



**ROCKY MOUNTAIN  
POISON &  
DRUG SAFETY**  
*Saving lives with answers.™*

**RADARS®**  
SYSTEM  


## Prescription Drug Misuse: Germany

# Today's Goals

- Prescription drug misuse in Germany
- Landscape overview
- Prescribing patterns
- Misuse by class
- Misuse by API
- Poison centres data (GTNet)
- Addiction centres data (Europad)

# What is the RADARS<sup>®</sup> System?



**DENVER  
HEALTH™**

— est. 1860 —

**FOR LIFE'S JOURNEY**

- Supported by subscriptions from pharmaceutical manufacturers, government, and non-government agencies for surveillance, research and reporting services
- Property of Denver Health and Hospital Authority, a political subdivision of the State of Colorado
- Denver Health retains exclusive ownership of all data, databases and systems. Subscribers do not participate in data collection nor do they have access to the raw data.



# Germany: Landscape

- Majority of policy and interventions controlled at the Länder municipalities
  - Most local policies are heavily influenced by local Physician Chambers
  - Set limits on personal versus supply thresholds and penalties
- National Strategy on Drug and Addiction Policy was adopted in 2012s
  - Focus on prevention, treatment and reduction of harm
  - Movement towards decriminalization of marijuana
- EMCDDA data
  - Cannabis, Amphetamines and Heroin make up the majority of primary drug of those entering treatment

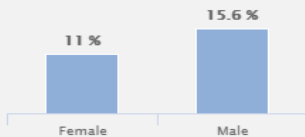


**Drug use**

in young adults (18-34 years) in the last year

**Cannabis**

13.3 %



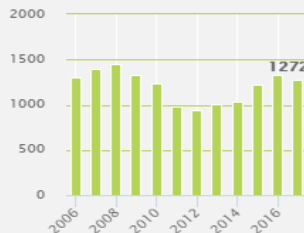
**All treatment entrants**

by primary drug



● Cannabis, 43 %  
 ● Amphetamines, 15 %  
 ● Cocaine, 5 %  
 ● Heroin, 30 %  
 ● Other, 8 %

**Overdose deaths**



Source: ECDC

**Drug law offences**

325 102

**Top 5 drugs seized**

ranked according to quantities measured in kilograms

1. Cocaine
2. Herbal cannabis
3. Amphetamine
4. Cannabis resin
5. Heroin

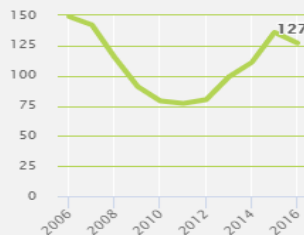
**Other drugs**

MDMA	1.3 %
Amphetamines	1.9 %
Cocaine	1.2 %

**Opioid substitution treatment clients**

78 800

**New HIV diagnoses attributed to injecting**



**Population**

(15-64 years)

