epidemiologists/Biostatisticians

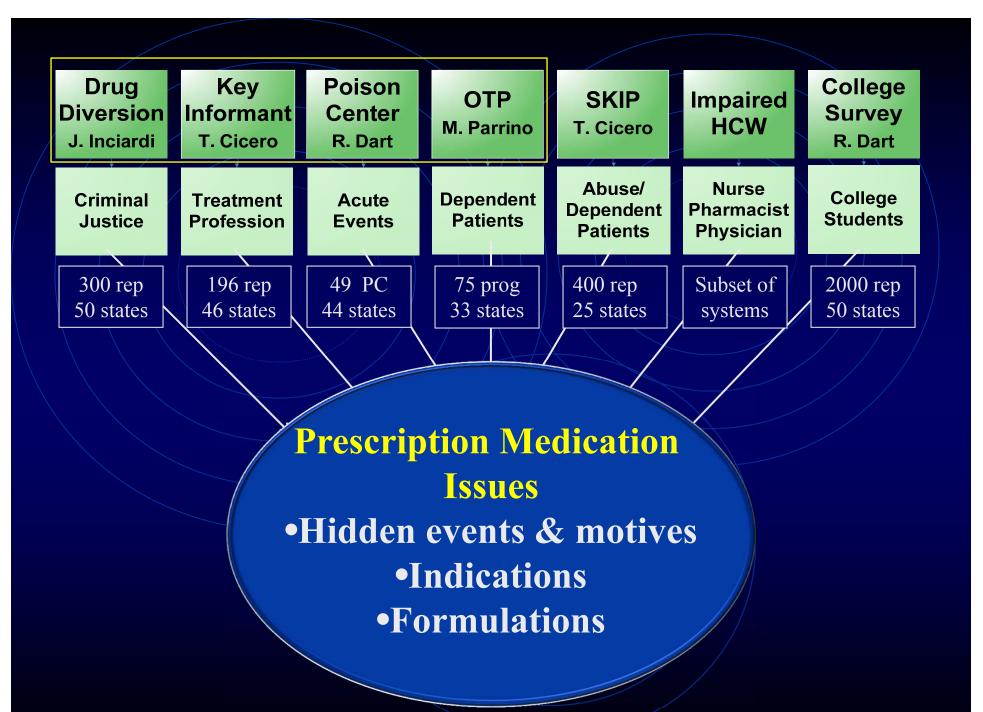
- Edgar Adams, ScD *Covance*
- Alvaro Muñoz, PhD Johns Hopkins University
   Principal Investigators
- Theodore J. Cicero, PhD Washington University at St. Louis
- Richard C. Dart, MD, PhD Denver Health and Hospital Authority
- James A. Inciardi, PhD University of Delaware
- Mark W. Parrino, MPA

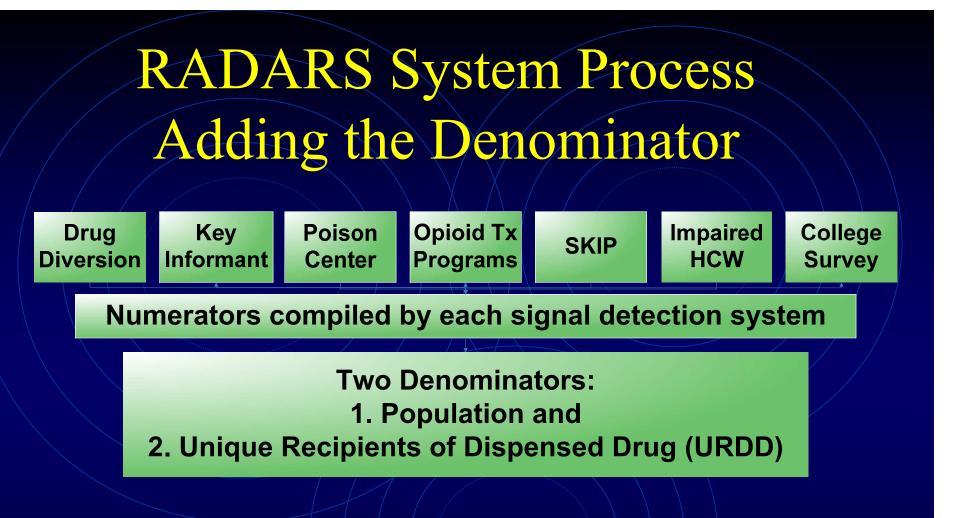
American Assoc. for the Treatment of Opioid Dependence

# Why Does the RADARS System Exist?

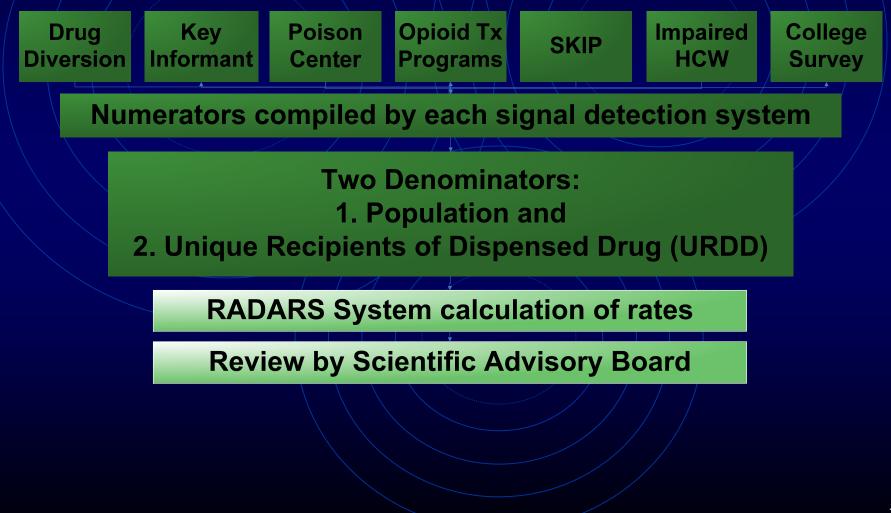
### Surveillance of Prescription Medication Misuse, Abuse and Diversion

