

HIV and Methamphetamine in LAC and Nationally: The Crisis Continues

Steve Shoptaw, PhD

May 22, 2019

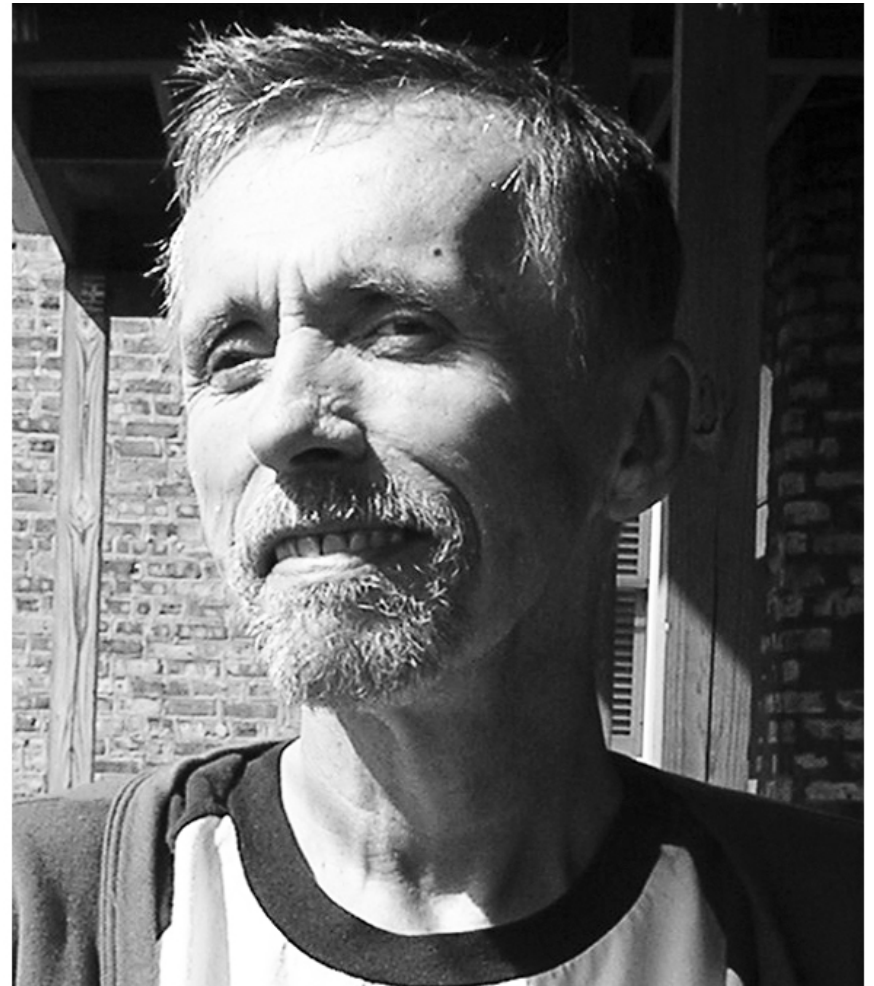


CHIPTS
Center for HIV Identification, Prevention
and Treatment Services

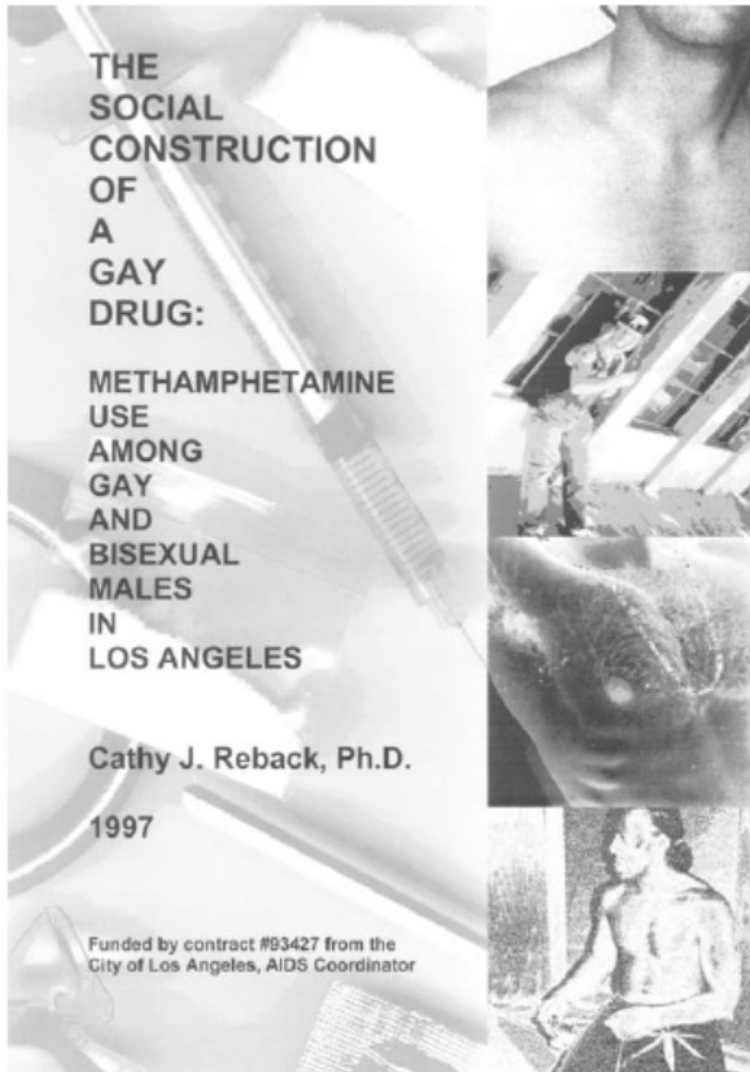
cbam
center for behavioral &
addiction medicine

Acknowledgments

- NIDA Grant
U01 DA036267
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P30 MH
058107
- UCLA CTSI
UL1TR001881



Overview



- Epidemiology
- Biological links
- Behavioral links
- Policy
- Considerations

Functions of Meth in MSM

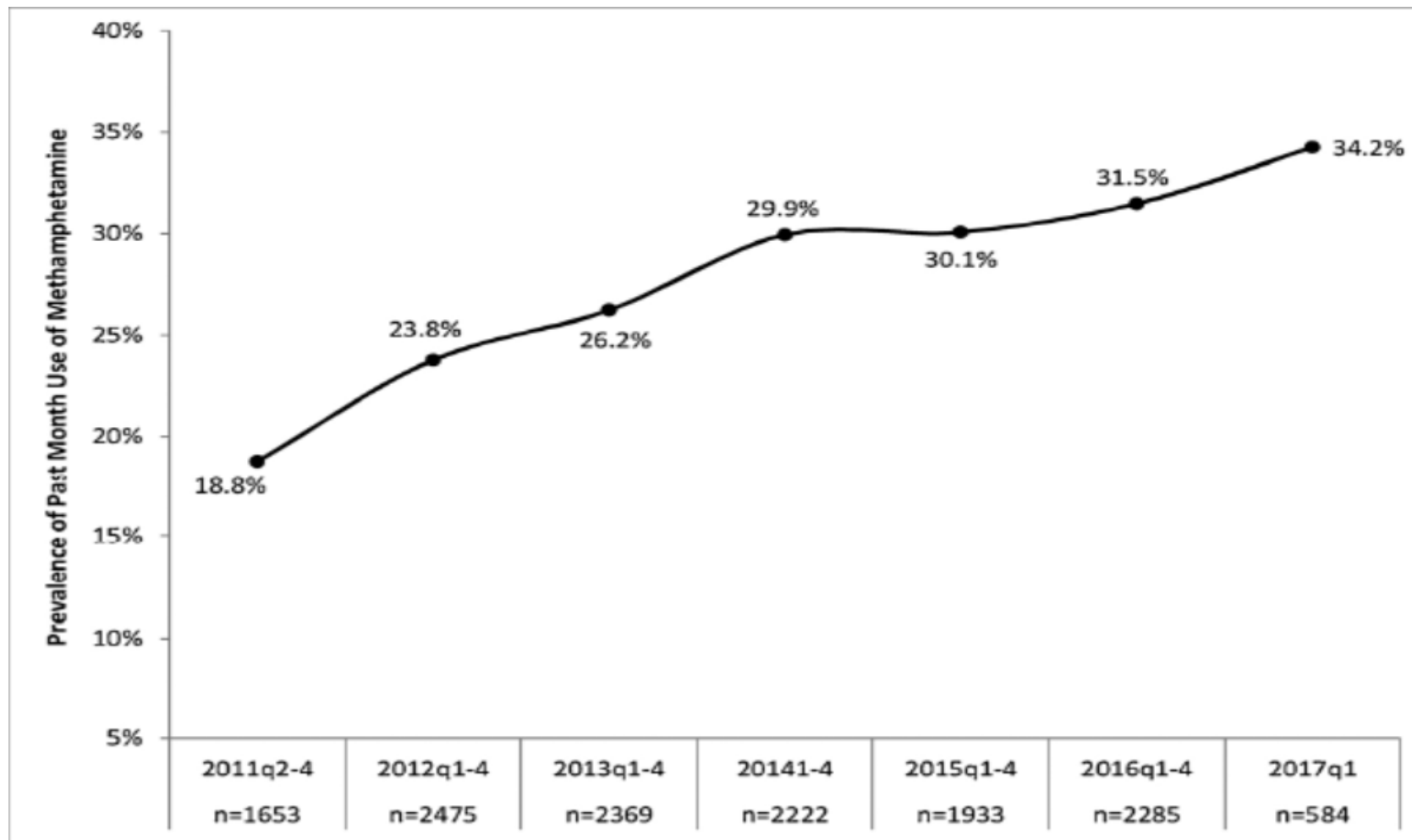
- Issues of identity (gay, drug user, HIV status)¹
- Enhance sexual functioning ²
- Boosts self confidence ²
- Increases productivity ²
- Weight loss/strong body experiences ²
- Brightens mood ²
- Aging/living with AIDS ³

