

Broward Briefings

Substance Abuse

Information for Action



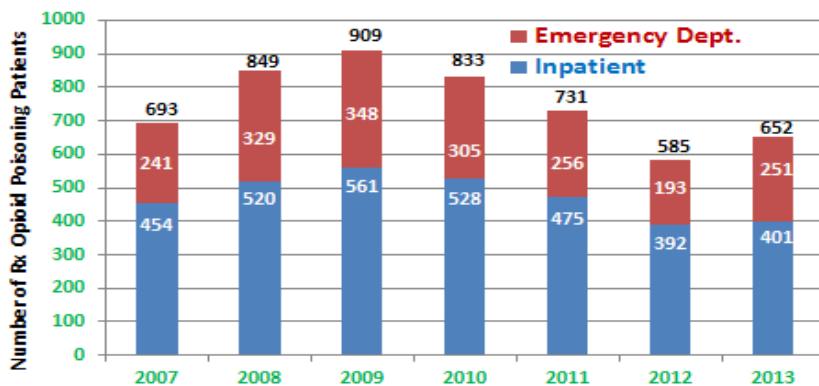
June 2015

Fort Lauderdale, Florida

Hospital Cases for Rx Opioid Poisonings

Reports on the number of hospital cases for non-fatal prescription opioid poisoning overdoses have been made available for the first time. In Broward County there were 5,254 such cases between 2007 and 2013 including 1,923 treated in an emergency department and an additional 3,331 admitted as hospital inpatients. The number of these poisoning overdose episodes from a prescription narcotic pain reliever peaked in 2009 at 909 hospital cases and totaled 652 in 2013, the most recent reporting year. Statewide there have been a total of 61,929 opioid overdose poisonings seen in hospitals during the 7 year period from 2007 to 2013.

Number of Hospital Cases for Non-Fatal Rx Opioid Poisonings in Broward County: 2007 -2013

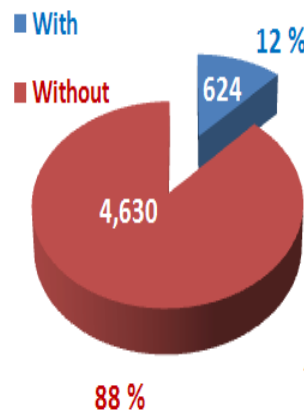


Source: Analysis of data from the Florida Agency for Health Care Administration

In all of Florida, only 9 percent of the 61,929 overdose poisoning hospital cases were diagnosed as having an opioid dependency. In 2013, 56 percent of the 8,626 Florida opioid overdose poisoning patients were routinely discharged to home or self-care rather than being transferred or referred to medical or behavioral health services. These data are the first measures of non-fatal opioid poisonings among prescribed medical patients in Florida. The findings demonstrate the critical need for overdose prevention strategies for pain medication patients and their families including access to naloxone.

Among the 5,254 patients in Broward County, only 12 percent were also diagnosed with an opioid dependency while 88 percent were considered to be legally prescribed users of these medications without a dependency problem.

Rx Opioid Poisoning Hospital Cases in Broward County With and Without a Diagnosis of Opioid Dependency: 2007-2013 n= 5,254



Source: Analysis of data from the Florida Agency for Health Care Administration



Broward Behavioral
HEALTH COALITION