Prescription drug abuse can't be measured by traditional adverse event systems such as DAWN, NSDUH, MTF

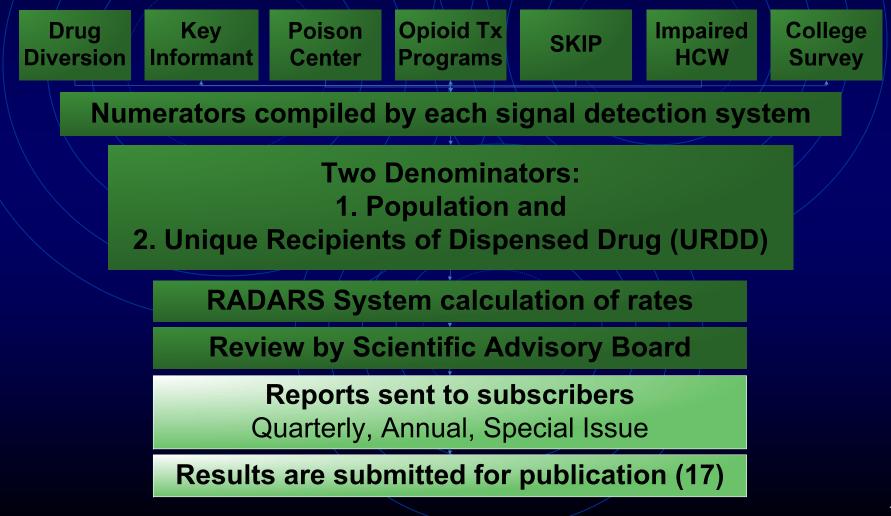




### **RADARS** System Organization



### **RADARS** System Organization

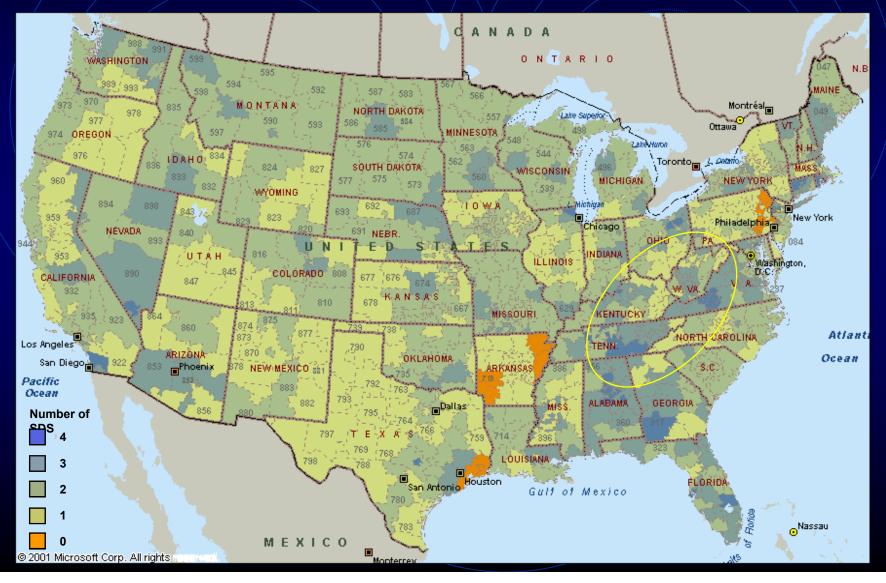


### Drug Dependence Pathway

Opportunity Use	Abuse Dependence Remission					
Drug Diversion						
College Survey						
Poison C	enter					
Impaired Health Care Worker						
	Key Informant					
	Opioid Treatment Program					
	Survey of Key Informants' Patients					
<i>Source:</i> Chilcoat HD, Johanson CE. Vul	Inerability to Cocaine Abuse. Higgins ST, Ed. Cocaine Abuse: Behavior,					

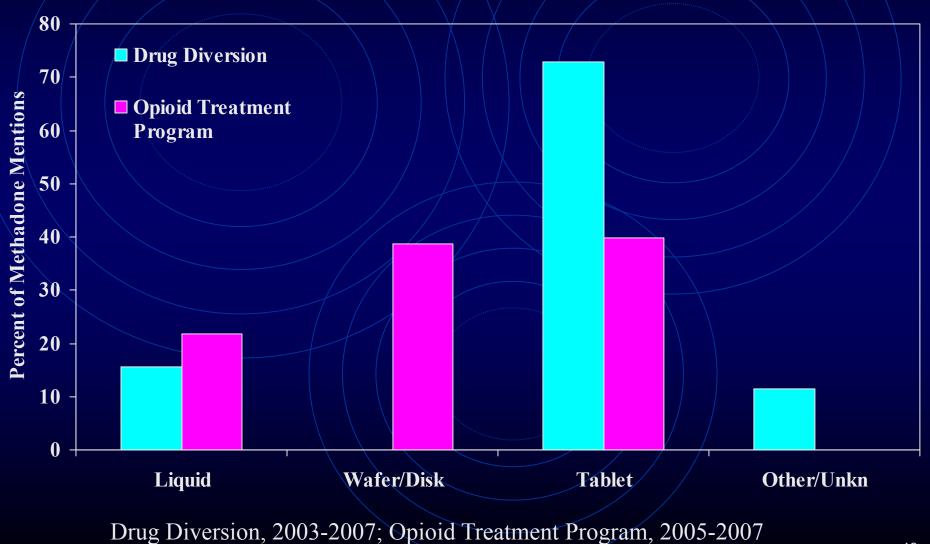
*Durce:* Chilcoat HD, Jonanson CE. Vulnerability to Cocaine Abuse. Higgins ST, Ed. *Cocaine Abuse: Behavior, Pharmacology, and Clinical Applications*. San Diego, CA: Academic Press; 1998: 313-341. Institute of Medicine – Committee on Opportunities in Drug Abuse Research. *Pathways of Addiction*. Washington, DC: National Academy Press; 1996.