¹Reback, 1997; ²Halkitis et al., 2005a, b; ³Kurtz 2005;

Methamphetamine, HIV and MSM in Los Angeles

EPIDEMIOLOGY

News Flash: Meth is Coming to the East Coast



Ellis MS et al., *Drug Alc Depend.* 2018 193:14-20

WV: Markers of a Growing Problem

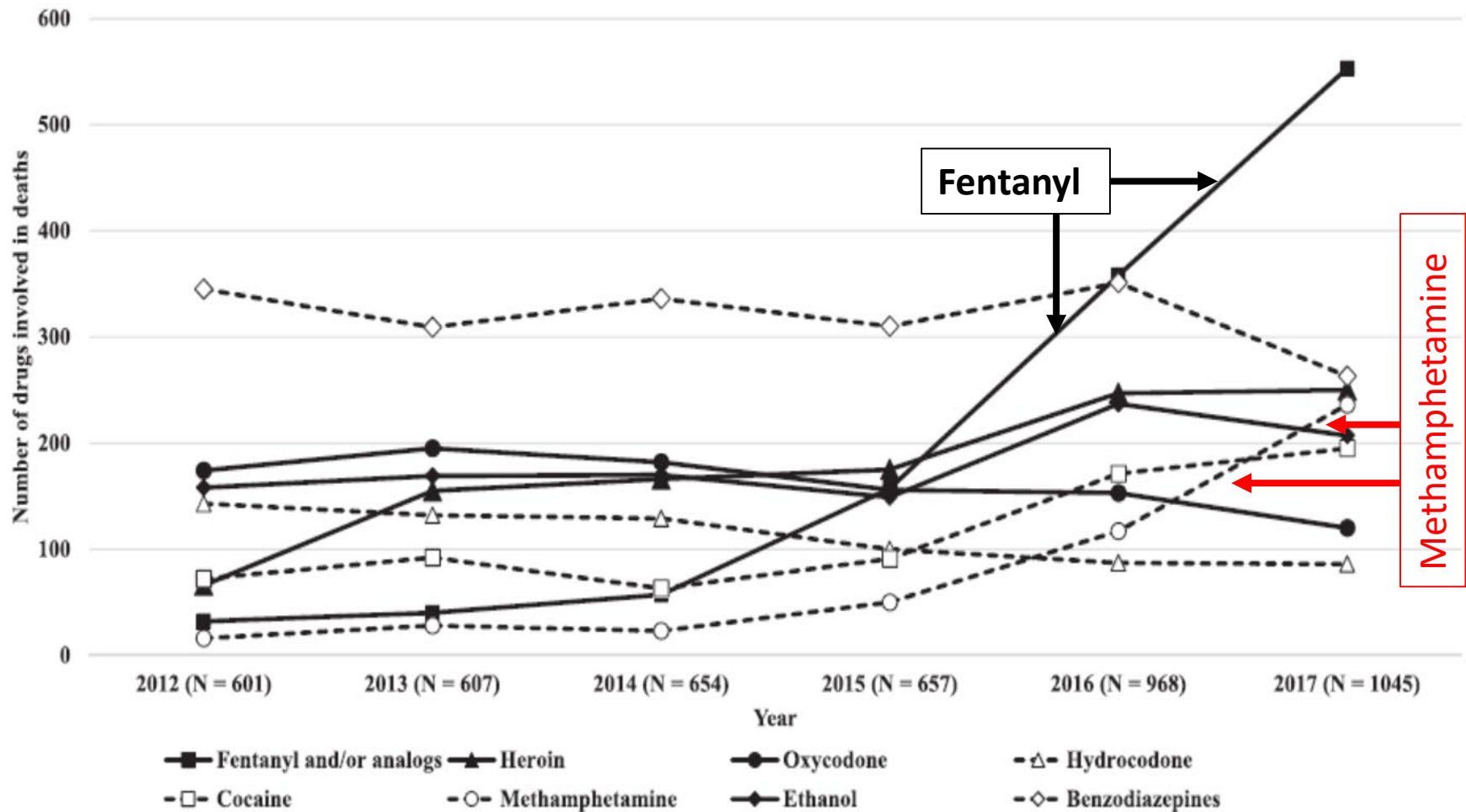
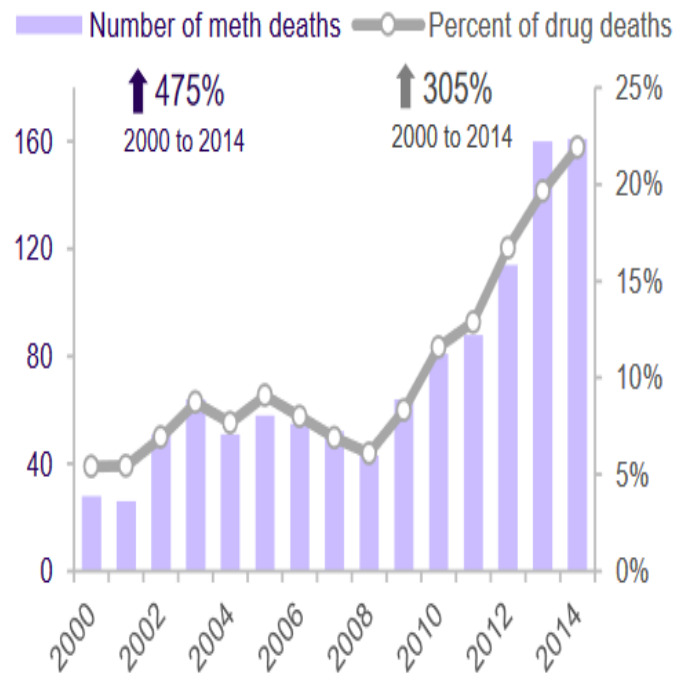


Fig. 1. Fentanyl ± FAs and other drug involvement in unintentional drug-related deaths in West Virginia, 2012–2017.