53 963 380

Source: Eurostat Extracted on: 18/03/2019

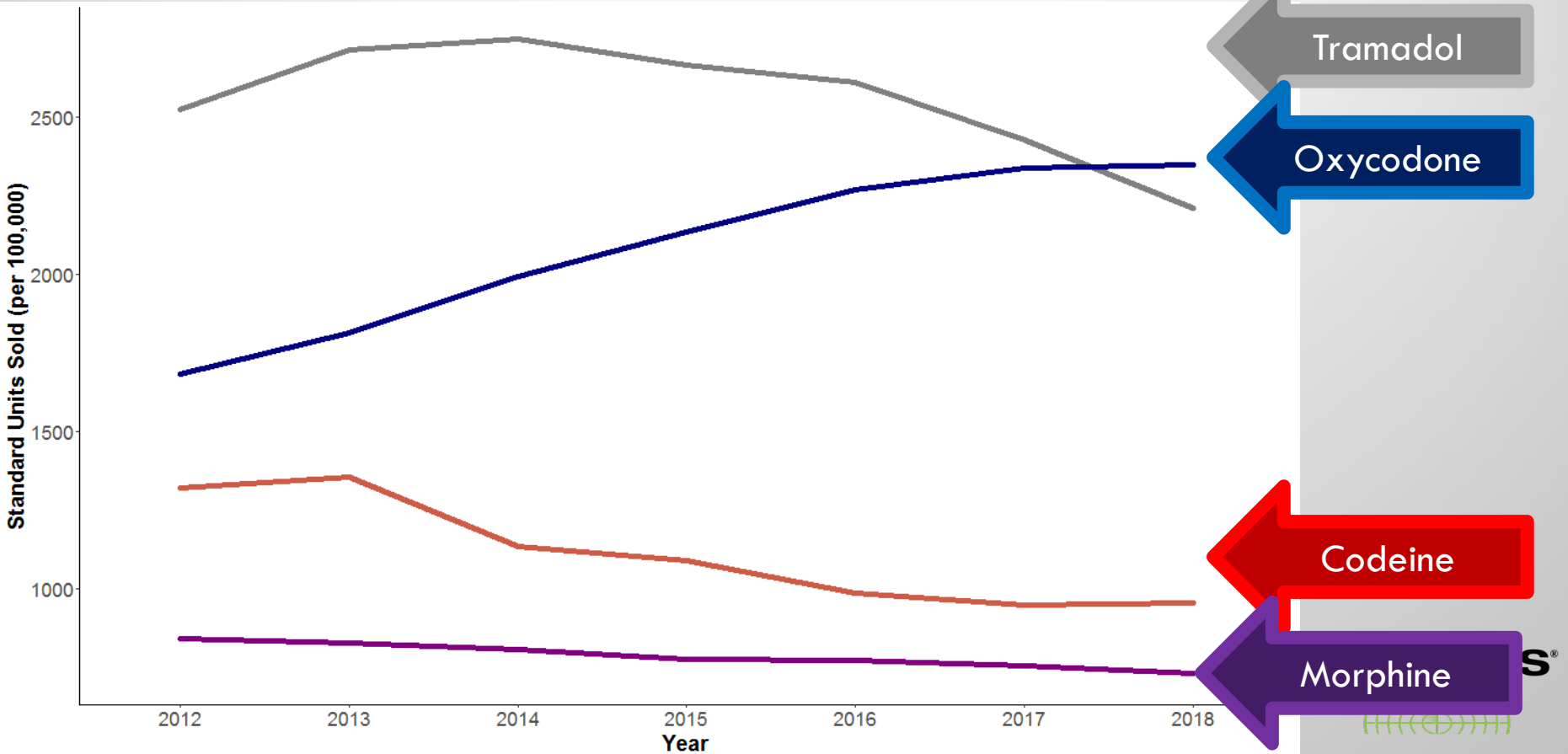
**High-risk opioid users**

10 523 4.5

(50 969 - 159 500)

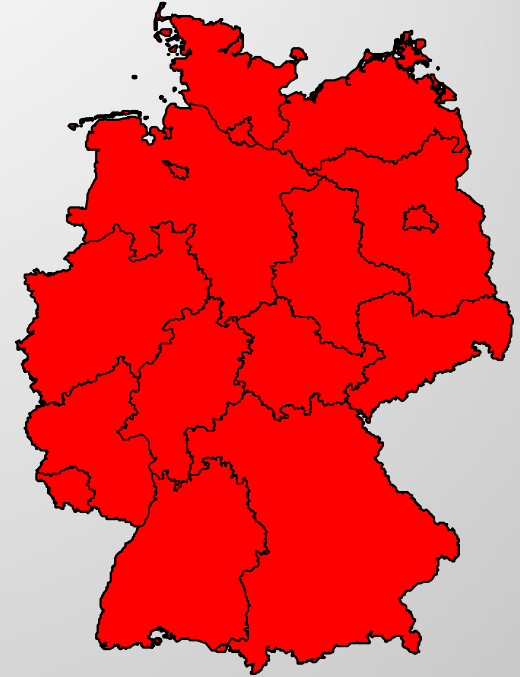
NB: Data presented here are either national estimates (prevalence of use, opioid drug users) or numbers reported through the EMCDDA indicators (treatment clients, syringes, deaths and HIV diagnoses, drug law offences and seizures). Detailed information on methodology and caveats and comments on the limitations in the information set available can be found in the EMCDDA Statistical Bulletin. Owing to changes to the reporting system, values for 'All treatment entrants' are 2017 estimates based on 2016 proportions.