# RADARS System, Signal Detection Systems by 3 Digit ZIP Code, Q3 2008



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### Methadone Formulations



### Quality Assurance Program

Database

Controls

Document Development & Change Control

Standard Operating Procedures  >Established standards for post market surveillance do not exist →
 >Best industry practices were identified and implemented

Quality Control

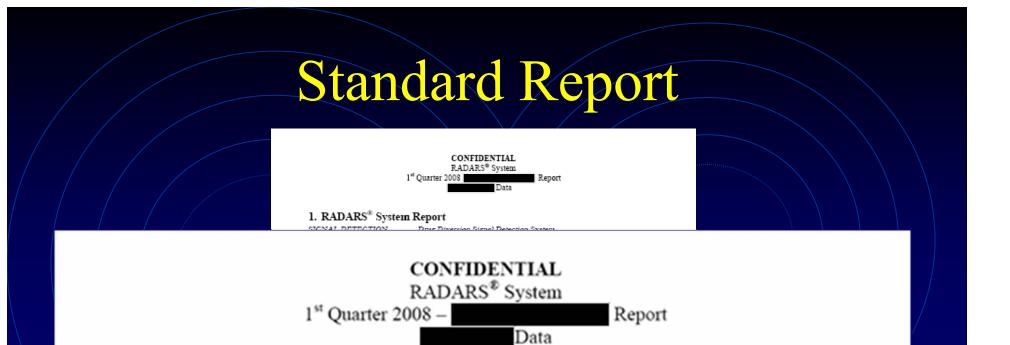
Electronic Systems Controls Corrective Action Processes

> Quality Audits and Monitoring

Training Program

# **Application of RADARS System**

Standard Reports Issue Analysis



### 3. Table of Contents

1. RADARS <sup>®</sup> System Report			
2. Synopsis			
3. Table of Contents			
4. List of Abbreviations			
5. Results of	Target Drugs -		
5.1 Drug Diversion Signal Dete			
5.1.1 3-Digit ZIP Codes	Reporting to Drug Diver	sion for 1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter 2008	
5.1.2 Drug Diversion Da	ta Reported at the Nation	nal Level	
5.1.3 Analysis of Drug D	iversion Trends Over Ti	me	
5.1.4 Drug Diversion Da	ta Reported at 3-Digit ZI	P Code Level	
5.1.5 Drug Diversion Sig	nals		
5.2 Key Informant Signal Detec			

### Buprenorphine

### Sample Signal Site and Associated Rates 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2008

City, State*	3 Digit ZIP Code	Signal System	20072	20073	20074	20081
New Bedford, MA	027	DD	13.6	0	20.4	20.4
		KI	No Data	No Data	No Data	No Data
		PC	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.6
		OTP	No Data	0.2	0.4	0.2

\* Largest city identified in given 3-digit ZIP code. DD = Drug Diversion; signal threshold =  $\geq 5$  Cases per 100,000 Population/Quarter KI = Key Informant; signal threshold =  $\geq 5$  Cases per 100,000 Population/Quarter PC = Poison Center; signal threshold =  $\geq 2$  Cases per 100,000 Population/Quarter OTP = Opioid Treatment Program; signal threshold =  $\geq 2$  Cases per 100,000 Population/Quarter