Los Angeles County

Deaths

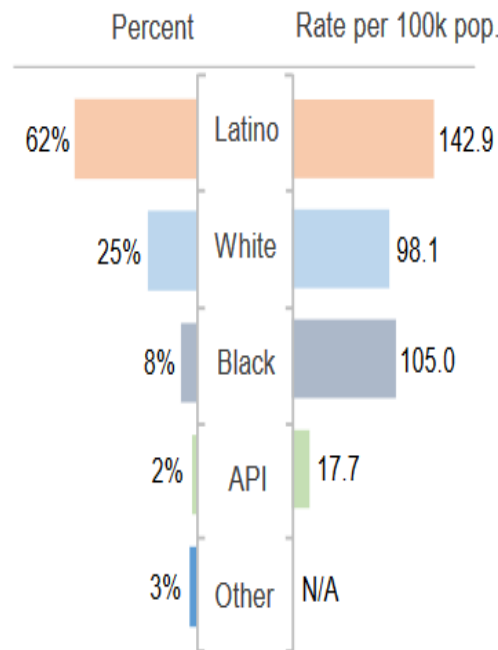
Meth overdose-related deaths, LAC, 2000-2014²⁰



Meth-related deaths and its percent of all drug deaths in LAC increased from 2000-2014

Treatment Admissions

Race/ethnicity among clients with primary meth problem, LAC, 2015²¹

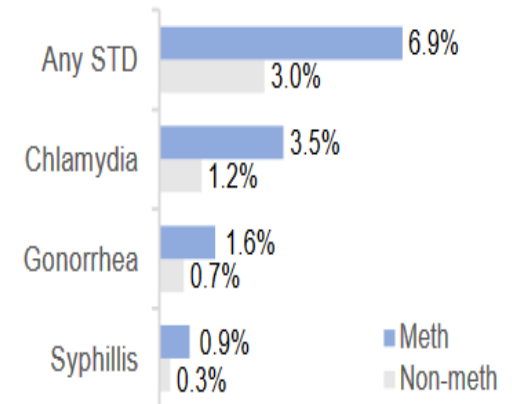


Latinos clients accounted for the majority of individuals with a primary meth problem in LAC

Meth use before/during sex among clients with primary meth problem, LAC, 2015²¹



Diagnosed STDs among clients with primary meth and non-meth problem, LAC, 2015²¹

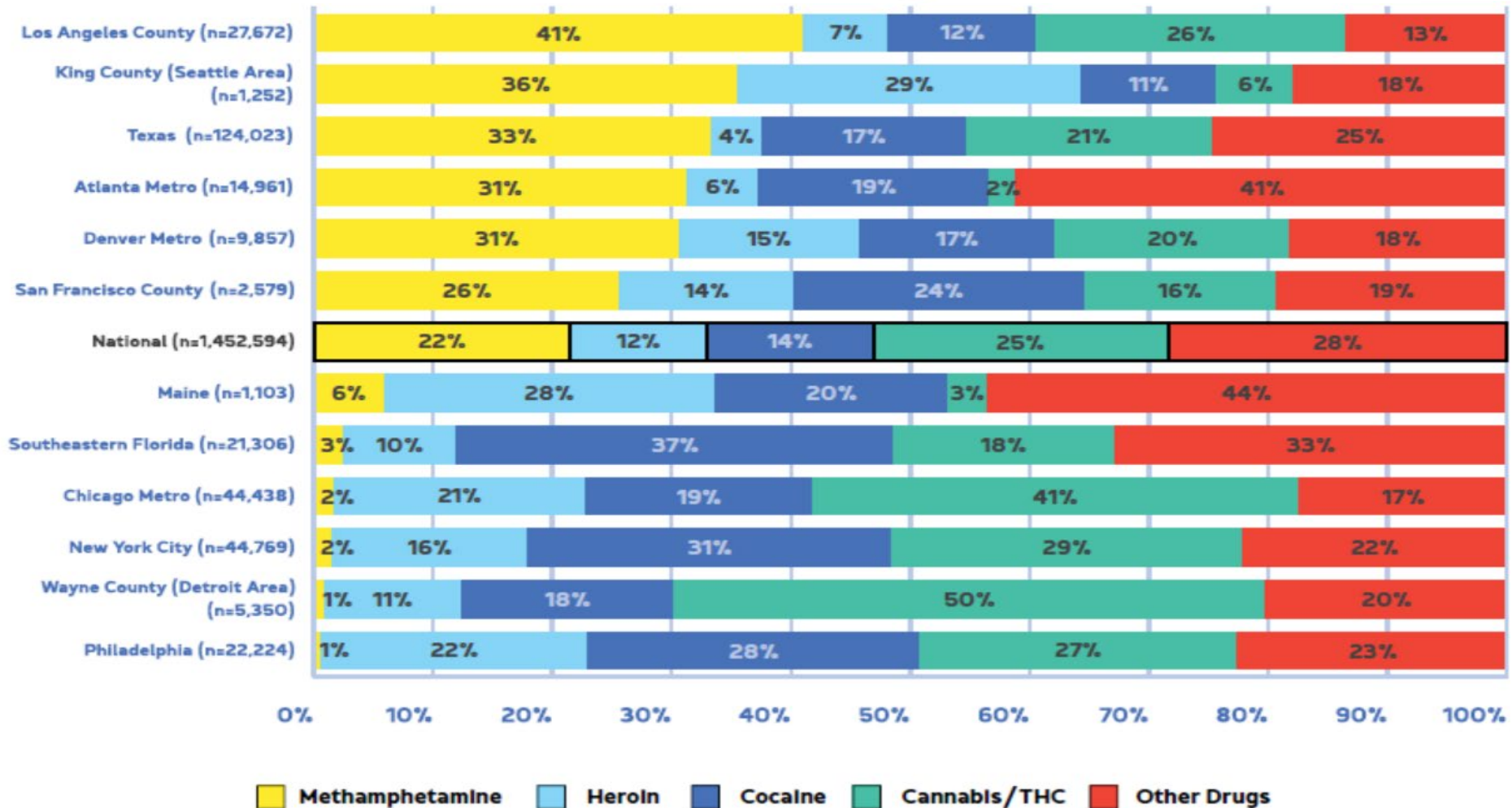


Primary meth clients had higher STD rates than clients with other primary drug problems in LAC

METHAMPHETAMINE

A REGIONAL DRUG CRISIS

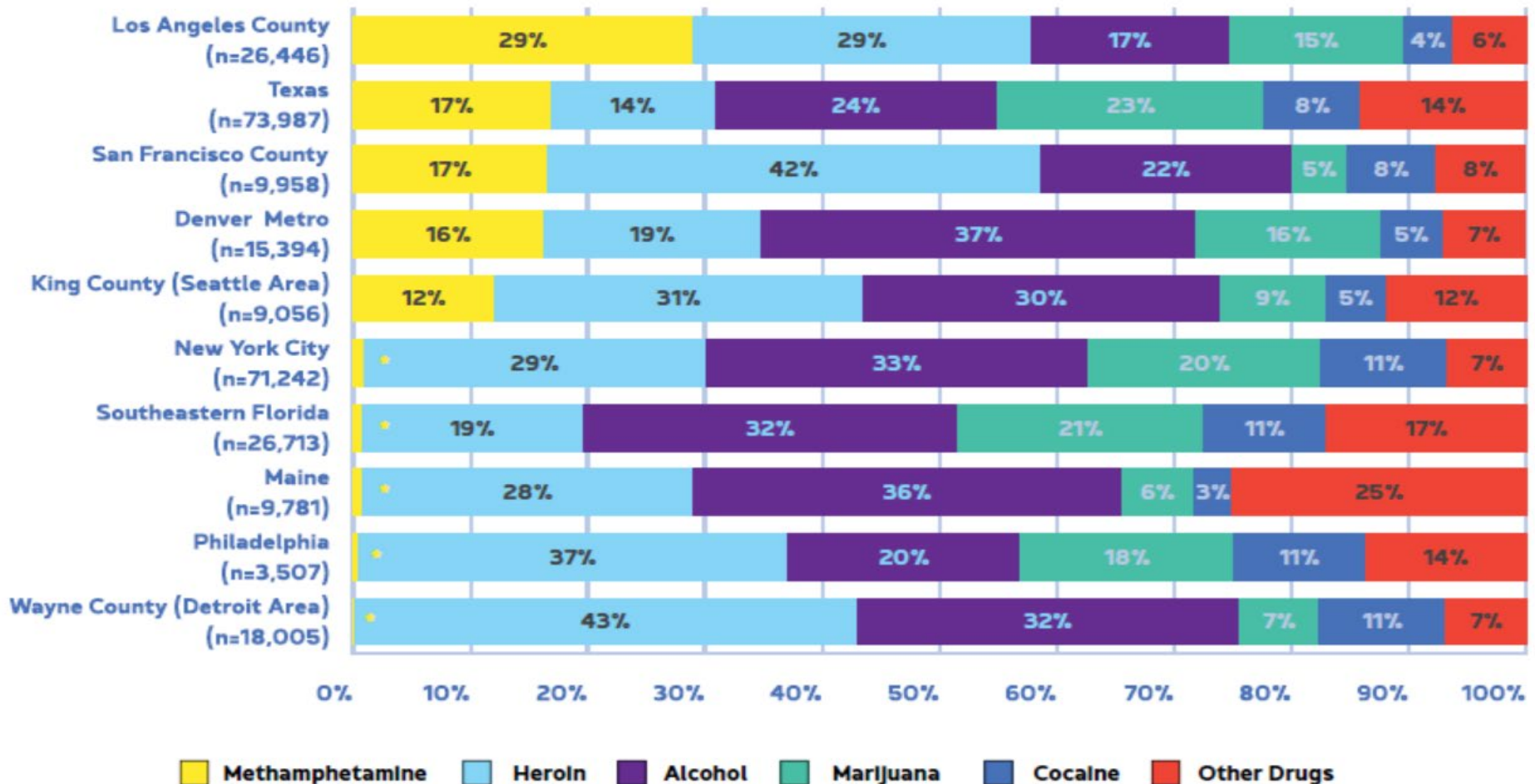
Figure 5: Drug Reports Identified for Items Seized by Law Enforcement in U.S. and NDEWS Sites, 2016



