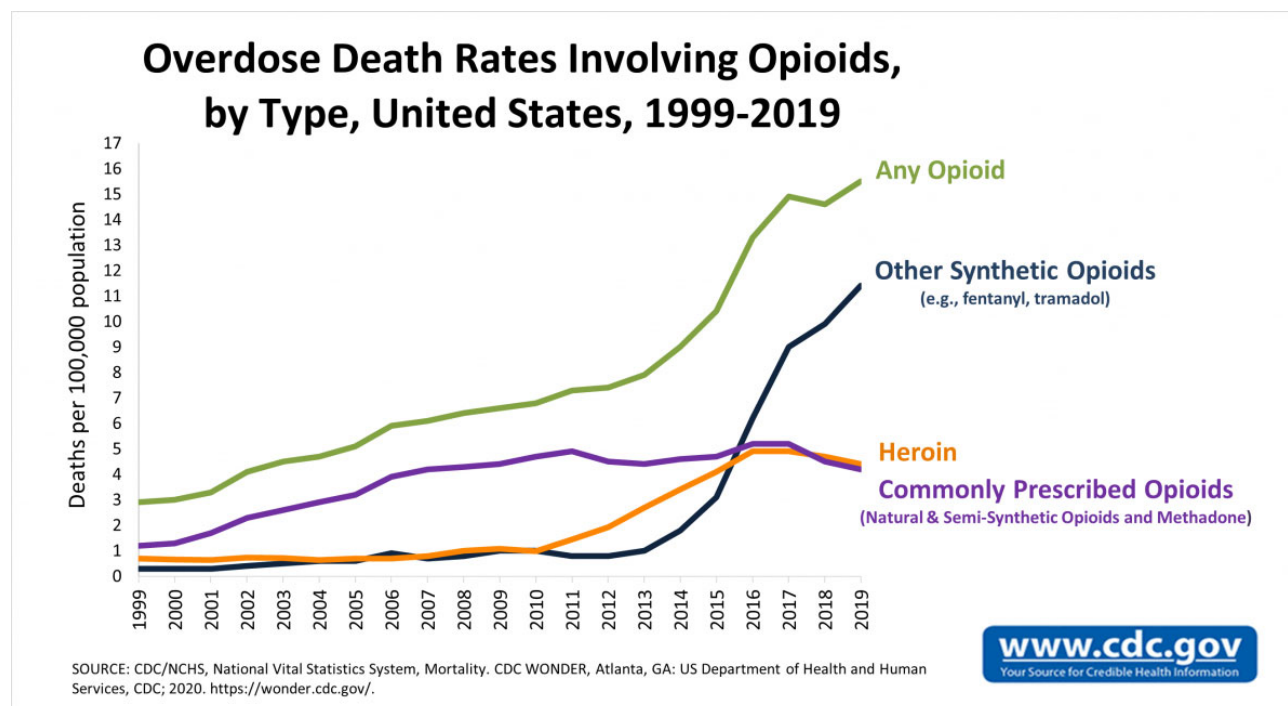




EQIC announces opioid *ROADE* work sprint; Kickoff webinar July 27

EQIC is pleased to announce the kickoff for the opioid medications management and prevention of adverse drug event initiative called Reduce Opioid-related ADEs, known as “*ROADE work*.” The *ROADE work* approach includes best practice and evidence on dosage and selection of opioids, alternatives to opioids, pain management, screening and monitoring, transitions of care, patient and family engagement and more. The [July 27 kickoff webinar](#) will focus on comprehensive sprint programming details and the *ROADE work* “ahead” approach and strategies. EQIC also will outline the syllabus, tools, resources and activity for the seven-month program.

Opioid-related ADEs is a priority focus area for CMS, the nation, our communities and friends and families. Millions of Americans are prescribed opioids for pain management. However, the dangers of prescription misuse, opioid use disorder and overdose have been a growing problem. According to the CDC, nearly 841,000 people have died since 1999 from a drug overdose.¹ Over 70% of drug overdose deaths in 2019 involved an [opioid](#).² Overdose deaths involving prescription opioids more than quadrupled during that same time period, with 70% of drug overdose deaths in 2019 involving an opioid.



Please plan to attend the July 27 webinar to get the ground level, step-by-step implementation approaches for the *ROADE work* sprint to improve patient safety and reduce opioid-related adverse events.

EQIC encourages the participation of key team members (pharmacist, physician, nursing and behavioral health staff), as well as other key staff like CNOs, CQOs and others from nursing staff, pharmacy, hospitalists, care transitions team members and behavioral health staff.

References

¹ Wide-ranging online data for epidemiologic research (WONDER). Atlanta, GA: CDC, National Center for Health Statistics; 2020. Available at <http://wonder.cdc.gov>

² Mattson CL, Tanz LJ, Quinn K, Kariisa M, Patel P, Davis NL. Trends and Geographic Patterns in Drug and Synthetic Opioid Overdose Deaths — United States, 2013–2019. *MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep* 2021;70:202–207. DOI: https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/70/wr/mm7006a4.htm?s_cid=mm7006a4_w

Questions

Please contact [Nancy Landor](#) or your state hospital association's [EQIC liaison](#) with any questions.

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One Empire Drive, Rensselaer, NY 12144