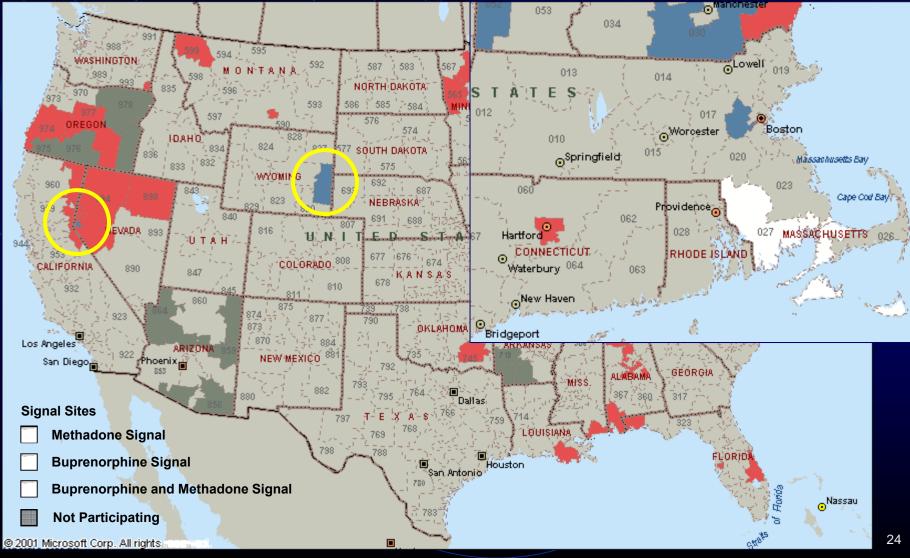
### Methadone

### Sample Signal Site and Associated Rates 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2008

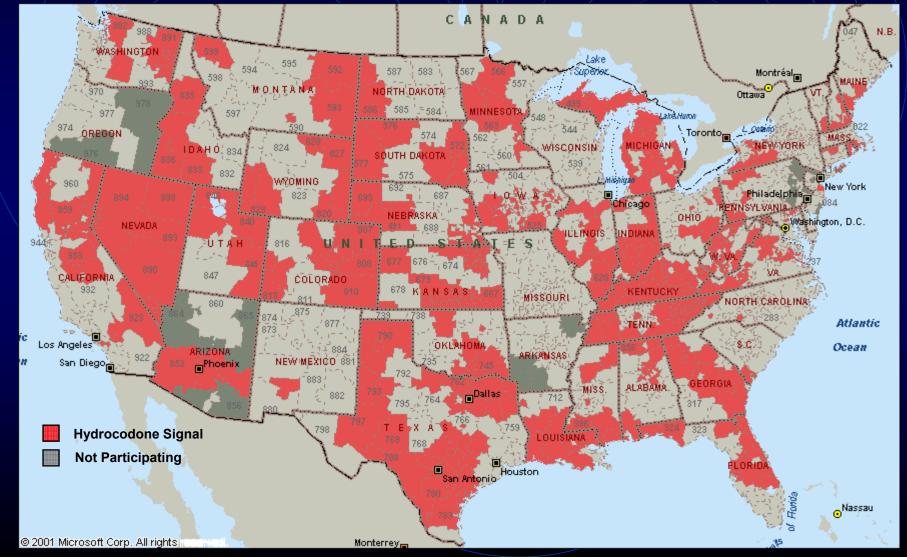
City, State*	3 Digit ZIP Code	Signal System	20072	20073	20074	20081
Warwick, RI	028	DD	0	6.2	6.2	3.1
		KI	0	0	No Data	No Data
		PC	0.3	0	0.3	0.2
		OTP	No Data	No Data	0	0.2

\* Largest city identified in given 3-digit ZIP code. DD = Drug Diversion; signal threshold =  $\geq 5$  Cases per 100,000 Population/Quarter KI = Key Informant; signal threshold =  $\geq 5$  Cases per 100,000 Population/Quarter PC = Poison Center; signal threshold =  $\geq 2$  Cases per 100,000 Population/Quarter OTP = Opioid Treatment Program; signal threshold =  $\geq 2$  Cases per 100,000 Population/Quarter

# Buprenorphine and Methadone Signal Sites, All SDS, Q1 2008



# Hydrocodone Signal Sites, All Signal Detection Systems, Q1 2008



### **Issue** Evaluation

### System-Wide Studies

- Intervention Analysis
- Product, Formulation, or Drug Class Comparisons
- Geographic Analyses
- Analysis of Trends Over Time

#### **Drug Diversion**

- Rapid Assessment Studies
- Characterization of Drug Using Populations
- Focus Group & Individual Interview
- Street Prices of Diverted Drugs
- Diversion of Drugs with Limited Abuse Liability
- Route of Exposure Studies

#### **Opioid Treatment Program & SKIP**

- Demographics
- Drug Source
- Injection Use
- Pain as a Reason for Seeking Treatment

### **Key Informant**

• Profile of Key Informants

#### **Poison Center**

- Demographics
- Pediatric Exposures
- Associated Medical Outcomes
- Root Cause Analyses
- Route of Exposure
- Product Dose
- Polysubstance
- Product Identification Calls

### **College Survey**

- Demographics
- Drug Source
- Reason for Non-Medical Use
- Frequency of Non-Medical Use
- Illicit Drug Use
- Route of Non-Medical Use

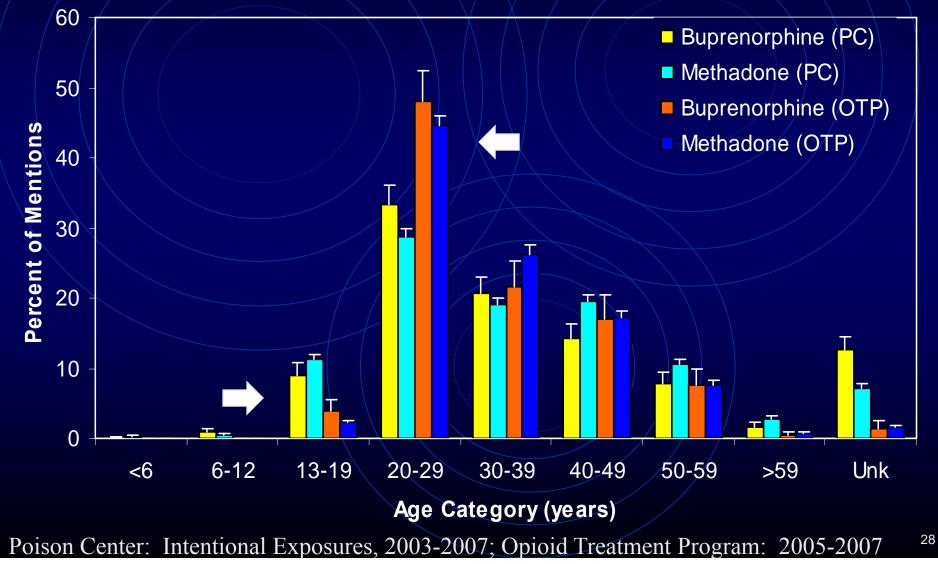
### Impaired Health Care Worker

- Health Care Worker Discipline
- As a subset of other systems, studies include those listed for the other systems
   <sup>26</sup>

