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Prescription Drug Misuse in Europe: Past, Present, Future

Today's Goals

 Comparing data between European countries with the Survey of Nonmedical Use of Prescription Drugs (NMURx)

- European trends in prescription misuse by class
- European trends in prescription misuse by active pharmaceutical ingredient



What is the RADARS® System?

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- 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.



The Global Mosaic of Nonmedical Use: High Level Overview

- Survey of Nonmedical Use of Prescription Drugs
 - Standardized survey in multiple countries
 - Allows direct cross-country comparisons
 - Each country has a "fingerprint" of patterns of nonmedical use
- Prevalence by class of drug
- Gives an idea of country-by-country trends



Survey of Non-Medical Use of Rx Drugs (NMURx) Coverage

• UK: 3Q14

Singapore: 3Q15

US, Canada: 3Q16

France, Italy: 2Q17

Germany, Spain: 4Q17

Methodology optimization projects in 2018





Survey of Non-Medical Use of Prescription Drugs (NMURx)

- An online, cross-sectional survey that assesses prescription and illicit drug
 use in the general adult population
- 10,000 30,000 unique individuals twice annually
- Data presented today from 2018
 - Canada
 - Germany
 - Italy
 - Spain
 - UK



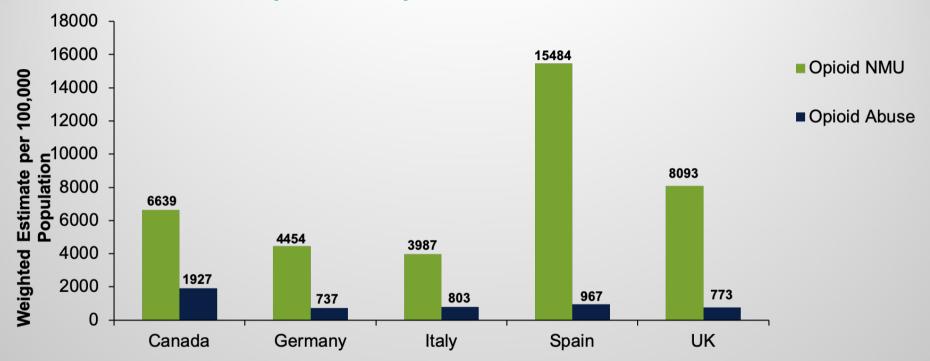
Survey of Non-Medical Use of Prescription Drugs (NMURx)

- Misuse: Use of a medication in a way not prescribed by a doctor
 - Includes using more pills, more often, or without a prescription