# Germany: Prescribing patterns



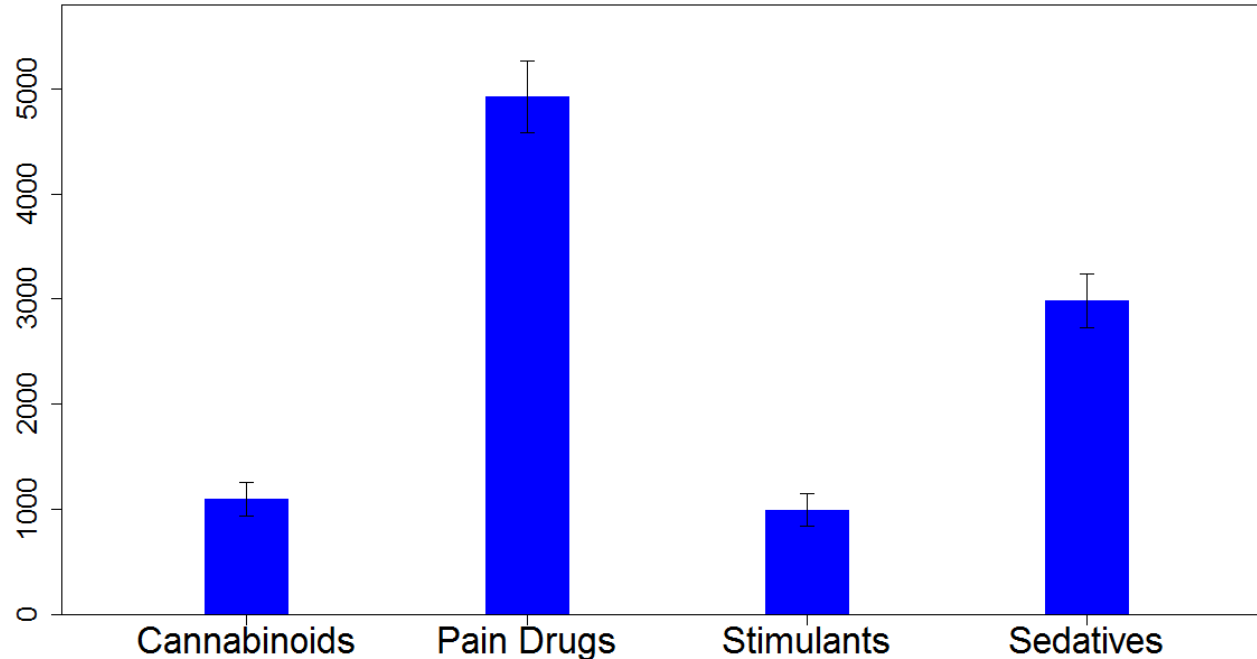
# Survey of Non-Medical Use (NMURx)

- Nationally representative online survey covering multiple drug classes
- Contains information on users and non users
- Demographics, misuse behavior (route/reason) and psychological factors