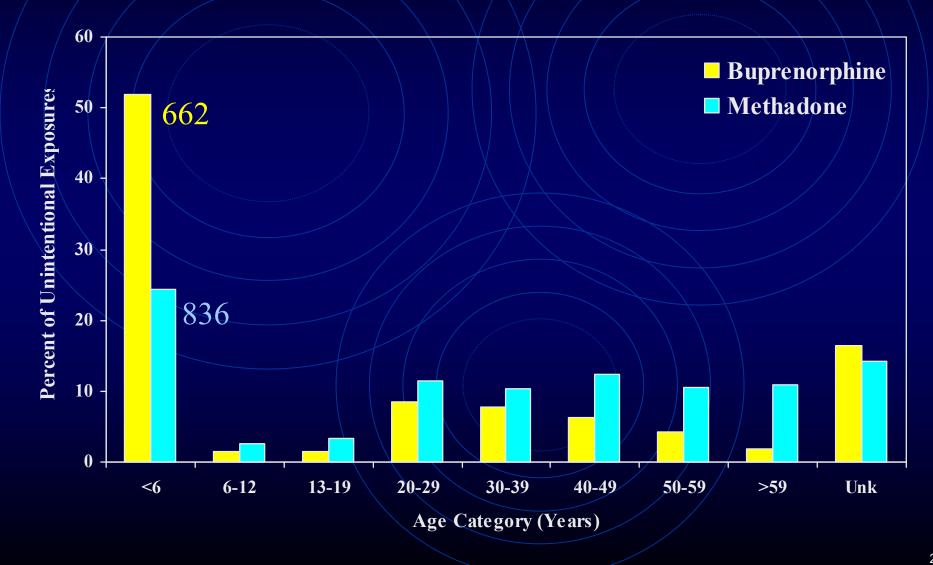
### **Issue Evaluation**

- "In order to design interventions, we need more detail about who, what and where our drug is misused, abused or diverted...."
- Potential actions
  - Phased launch
  - Limited marketing
  - Future clinical trial site selection

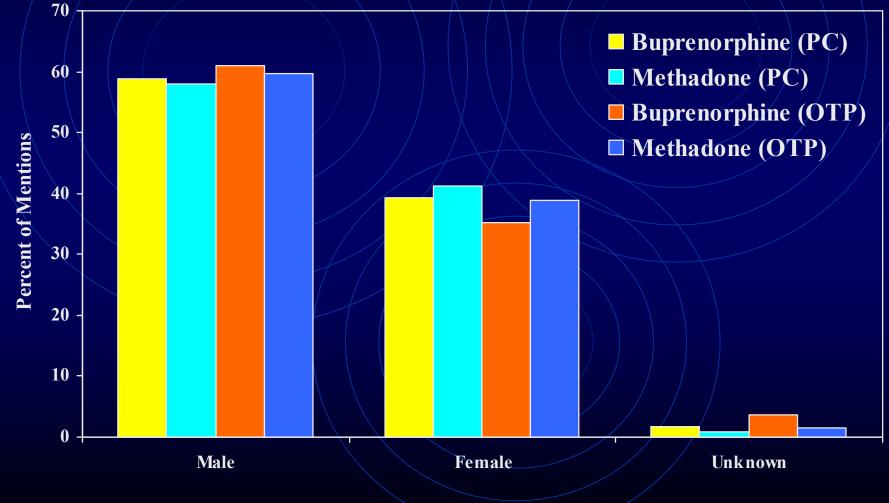
# Poison Center and Opioid Treatment Program Data by Age Category



### Issue Evaluation – Pediatrics Poison Center Unintentional Exposures, 2003 – 2007



# Poison Center and Opioid Treatment Program Data by Gender

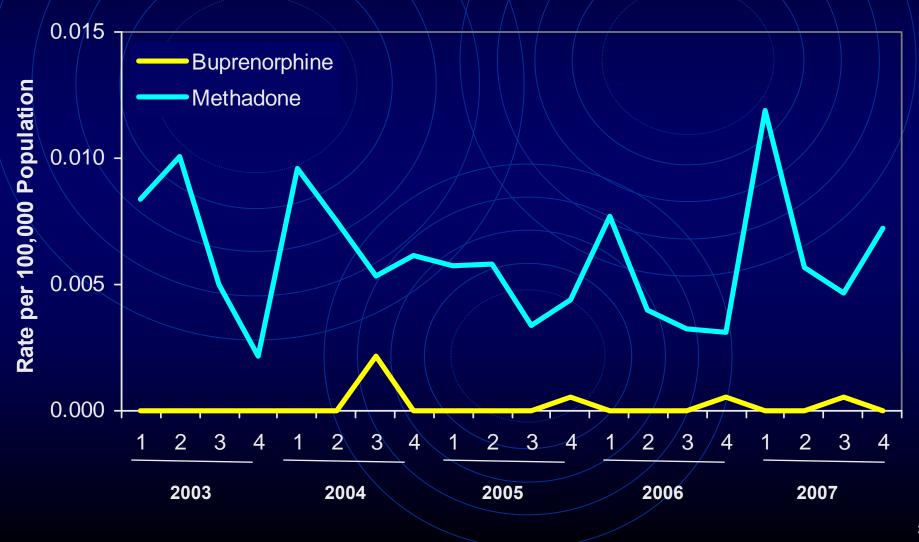


Poison Center: Intentional Exposures, 2003-2007; Opioid Treatment Program: 2005-2007 30