 Abuse: Use of a medication to get high or for the feeling it causes

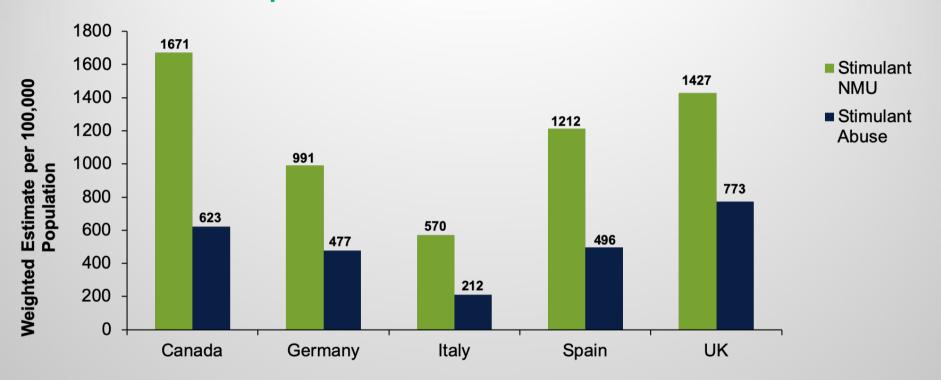


Prescription Opioid Nonmedical Use



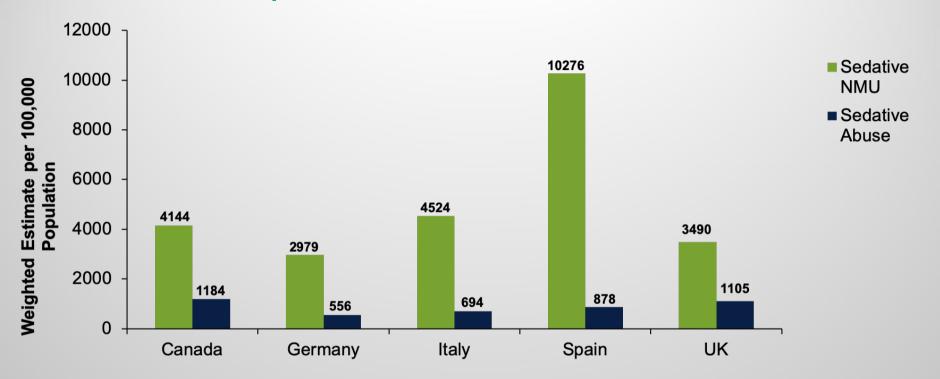


Prescription Stimulant Nonmedical Use



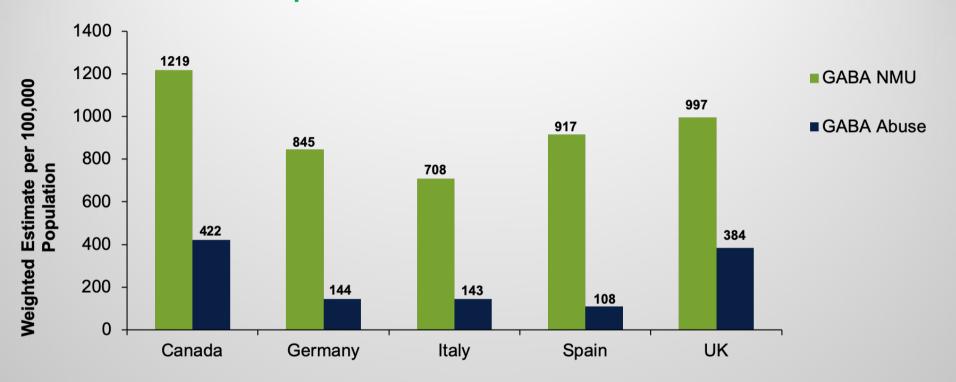


Prescription Sedative Nonmedical Use





Prescription GABA Nonmedical Use





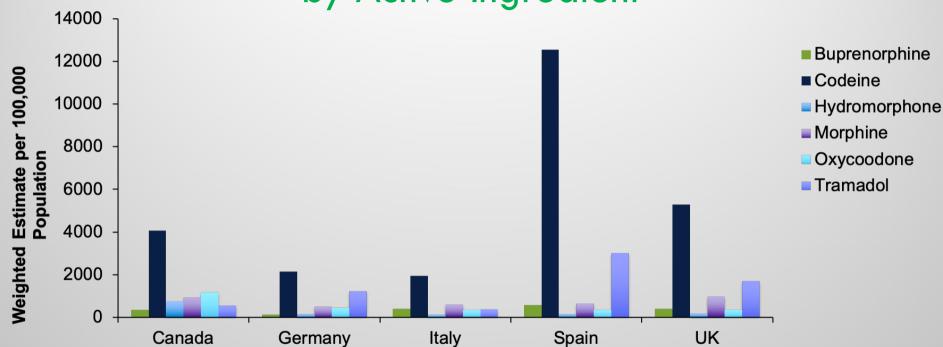
The Global Mosaic of Nonmedical Use: Zooming In

- Can zoom in within NMURx data for more detail:
 - By product
 - By geography
 - By behavior

Focusing on opioid active ingredients by country

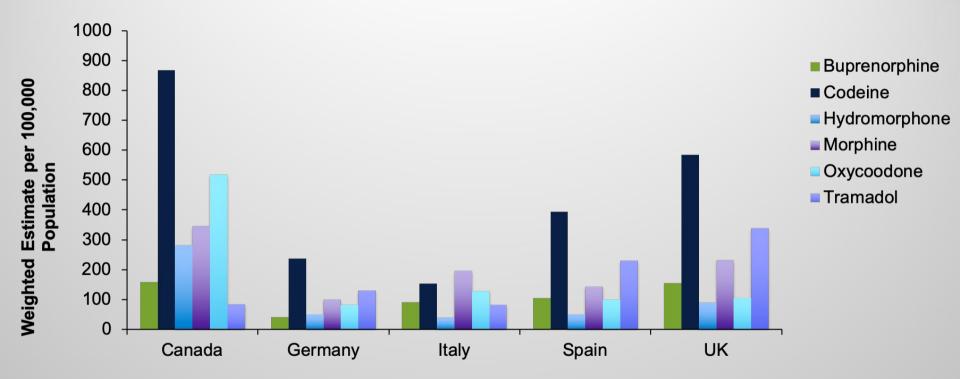


Prescription Opioid Nonmedical Use by Active Ingredient





Prescription Opioid Abuse by Active Ingredient





The Global Mosaic of Nonmedical Use: Conclusions

- Detailed data within each country provides more clear patterns of use and opportunities for intervention
- Patterns of nonmedical use differ by country
 - Opioids and sedatives highest in Spain
 - Stimulants and GABA drugs highest in UK
- Nonmedical use high for codeine, tramadol
 - Abuse also seen with morphine