# Germany: Misuse by Class

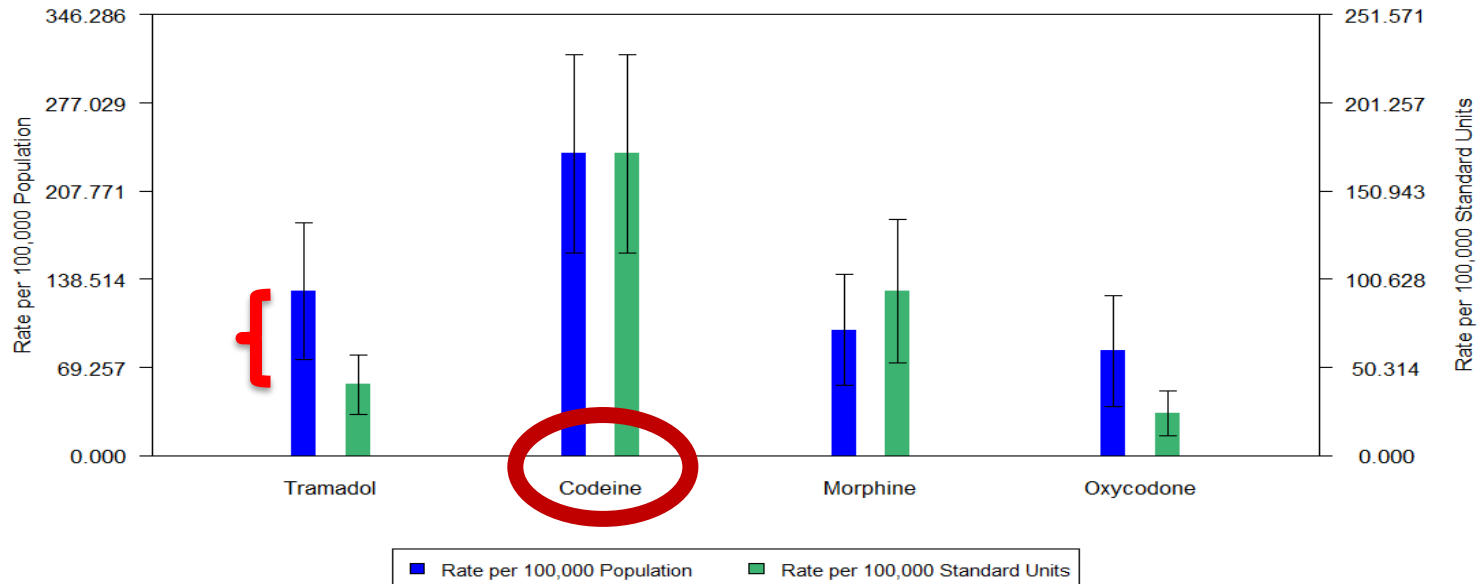
## Survey of Nonmedical Use of Prescription Drugs (NMURx)