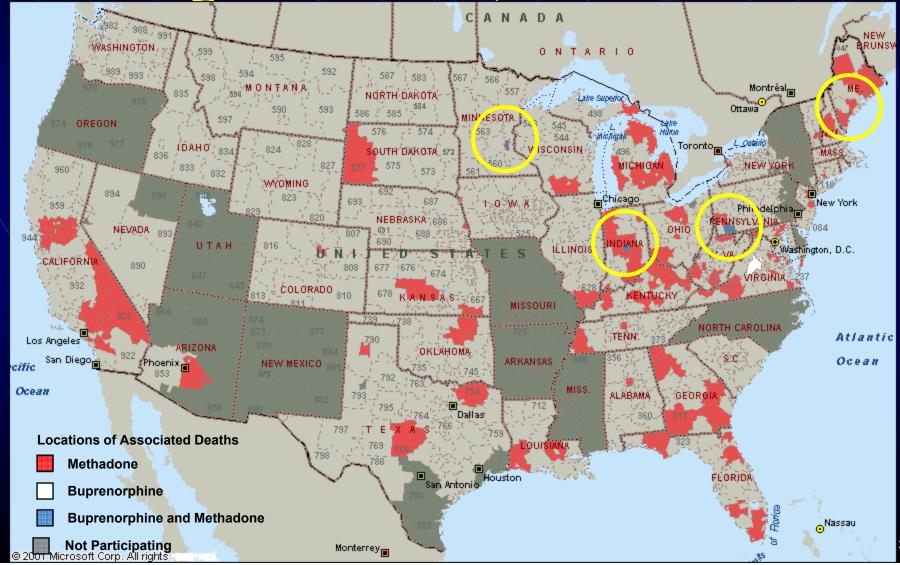
### Issue Analysis

- "We need to understand deaths caused by our product's drug class"
  - Poison center signal detection system provides indicator of associated deaths and root cause analysis

# Poison Center Associated Death Rates 2003 – 2007



# Poison Center Associated Deaths 3-Digit ZIP Code, 2003 – 2007



### Limitations

Not measuring prevalence

- Complete case detection not required for surveillance
- Incomplete coverage / convenience sample
  - System expansion plans, statistical extrapolation
  - Good established understanding of sampling frame
- Complex system requires user familiarity
  - Interpretations by SAB
  - Training sessions available for subscribers, federal agencies

### **Future Directions**

- Monitor additional medications
- Abuse deterrent formulations
- Change method for determining signals
- Explore new groups for study

### Application of Prescription Monitoring Program Data

### **Possible** Applications

- Scientific Publications
  - PMP data are invaluable
  - Help reinforce value of PMP data nationwide
- Development of Signal Detection System
- Combination of both above
- Others?

States with PMPs have higher overall prescription opioid abuse rates but decreasing prescription opioid abuse rates over time relative to states without PMPs

• Comparing nationwide PMP status to RADARS System data and NSDUH data

- How should an "abuser" be defined using PMP data?
  - Rx from ≥ 20 prescribers AND ≥ 16 pharmacies??
  - Also referred to as "doctor shoppers"
- What is the proportion of "abusers" by drug?

# Data from OH, 10/1/2006 – 6/30/2008

Drug	Abusers	Total Patients	Abusers
	(N)		(%)
Tramadol	1,176	537,092	0.22
Carisoprodol	346	58,886	0.59
Hydrocodone	1,538	2,383,503	0.06
Pentazocine	85	8,259	1.03
Oxycodone	1,497	1,150,755	0.13
Alprazolam	618	438,420	0.14
Propoxyphene	962	744,426	0.13

# Data from OH, 10/1/2006 – 6/30/2008

Abusers	Total Abusers	Abusers
(N)		(%)
1,176	1,554	75.68
346	1,554	22.27
1,538	1,554	98.97
85	1,554	5.47
1,497	1,554	96.33
618	1,554	39.77
962	1,554	61.90
	(N) 1,176 346 1,538 85 1,497 618	$\begin{array}{c cccc} (N) & (N) \\ \hline 1,176 & 1,554 \\ \hline 346 & 1,554 \\ \hline 1,538 & 1,554 \\ \hline 85 & 1,554 \\ \hline 1,497 & 1,554 \\ \hline 618 & 1,554 \\ \end{array}$

- How many "abusers" are obtaining quantities that suggest abuse or diversion?
  - 639 total days in the 7 quarter time period
  - > 639 days of supply Rx from ≥ 20 prescribers AND ≥ 16 pharmacies is highly suggestive of diversion