METHAMPHETAMINE

A REGIONAL DRUG CRISIS

Figure 4: Percentage of Treatment Admissions in Each NDEWS Sentinel Community Site (SCS)^
Citing Selected Drugs as Primary Substance of Misuse, 2016



EDITORIAL



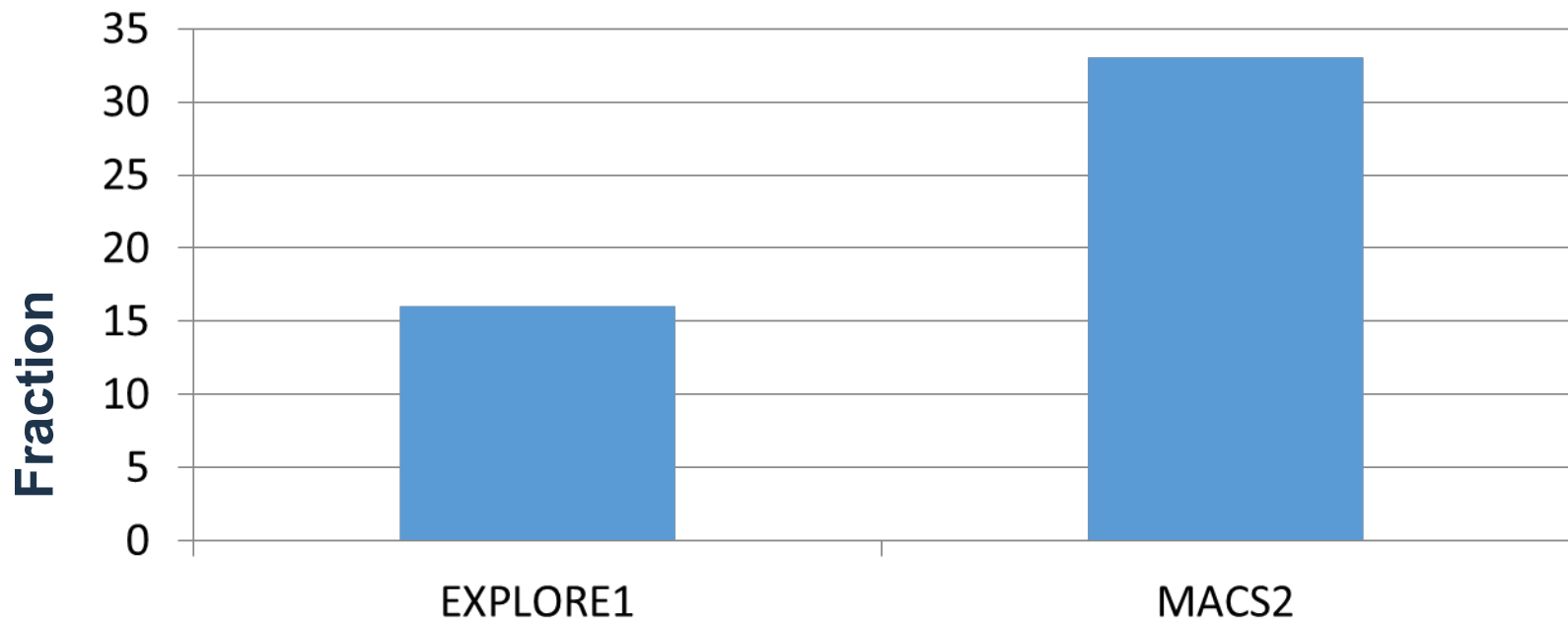
If a US Drug Abuse Epidemic Fails to Include a Major East Coast City, Can It Be Called an Epidemic?

Richard A. Rawson PhD , Sara L. Simon PhD & Walter Ling MD

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To link to this article: https://doi.org/10.1300/J069v21n01_01

Methamphetamine Use, HIV Incidence in MSM: Attributable Fraction



¹ Koblin et al., 2006, AIDS, 20: 731-739

² Ostrow et al., 2009, JAIDS, 51: 349-355



mSTUDY

MMSM And Substances Cohort at UCLA Linking Infections Noting Effects

Pamina Gorbach, DrPH & Steven Shoptaw, PhD - PIs
Grace Aldrovandi, Ronald Brookmeyer
Jennifer Fulcher, Marjan Javanbakht
Nina Harawa, Amy Ragsdale

NIDA U01DA036267 9/30/13-4/30/23



mSTUDY: Cohort Overview

Men of Color who Have Sex With Men

- 514 retained at 4 years
08/2014-02/2018
- Retention: 93%

As of October 25, 2018:

Currently enrolled

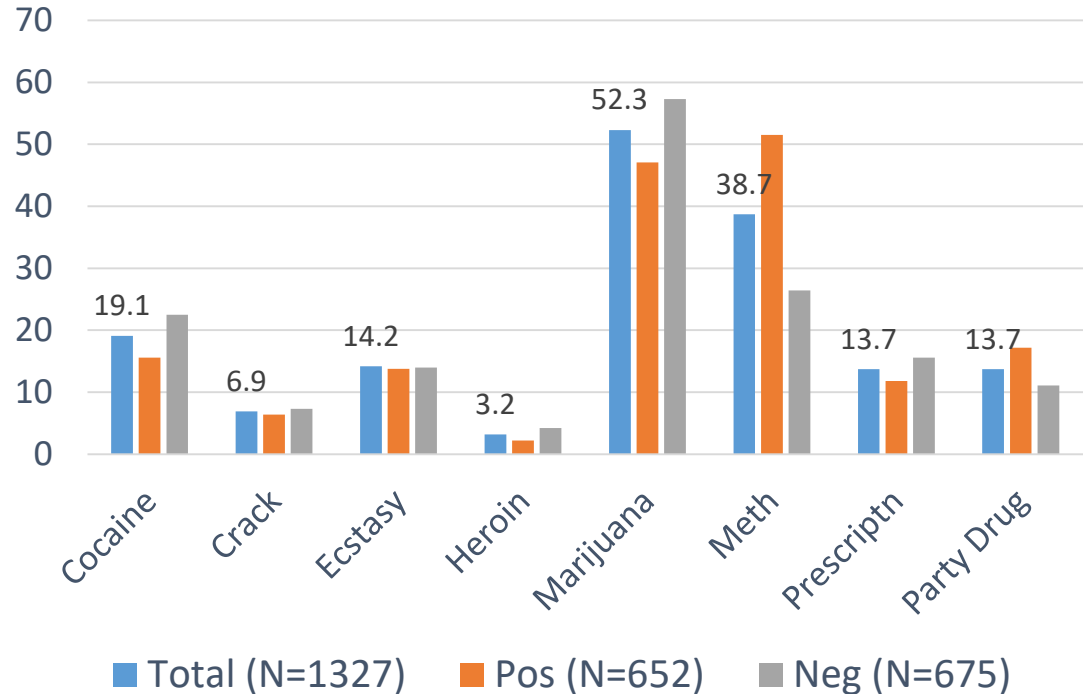
- **268 HIV +**

10 seroconverters

Incidence 2.5%

8 deaths

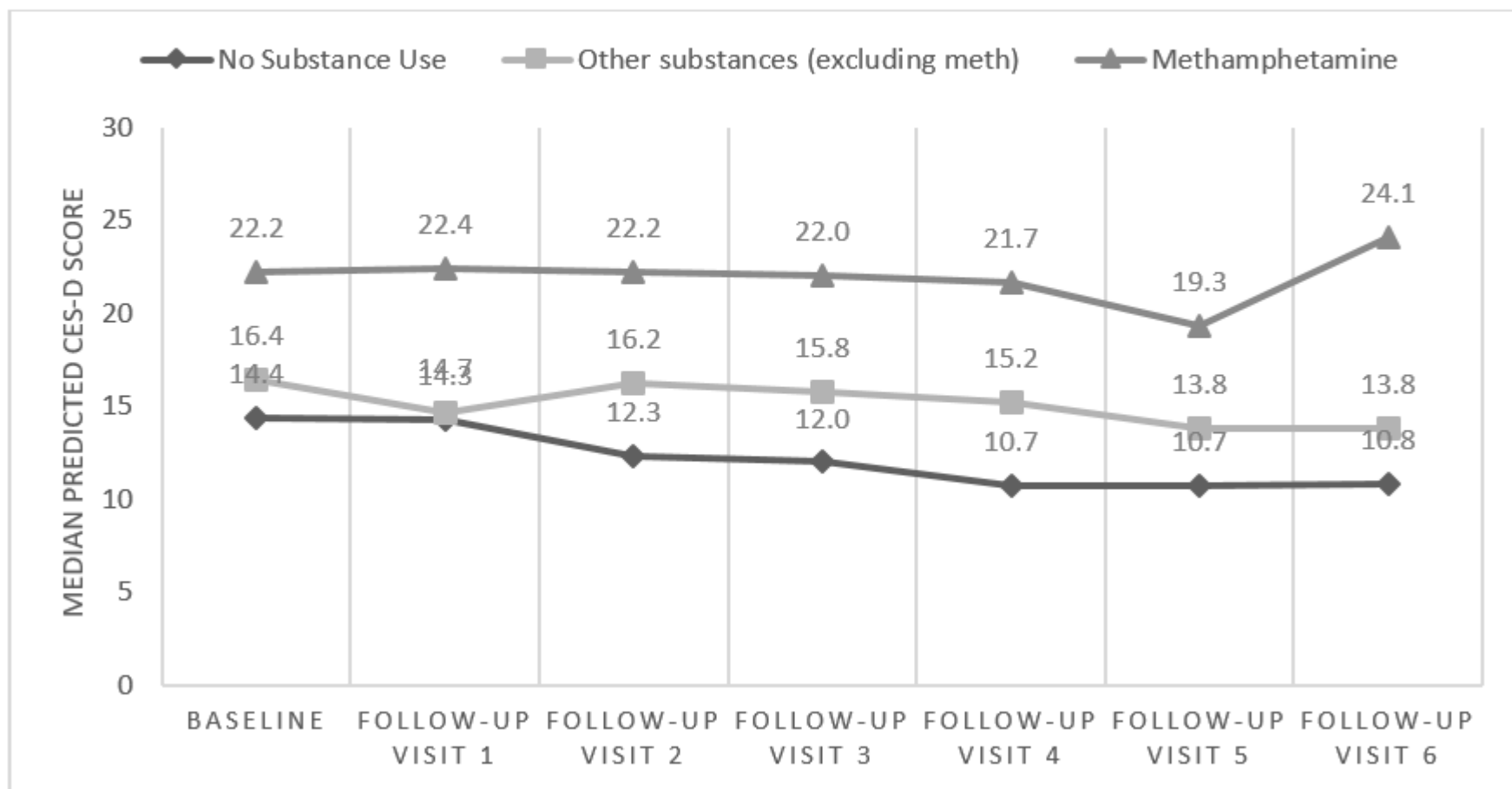
Drug Use Past 6 Months – Self Report by HIV-Status



* Retention calculated by anyone with a follow-up visit plus those not due.

Meth Increases Depression Symptoms in Both HIV+ and HIV-

Figure 2. Predicted CES-D₂₀ scores across study visit, by substance use status among mSTUDY participants (8/2014-6/2018)



Methamphetamine Phenotypes & Syndemics

Amount of Methamphetamine Past 6 Months (n=1,798 visits)

Variable	Weekly + (n=330 visits)		< Monthly (n=352 visits)		None (n=1,116 visits)	P value
Age	34.3	=	33.4	>	31.7	<.01
Unemployed	73.2%	>	57.2%	>	29.75	<.01
Unstable House	49.4%	>	35.5%	>	18.7%	<.01
Ever Jail?	61.8%	>	44.6%	>	28.5%	<.01
Smoker	51.5%	>	40.4%	>	23.6%	<.01
Binge drink 6 mo	35.2%	<	61.2%	=	50.5%	<.01
Cocaine 6 mo	23.3%	=	26.7%	>	15.6%	0.02
Heroin 6 mo	9.4%	>	4.6%	>	0.8%	<.01
Poppers 6 mo	50.6%	>	38.6%	>	24.6%	<.01
Concurrent Partnr	60.4%	>	42.3%	>	37.8%	<.01
HIV Positive	68.8%	=	66.2%	>	41.0%	<.01
Syphilis Positive	26.2%	>	19.4%	>	15.1%	<.01

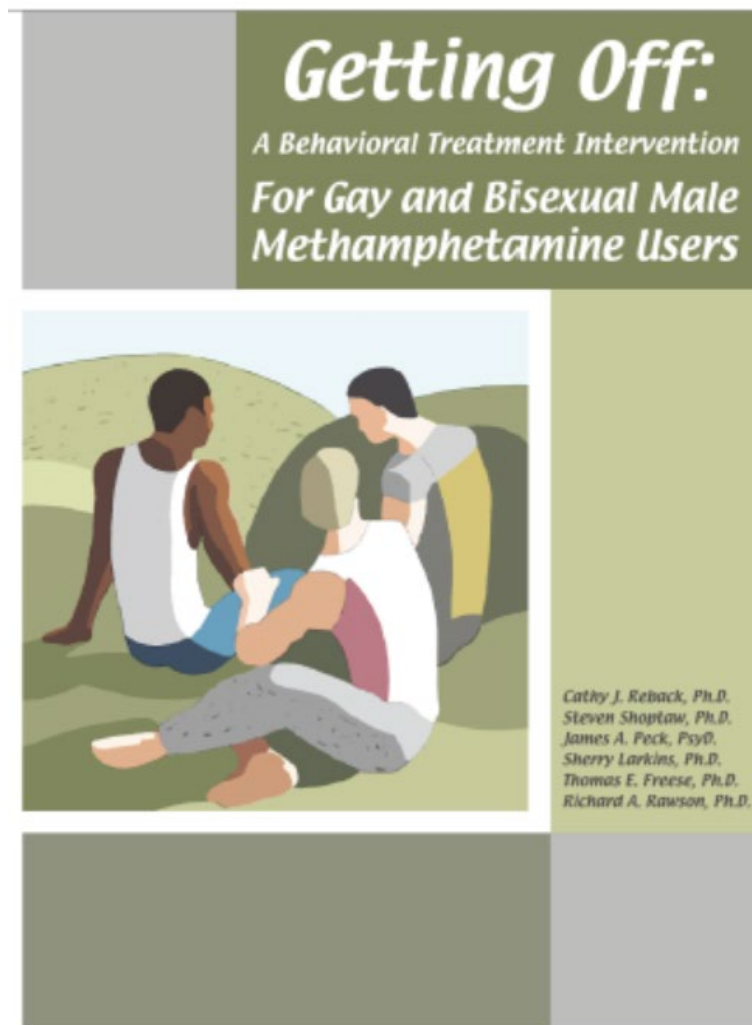
Drug-Sex Links in Treatment and Prevention