# Germany: Misuse by Type of Opioid

## Survey of Nonmedical Use of Prescription Drugs (NMURx)

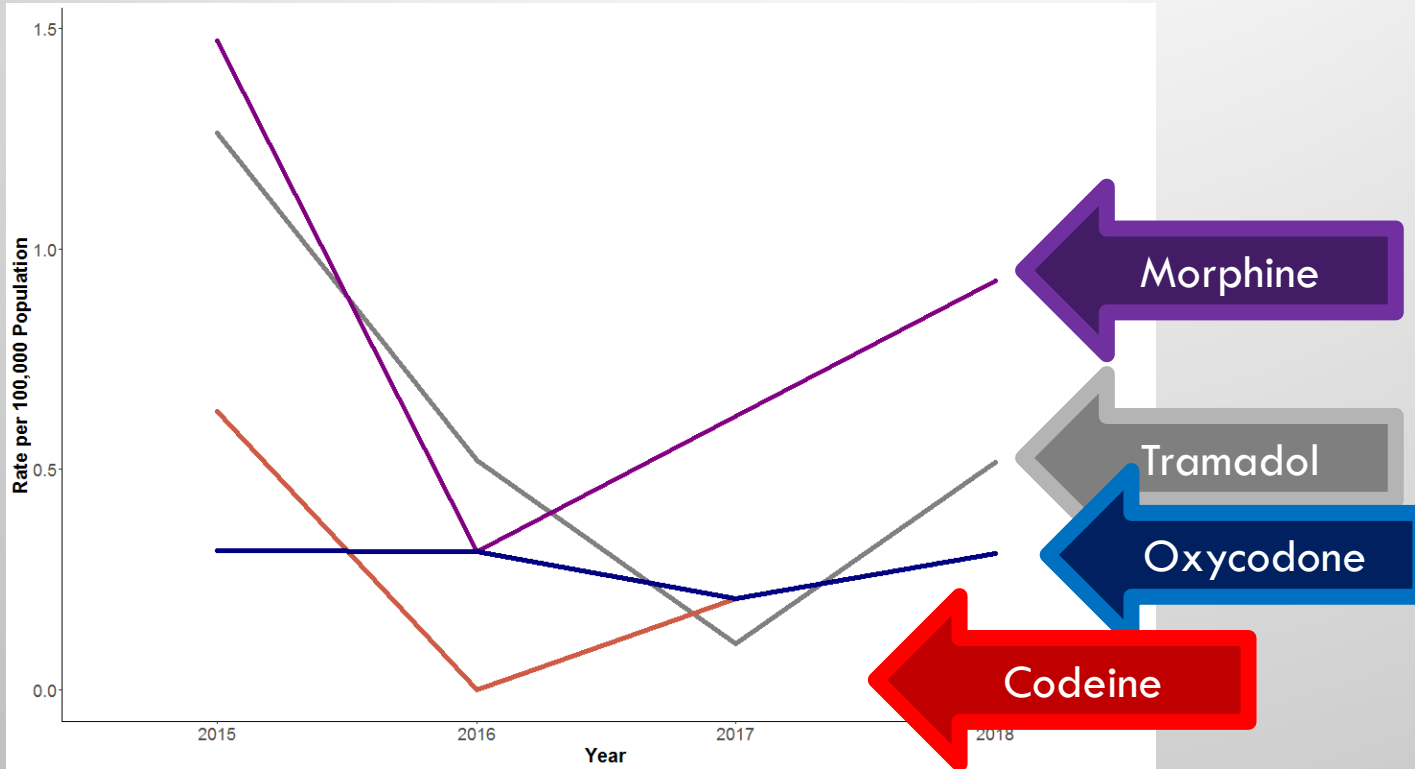


# Entering Treatment Centres (Europad)

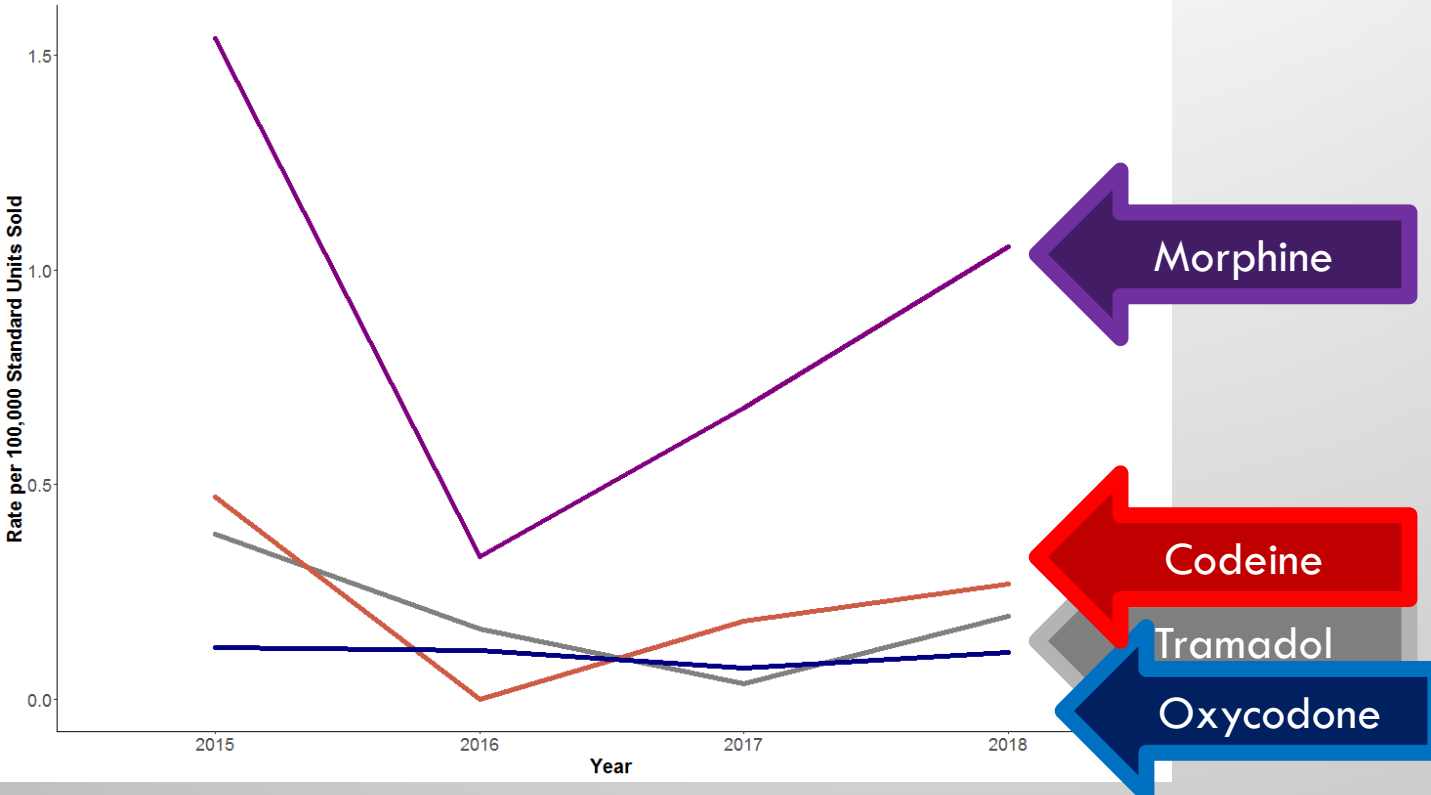
- Individuals entering treatment for Opioid Use Disorder
- Network of treatment centres and their covered populations
- Surveys ask about past 3 months misuse including routes, primary drug and non-opioids