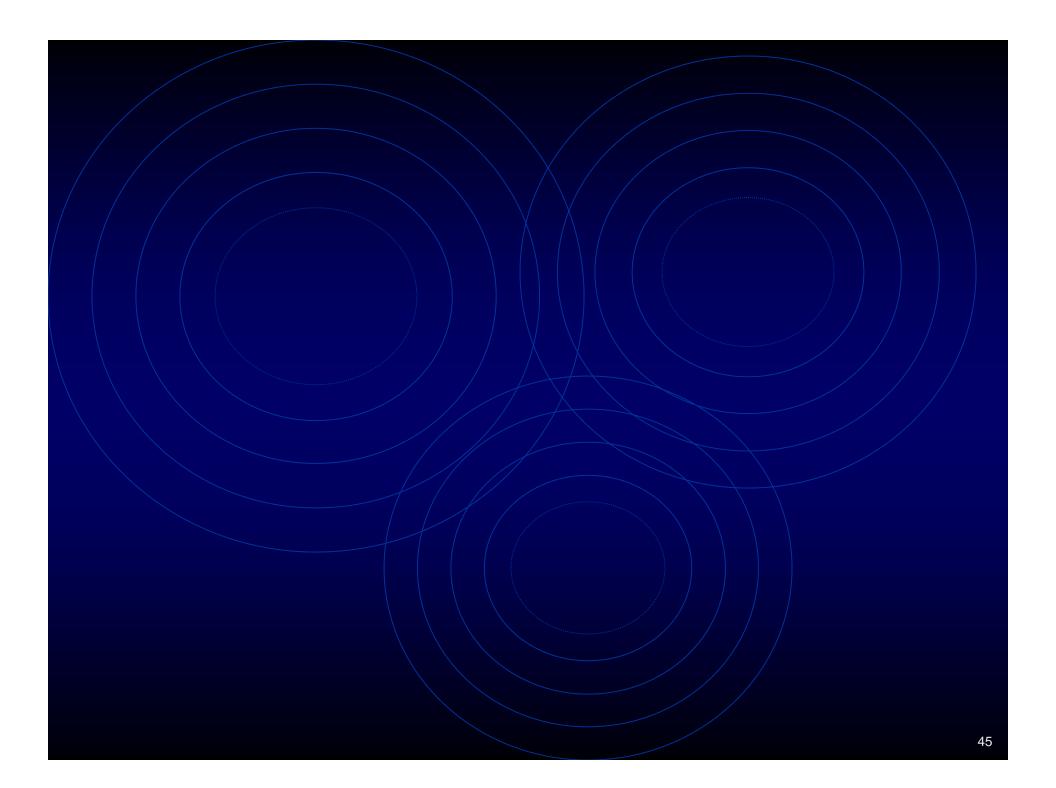
# Data from OH, 10/1/2006 – 6/30/2008

Drug	Abusers w/> 639 d supply	Abusers (N)	Abusers w/ > 639 d supply
	(N)		(%)
Tramadol	92	1,176	7.82
Carisoprodol	32	346	9.25
Hydrocodone	155	1,538	10.08
Pentazocine	0	85	0
Oxycodone	223	1,497	14.90
Alprazolam	83	618	13.43
Propoxyphene	10	962	1.04

### **RADARS** System Contacts

*Elise Bailey, MSPH* RADARS System Manager (303) 739-1297 <u>Elise.Bailey@rmpdc.org</u>

Richard C. Dart, MD, PhD RADARS System Executive Director Richard.Dart@rmpdc.org



RADARS System 2009 Annual Meeting

> Thursday, April 23, 2009 Bethesda, Maryland

### **Possible** Applications

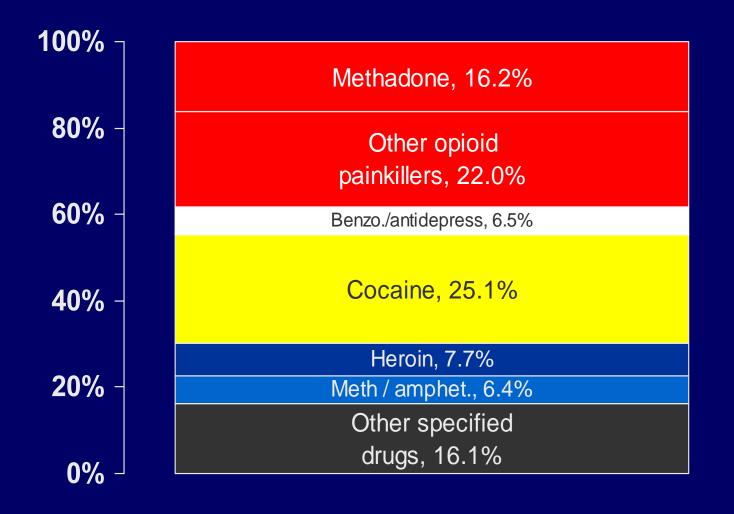
- Scientific Publications
  - PMP data are invaluable
  - Help reinforce value of PMP data nationwide
- Development of Signal Detection System
- Combination of both above
- Others?

### Tale of Two Denominators

#### Population

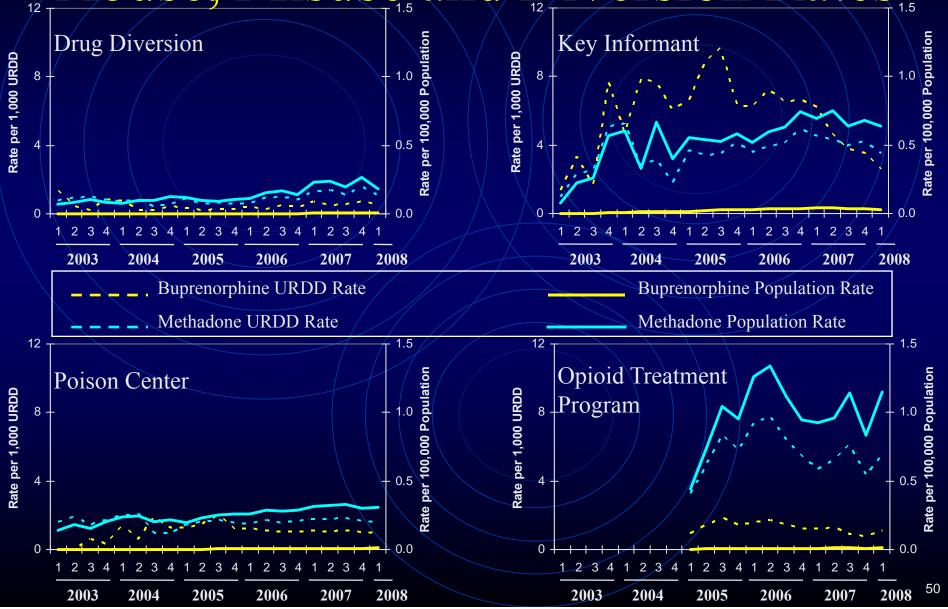
- Tried and true Disease burden on whole population
- Does not account for drug availability
- Unique Recipients of Dispensed Drug (URDD)
  - Number of unique people filling prescription for drug
  - Accounts for availability of drug in community
  - Relates events to corresponding patient benefit
  - Alternatives weight of drug, number of Rx