Mechanisms for Behavior Change

Cross-Cultural Outcomes

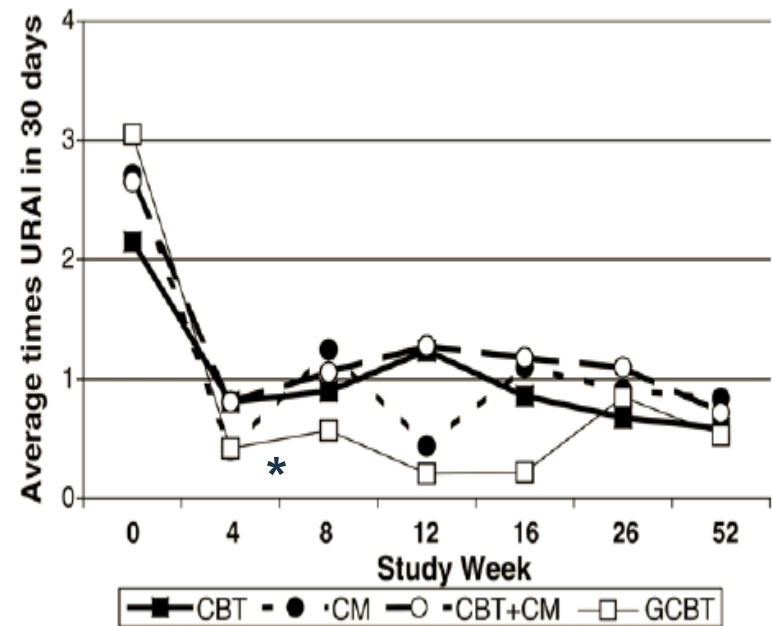
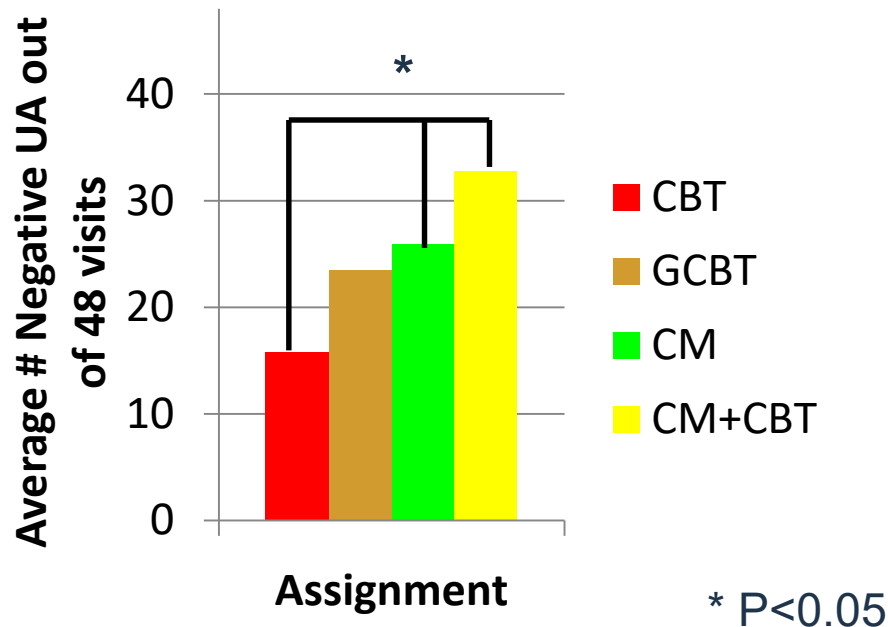
METHAMPHETAMINE AND BEHAVIOR

Behavior Change Tools



Shoptaw et al., 2005 Drug Alc Dep. 78:125-134

Behavioral Drug Abuse Treatment Links to HIV Risk Reduction in MSM



Shoptaw Reback et al. *Drug Alc Dep*, 2005. 78: 125-34

Contingency Management (CM) Boosts nPEP Outcomes in at-risk Stimulant Using MSM

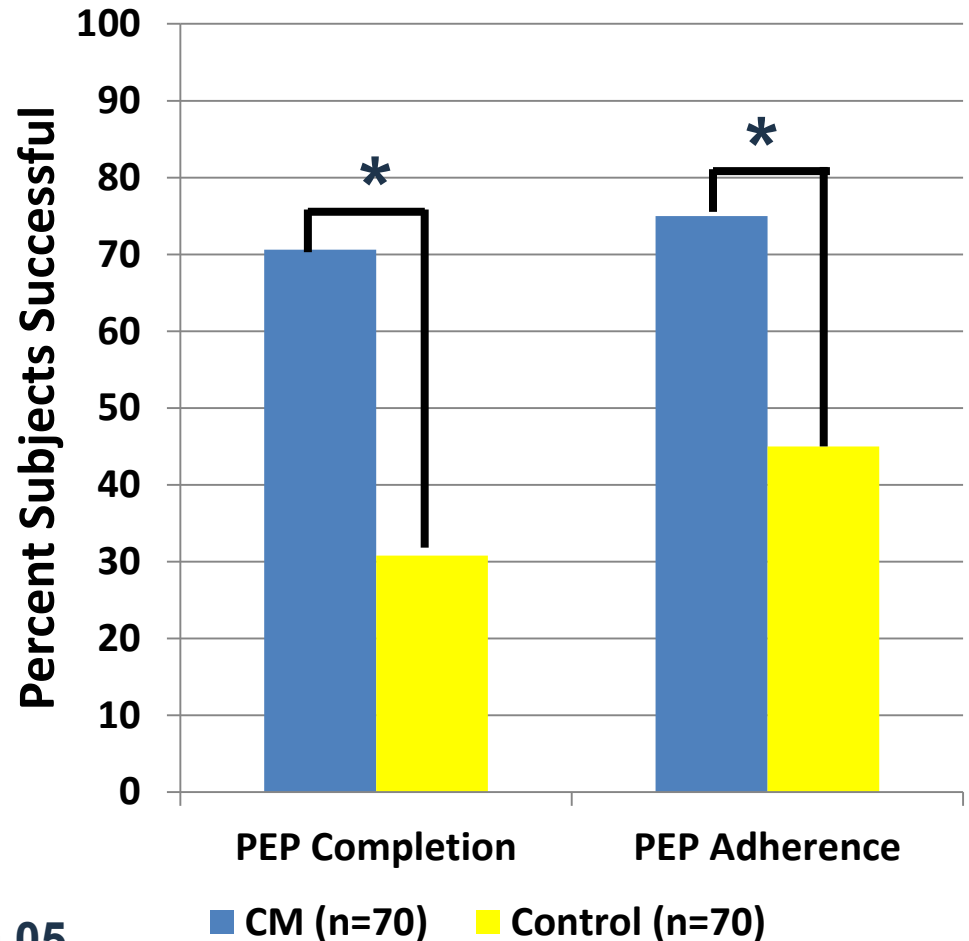
Design:

- Escalating 8-week CM schedule with thrice-weekly visits based on drug-free urine samples
- \$430 maximum
- n=140

Methamphetamine Outcomes:

- CM = 8.9 (SD=9)
- Control = 6.1 (SD=6) *

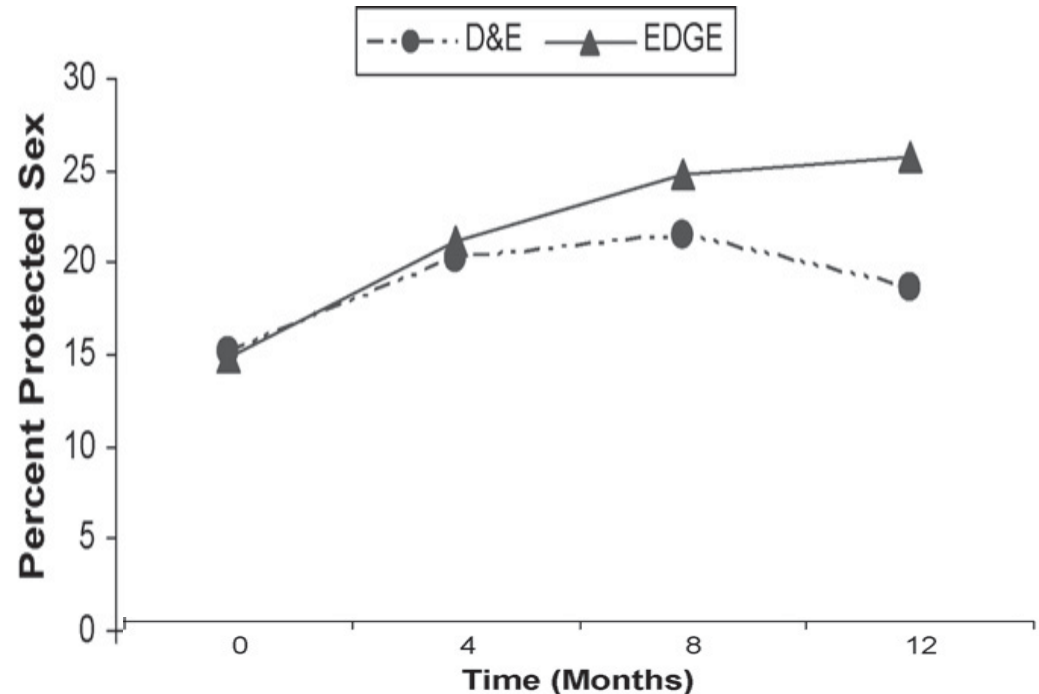
* $P < 0.05$



Motivational Interviewing Reduces Risk Behaviors in Active MA-users

EDGE (HIV+ MSM)
Fast Lane (HIV- Hetero)

