

#### NIH HEAL INITIATIVE

#### Helping to End Addiction Long-term

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Rebecca G. Baker, Ph.D. Director, NIH HEAL Initiative





NIH HEAL Initiative and Helping to End Addiction Long-term are service marks of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

### Crisis #1: National Overdose Death Rates

In 2017, there were 70,237 overdose deaths (9.6% higher than 2016)



Source: https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data-visualization/drug-poisoning-mortality/index.htm

### **Evolution of the Opioid Crisis**



### National Academies Report on Medication for OUD (2019): Findings

- OUD: a life-threatening *chronic brain disease* 
  - Caused by prolonged use of opioids, heroin
  - Treatable
- FDA-approved medications for OUD are effective, save lives
  - Methadone
  - Buprenorphine
  - Extended-release naltrexone
- Most who could benefit from medications do not receive them
- Confronting barriers to medication use will save lives





### **Crisis #2: Chronic Pain in the U.S.**

- 50 million adults are affected by chronic pain
- 25 million report severe pain on a daily basis
- 20 million have high impact chronic pain









CDC, Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, Sept. 2018



### The Response: NIH HEAL Initiative

- Mission: scientific solutions to the opioid crisis
- \$500M/year Trans-NIH effort
  - Over \$945M obligated in FY2019
  - 400+ awards, through over 40 funding announcements, in 41 states
- 12 NIH Institute and Centers currently leading 26 HEAL research programs
  - Over 20 collaborating Institutes, Centers and Offices
  - From prevention, basic and translational research, clinical trials, to implementation science





### **HEAL Initiative Research Overview**



### **Improving Prevention and Treatment Strategies for Opioid Addiction**

- Expand therapeutic options for opioid addiction and overdose
  - New, more user-friendly formulations of existing medications
  - Longer duration, more powerful overdose-reversers
  - New approaches to reverse respiratory depression
  - New targets and approaches for treating Opioid Use Disorder (OUD)
  - Immunotherapies for opioids to prevent relapse and overdose





### FDA-Approved Medications for Opioid Addiction and Overdose

- Methadone
- Buprenorphine
  - Sublingual
  - Monthly injection
  - Six month implant
  - Naltrexone
    - o Oral
    - Monthly
    - Lofexidine
  - Naloxone
    - Parenteral
    - Nasal
  - Expand options in close collaboration with FDA









Probuphine



### **Improving Prevention and Treatment Strategies for Opioid Addiction**

- Enhance Outcomes for Affected Newborns with Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome/ Neonatal Opioid Withdrawal Syndrome (NOWS)
  - HEALthy Brain and Cognitive Development (BCD) Study
  - Advancing Clinical Trials in Neonatal Opioid Withdrawal Syndrome (ACT NOW)
    - Weaning and eat-sleep console studies to establish best screening and interventions
    - Longitudinal cohort study to examine the medical, neurodevelopmental, behavioral, and social outcomes of children exposed to opioids in utero





# New Prevention & Treatment Strategies for OUD

- Preventing OUD among at risk adolescents
- Understanding the role of sleep dysfunction
- Managing opioid misuse/low severity OUD
- Determining the optimal length of medication treatment
- Optimizing collaborative care for people with OUD and common mental disorders



### **Translate Research into Practice for Effective Treatments for OUD**

- Enhancing the NIDA Clinical Trials Network to address opioids
- Promoting innovation in the criminal justice system
- Understanding the role of behavioral health interventions
- Integrating multiple evidence based interventions in communities: HEALing Communities Study



### Justice Community Opioid Innovation Network (JCOIN)

- Study quality care in justice populations
- Create partnerships between justice system and community-based treatment providers
- Studies conducted include:
  - A national survey of addiction treatment delivery services within the justice system
  - Effectiveness and adoption of new medications, prevention and treatment interventions, and technologies





### The HEALing Communities Study

- Reduce opioid overdose deaths by 40% over the course of three years in partnership with SAMHSA
- Test effectiveness of coordinated systems of care to:
  - increase the number of individuals receiving medication for OUD
  - increase the distribution of naloxone
  - reduce high-risk opioid prescribing
- 67 communities in 4 states with high rates of opioid overdose
  - Inclusion of urban and rural communities