# Germany: Addiction Centres (Europad) Misuse Rate per Population

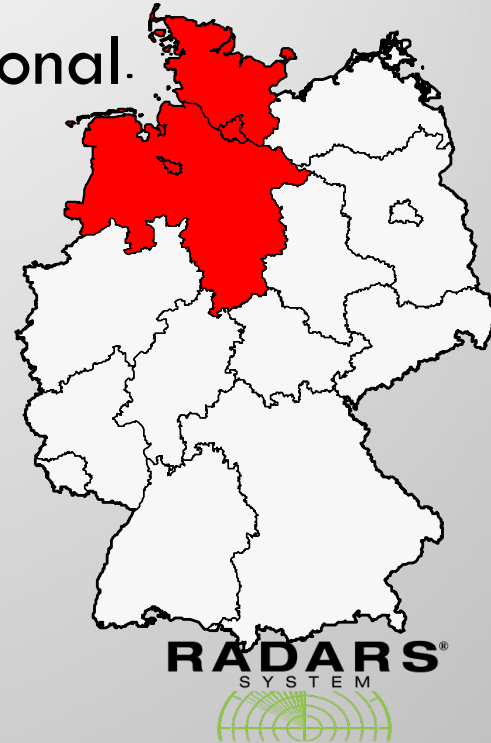


# Germany: Addiction Centres (Europad) Misuse Rate per Units Sold

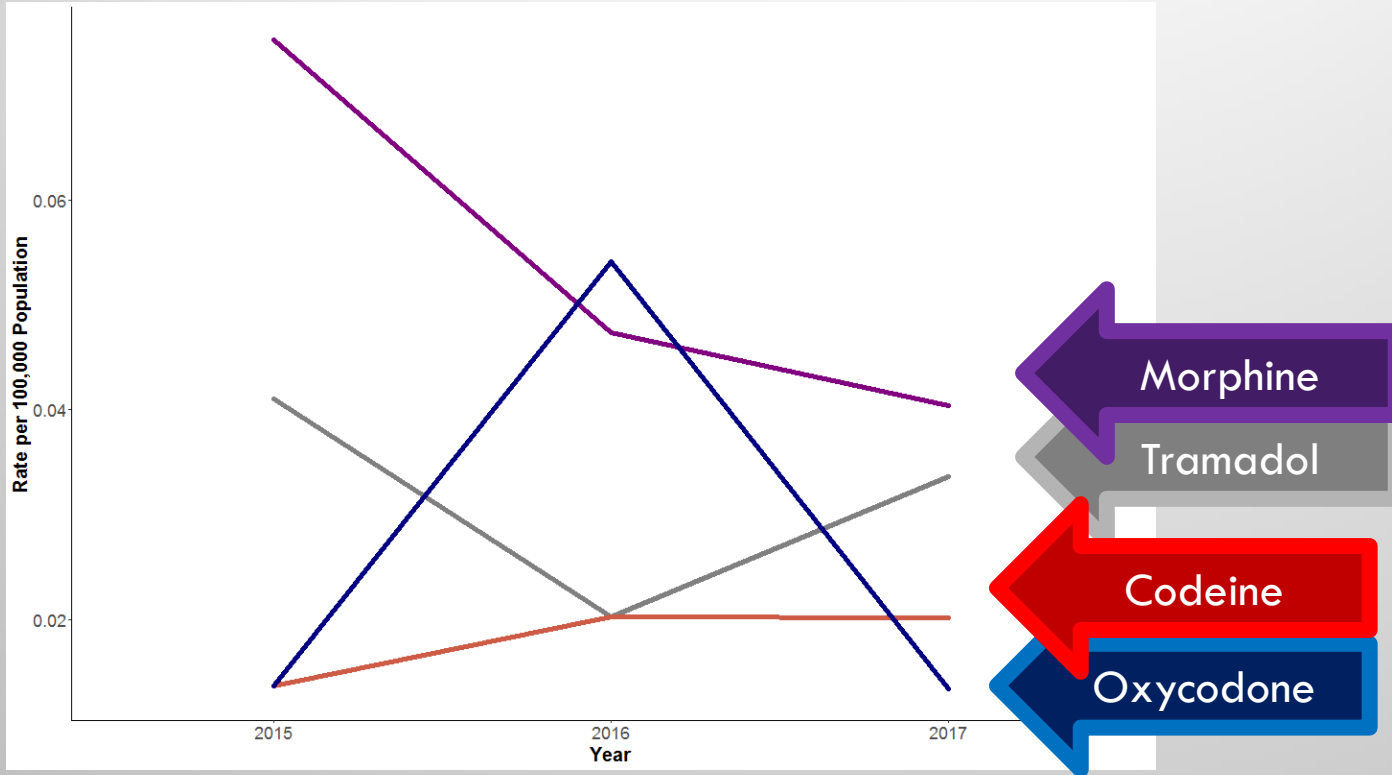


# Calling Poison Centres (GTNet)

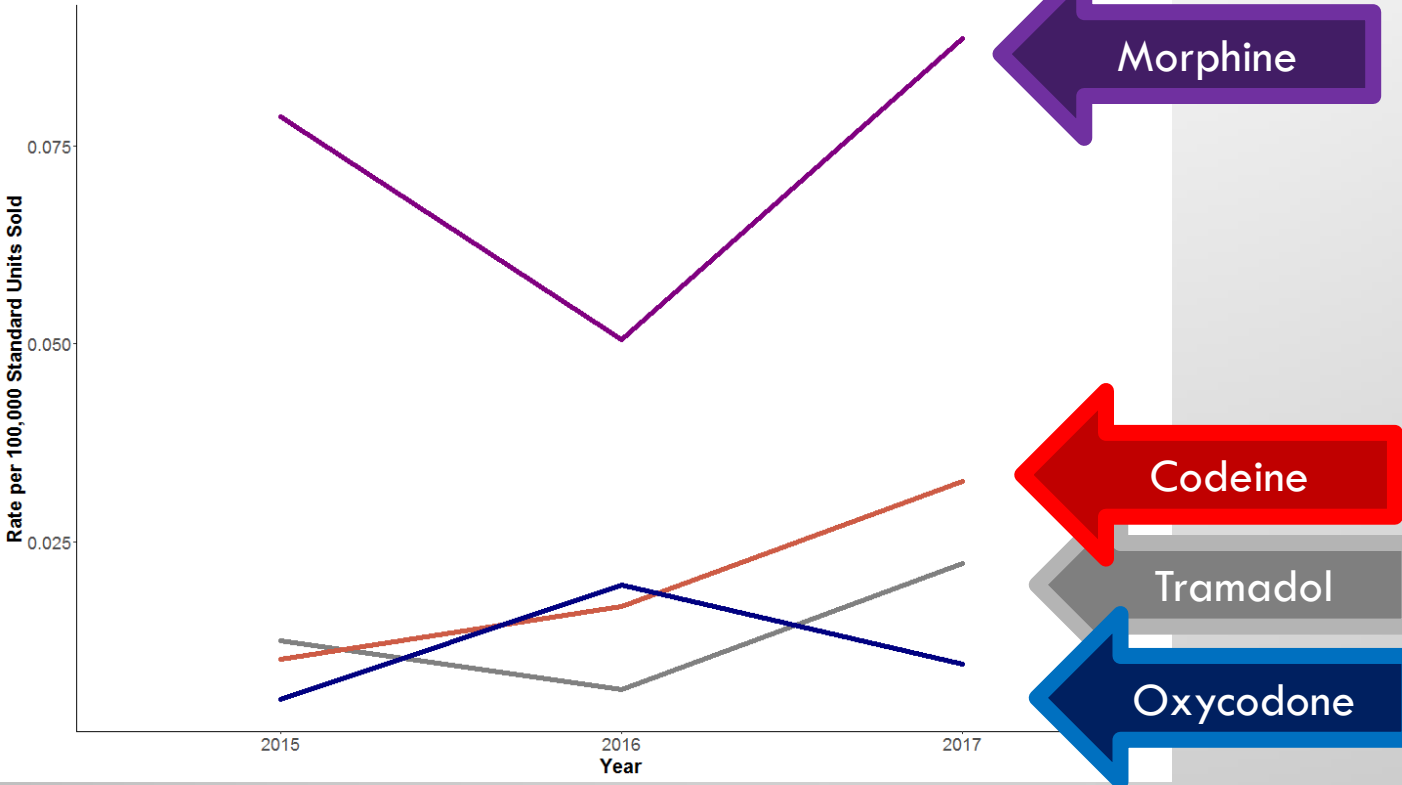
- Reporting of subjects seeking information on intentional and unintentional exposures
- Captures route and severity of outcome (when available) as well as coinjected substances



# Germany: Poison Centres (GTNet) Misuse Rate per Population



# Germany: Poison Centres (GTNet) Misuse Rate per Units Sold



# Germany: Conclusions

- Tramadol and oxycodone most prescribed opioids
- Pain relievers and sedatives most misused by general population
  - Codeine most misused of the opioids
- Morphine and tramadol most misused by those entering addiction treatment per population
  - Morphine and tramadol on the recent rise
- Morphine and tramadol most reported to poison centres