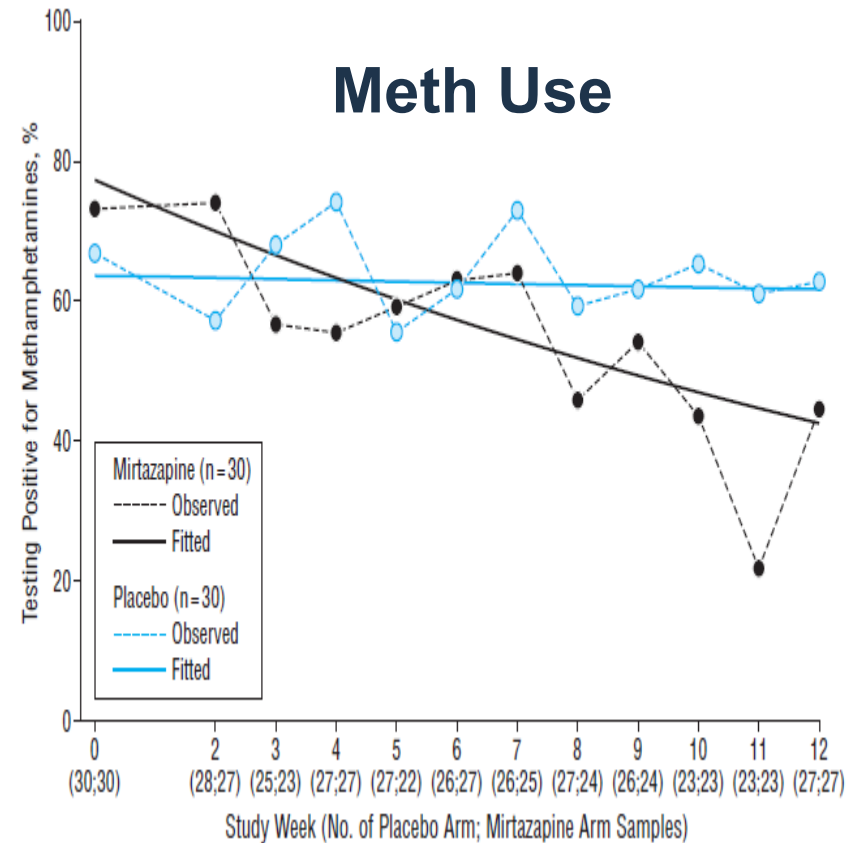
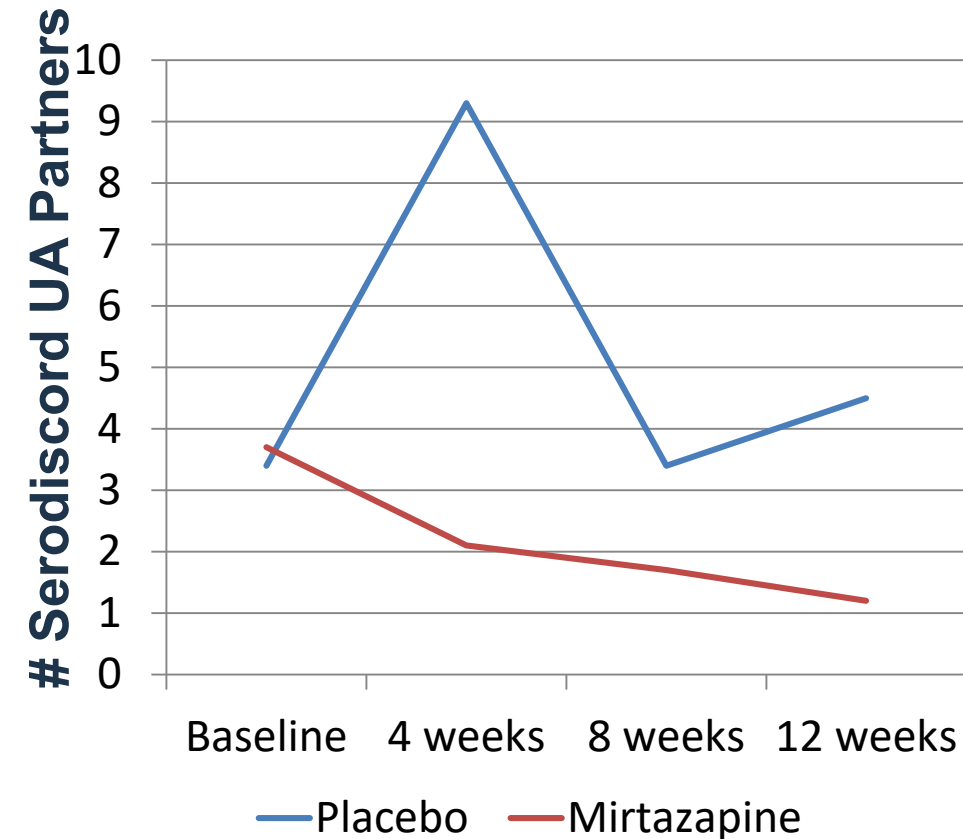
1. Context of Unsafe Sex
2. Condom Use
3. Negotiation of Safer Sex
4. Social Support
5. EDGE: Disclosure of HIV status to sex partners