### The HEALing Communities Study: Settings

Healthcare	Criminal Justice	Community
<ul> <li>Primary care</li> <li>Emergency departments</li> <li>Inpatient hospital care</li> <li>Behavioral health</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Jails</li> <li>Prisons</li> <li>Parole/probation</li> <li>Drug courts</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Families</li> <li>Schools</li> <li>Police and fire departments</li> <li>Faith-based organizations</li> <li>Housing and employment</li> </ul>



## **HEALing Communities: Sites**



### Preclinical and Translational Research in Pain Management

- Discovery and validation of novel targets
- Biomarkers, signatures and endpoints for pain
- Engineering preclinical screening platforms
- Translating discoveries into effective devices for pain treatment
  - e.g. implantable peripheral nerve stimulator for managing phantom limb pain among people with amputations



### **Clinical Research in Pain Management**

- Test novel treatments in a new clinical trials network: (EPPIC Net)
- Back Pain Research Consortium
- Pain Management Effectiveness Research Network
- Integrated approach to pain and opioid use in hemodialysis patients
- Pragmatic and Implementation Studies for the Management of Pain



### Early Phase Pain Investigation Clinical Network (EPPIC-Net) Mission and Goals

- Accelerate the early phase testing of promising non-addictive therapeutics and devices to relieve pain
  - Test promising pain treatments (small molecules, biologics, devices) from academia and industry
  - Leverage pain expertise in both academia and industry
  - Train new clinical investigators
  - Characterize multiple different pain conditions
  - Incorporate biomarkers into clinical trial design





### Back Pain Research Consortium: BACPAC

A patient-centric, translational research program

- <u>BASIC</u>: Integrated model of low back pain through improved understanding of mechanisms, leading to new therapies
- <u>TRANSLATIONAL</u>: Clinical trails, integrating new therapies into multimodal interventions, combined with deep phenotyping and patient-reported symptoms and outcomes
- <u>CLINICAL</u>: Algorithms to match patients to best treatments based on phenotype and psychosocial context



### Back Pain Research Consortium: BACPAC

- Multimodal, combination approach of pharmacotherapy plus behavioral therapy to treat negative affect in chronic low back pain
- Characterization of contributors to cLBP, including clinical, biological, behavioral, and biomechanical factors, to establish signatures associated with response to treatment
- Development of:
  - Wearable, nanocomposite biosensing system to capture 3D kinematics of the lumbar spine in full range of motion
  - Digital health platform for use of quantitative spinal motion metrics, PROs and patient preference information to facilitate patient phenotyping and clinical decision-making



### Pain Management Effectiveness Research (ERN)

- Inform clinical practice about interventions or management strategies that improve functional outcomes and reduce pain across the continuum of acute to chronic pain
- Phase 3 effectiveness of pharmacologic and nonpharmacologic therapies for a broad array of pain conditions to reduce risk of opioids
  - Leverage NCATS Trials Innovation Network
  - Coordination and harmonization of data across studies
- Eg: Test the efficacy of an innovative behavioral treatment for chronic pain among patients prescribed buprenorphine for the treatment of opioid use disorder



### Pragmatic and Implementation Studies for Management of Pain to Reduce Opioid Prescribing: PRISM

- Integrate interventions into health care systems, and implement health care system change toward evidence-based pain management
- Conduct large-scale pragmatic trials to improve pain management
  - Embed the intervention into real world settings
  - Collect data through the electronic records
  - Leverage the NIH Health Care Systems Collaboratory
  - Focus on non-pharmacological approaches
  - Collaboration with CMS for Medicare coverage consideration



### Pragmatic and Implementation Studies for Management of Pain to Reduce Opioid Prescribing: PRISM

- Integrate interventions into health care systems, and implement health care system change toward evidence-based pain management
  - Test EHR-imbedded evidence-based bundled nonpharmacological interventions for perioperative pain management
  - Pragmatic trial to compare effectiveness of physical therapy with or without the addition of TENS for patients with fibromyalgia



### **Cross-cutting HEAL themes**

- Engagement of research participants, patients, and stakeholders
- Sharing and open access of data
  - HEAL Public Access and Data Sharing Policy
    - Publications and underlying primary data, immediately and broadly available to the public
  - Harmonized measures established by HEAL teams
  - Secure platform for data submissions from a wide variety of basic, preclinical, and clinical research programs in HEAL





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