# Example of Issue Evaluation Buprenorphine and Methadone

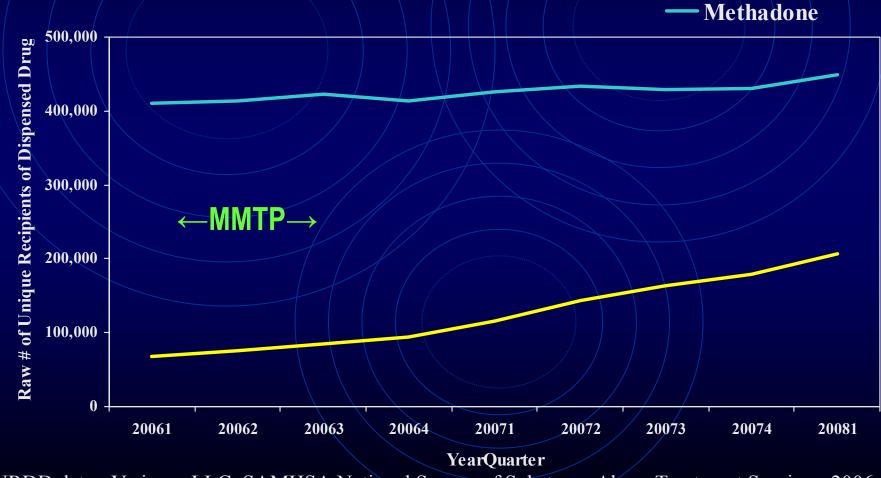


Paulozzi, CDC, http://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/arcos/retail\_drug\_summary/index.htmlg

### Abuse, Misuse and Diversion Rates



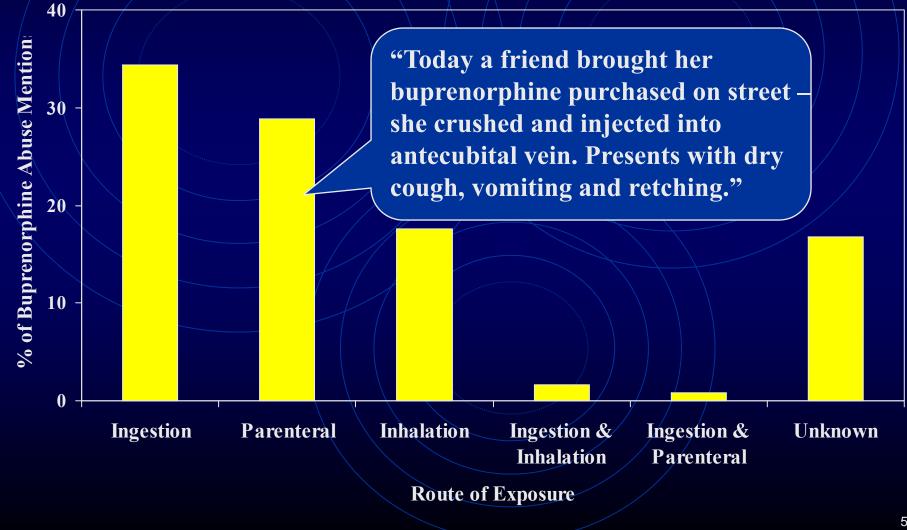
# Buprenorphine and Methadone Use in United States



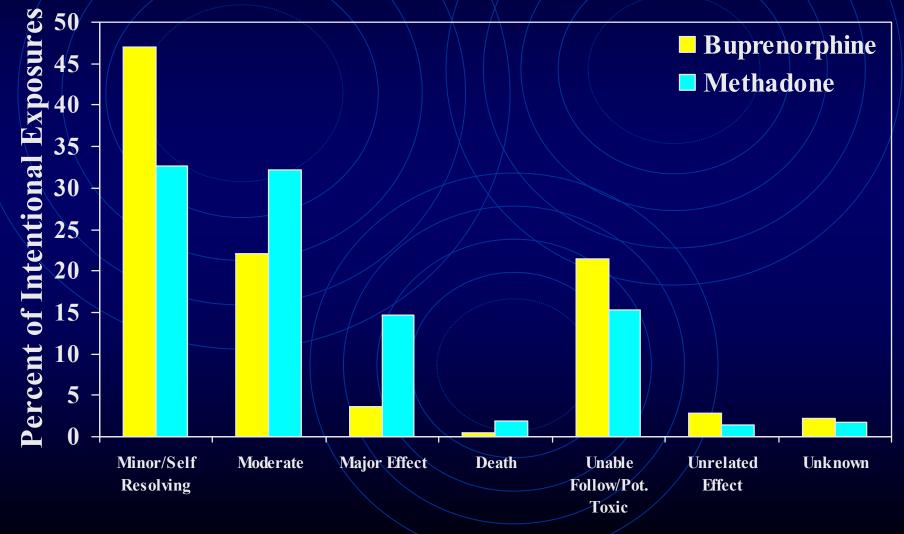
URDD data - Verispan LLC; SAMHSA, National Survey of Substance Abuse Treatment Services, 2006

**—**Buprenorphine

# Poison Center Buprenorphine Abuse Cases, Route of Exposure, 2003 – 6/2007



### Poison Center Intentional Exposures by Associated Medical Outcome, 2003–2007



### Limitations

#### Handling of missing data/unspecified

- Does not affect substance-specific rates
- Additional methods being explored
- System does not benefit of drugs directly
  - URDD approximates benefit-risk
- External validity not established
  - Good concordance with parallel federal studies (NSDUH, DAWN, vital statistics)
  - Additional analyses in progress
- Signal detection

- What is the proportion of "abusers" by drug?
  - Rx from  $\geq$  20 prescribers AND  $\geq$  16 pharmacies
  - Also referred to as "Doctor Shoppers"