Mausbach, Strathdee, Patterson. *Drug Alc Dep.* 2007, 87:249-257

Mausbach, Strathdee, Patterson. *Ann Beh Med.* 2007, 34:263-274

Pharmacotherapy for Stimulant Use in MSM: Mirtazapine 30 mg/day

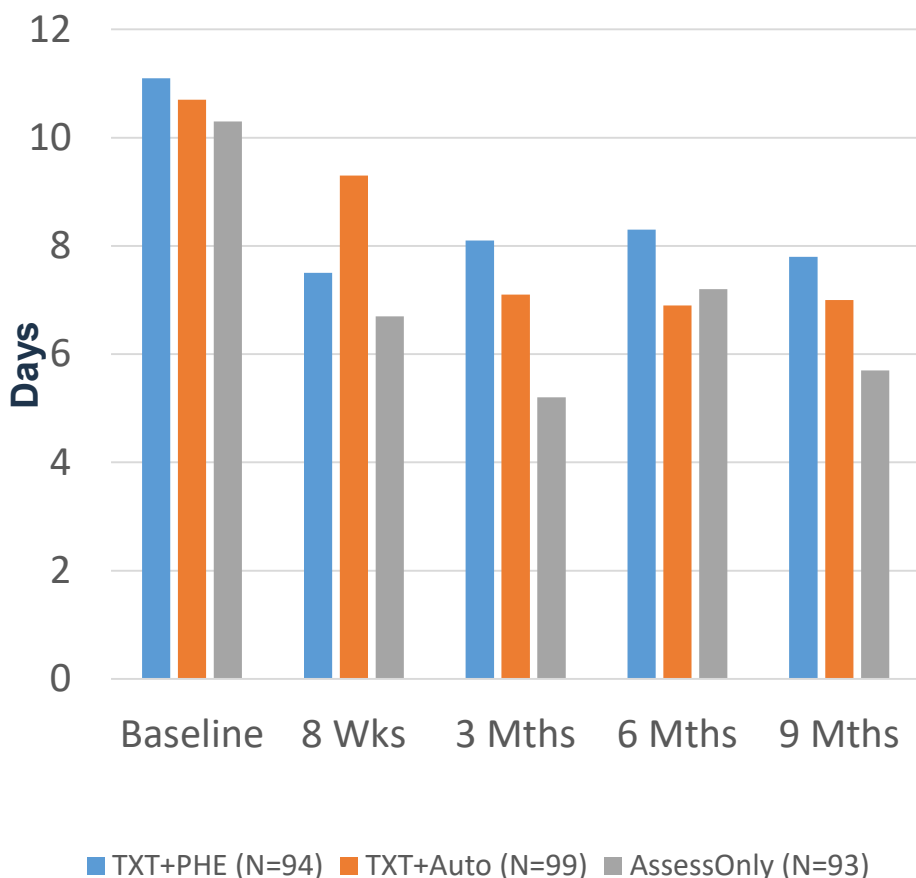


Theory-based Text Msgs for Stimulant Use

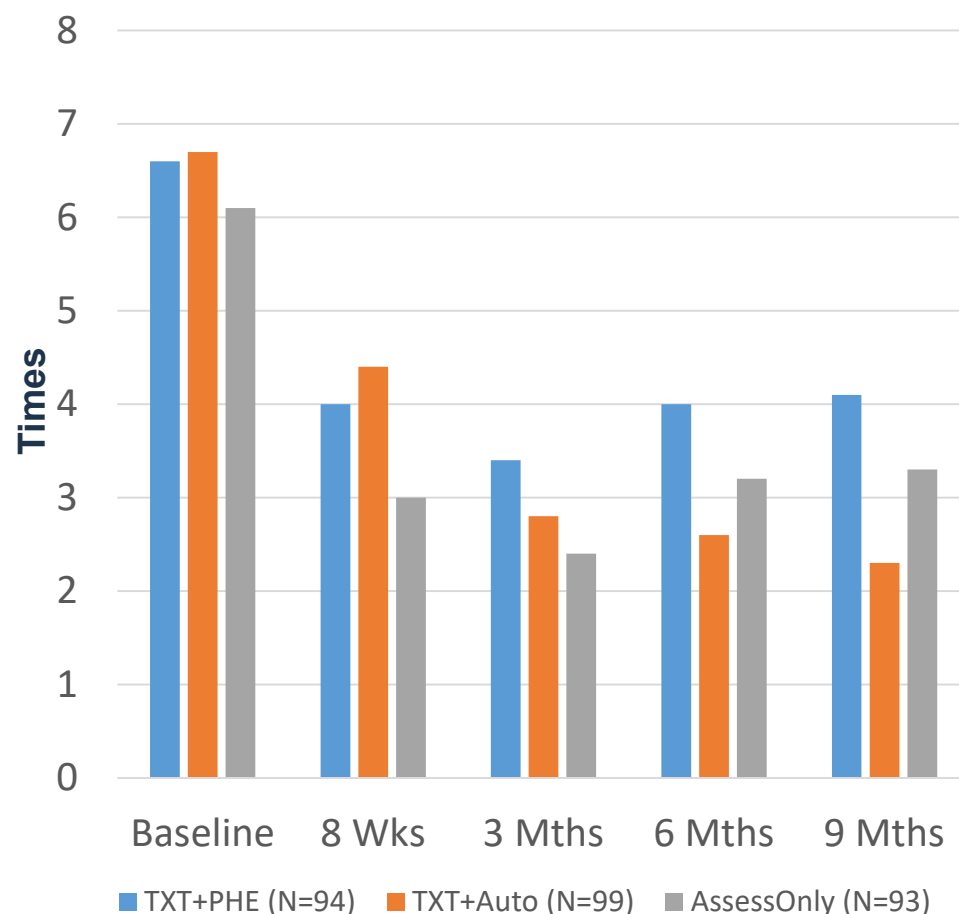
Social Support	Informational Support	"Did he give you a bug? Here's where to go."
		"Take care of your body, get vaccinated for hep A and B."
	Emotional Support	"Screw your partner, not your life."
		"You're worth a new needle."
	Instrumental Support	"Meth brings you down, meds bring you up."
		"Pack your socks with condoms and lube."
Health Belief	Health Threat	"Is that precum or do you have a STD drip?"
		"Meth can take your teeth."
	Health Behaviors to Reduce Risk	"Dip it, don't stick it."
		"Inject clean, an abscess is a hot mess."
	Awareness of Health Risks	"50% of men with Chlamydia have no symptoms."
		"Using meth in public can be risky."
Social Cognition	Self-regulation Skills	"Weekends getting longer and longer?"
		"Don't have an open sores relationship."
	Self-Efficacy	"Say 1 st thing your poz, like you did last time. You can do it."
		"You can take your meds, even when you party."

Text Message Outcomes: Meth and Sex

Meth Use Past 30 Days

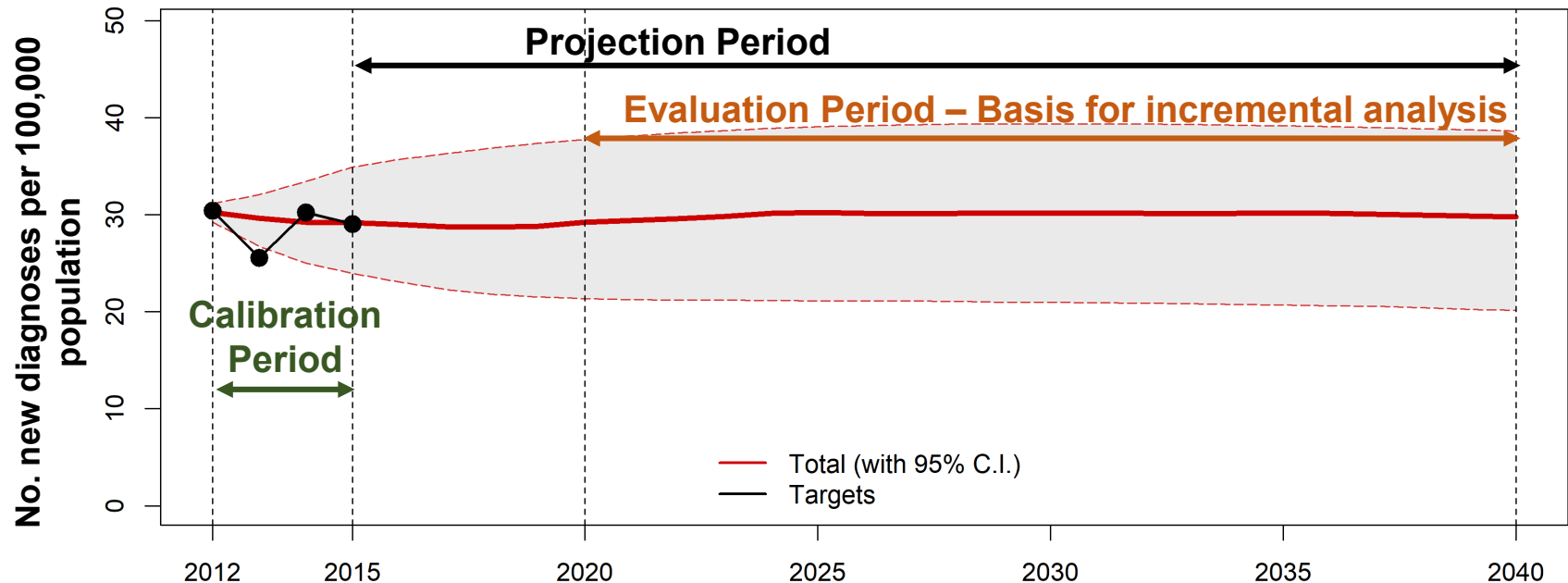


Sex on Meth, Past 30 Days



What Happens If We Do Nothing More

Los Angeles



- The rate of new diagnoses remains stable over the evaluation period.
- Results with 95% credible intervals (95% C.I.) shown are derived from 10 parameter sets; actual analyses will be conducted using the 2,000 best fitting parameter sets selected from 10,000 calibrated parameter sets.

Localized Economic Modeling Project, Bohdan Nosyk, UBC

Watchful Waiting: Fentanyl in LA

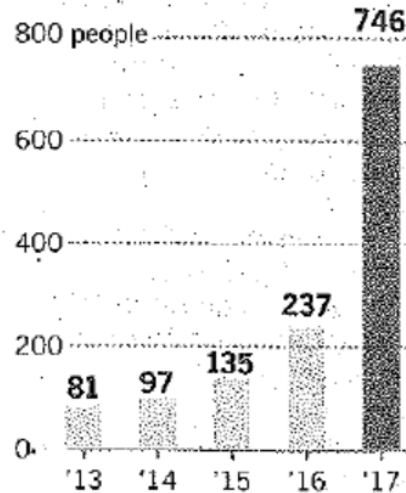
Rising fatalities from fentanyl-laced drugs spark fears of a worse epidemic to come.

By SOUMYA
KARLAMANGLA

Fentanyl, a potent opioid already responsible for thousands of deaths nationwide, is increasingly showing up in drugs like cocaine and methamphetamine in California, officials say.

The white powder, a lethal substance 50 times stronger than heroin, is sometimes mixed into other opioids to produce a stronger high. Now its presence in non-opioids has public health experts worried that California may be staring down a new dimension of the deadly epidemic.

Deaths from fentanyl more than triple in California



Source: California Department of Public Health

Los Angeles Times

hit," said UCLA professor Steve Shoptaw, who studies substance abuse.

May 15, 2018, *Times Los Angeles*

NYC: Fentanyl detected in 37% of cocaine OD Deaths in 2016, up 11% over 2015



The Next 15 Years In Los Angeles

- Getting smart with our investments and monitoring outcomes.
 - Disaggregate investments for general HIV prevention from investments for those who face additional challenges to HIV care and prevention, esp. methamphetamine using MSM
- Ramp up simultaneous involvement of existing levels of public health, addiction and primary care systems *at current levels after Medicaid expansion*
- Recognize unique status of methamphetamine in promoting HIV incidence in MSM
 - Biological effects
 - Behavioral disinhibition
 - Cognitive effects