

A LOOK AT THE
CHANGING FACE
OF AGING
ADULTS AND
THE SAFETY &
WELLNESS
ISSUES THEY
FACE

KEEPING AGING ADULTS SAFE



UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTHERN MAINE



**ADULT
MALTREATMENT
& THE OPIOID
EPIDEMIC**

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LEARNING OBJECTIVE

- Define Adult Maltreatment
- Understand why At-Risk adults are targets for adult maltreatment
- Understand the link between Financial Exploitation and Abuse & Neglect
- How adult maltreatment affects the health and safety of adults
- How Opioids epidemic affects the older adults

ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES (APS) OF MONTANA

- APS is a bureau within Senior and Long Term-Care (SLTC); a Division of the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS)
- APS has a duty to investigate all allegations of Abuse, Sexual Abuse, Neglect or Exploitation involving at-risk adults age 18 and older
- APS is a civil investigation unit – not a criminal investigation unit

WHAT IS ADULT MALTREATMENT?

- Physical, emotional, and sexual abuse
- Financial exploitation
- Neglect
- Self-Neglect
- Includes Self- Neglect

PERSON CENTERED RESPONSE TO ADULT MALTREATMENT

- Understanding Adult Maltreatment
 - Abuse
 - Neglect
 - Exploitation
 - Self-Neglect
 - Many times adults can and do experience more than one type of Abuse, Neglect or Exploitation

TYPES OF ADULT MALTREATMENT

Medical Abuse	Financial Neglect
Physical Abuse	Medical Neglect
Psychological/Emotional Abuse	Physical Neglect
Sexual Abuse	Psychological/Emotional Neglect
Exploitation – Financial/Property	Self-Neglect

ABUSE

- Any knowing or intentional act on the part of a caregiver or any other person which results the infliction of physical or mental injury; or the deprivation of food, shelter, clothing, or services necessary to maintain the physical or mental health of an older person or a person with a disability without lawful authority, sexual abuse, or sexual exploitation of a vulnerable adult.

NEGLECT

- The failure of a person who has assumed legal responsibility or a contractual obligation for caring for vulnerable adult or who has voluntarily assumed responsibility for the person's care, including an employee of a public or private residential institution, facility, home, or agency, to provide food, shelter, clothing, or services necessary to maintain the physical or mental health of a vulnerable adult to such an extent that there is actual physical injury to a vulnerable adult or imminent danger of the vulnerable adult suffering physical injury or death.

EXPLOITATION

- The unreasonable use of an older person or an adult person with a disability power of attorney, conservatorship, or guardianship in order to obtain control of or to divert to the advantage of another the ownership, use, benefit, or possession of or interest in the person's money, assets, or property by means of deception, duress, menace, fraud, undue influence, or intimidation with the intent or result of permanently depriving the older person or person with a disability of the ownership, use, benefit, or possession of or interest in the person's money, assets, or property.

THE STRANGERS

- In-person
 - Door to door sales
 - Car sales
 - Charity solicitations
 - Targeted robbery/burglary
 - Street cons
- Phone
 - Telemarketing
 - Sweepstakes
 - Email
 - Scam Websites
 - Social Media
- Imposters
 - Grandchildren
 - Government Officials
 - Bank Employees

WHY ARE PERSON OVER AGE 60 THE TARGET?

- Have Established Assets
- Can be lonely and Isolated
- Unfamiliar with Financial matters
- Fear of reporting
- Have physical or other conditions that limit their abilities and are dependent on others for assistance

CONSEQUENCES OF ADULT MALTREATMENT

- Psychological distress
- Decline in medical and mental health
- 2.9 Billion dollars lost annually
- 5.3 Billion dollars added to direct medical cost
- 300% higher risk of death for abused victims

CAREGIVER STRESS

Caregiver stress

Caregiver stress is real.

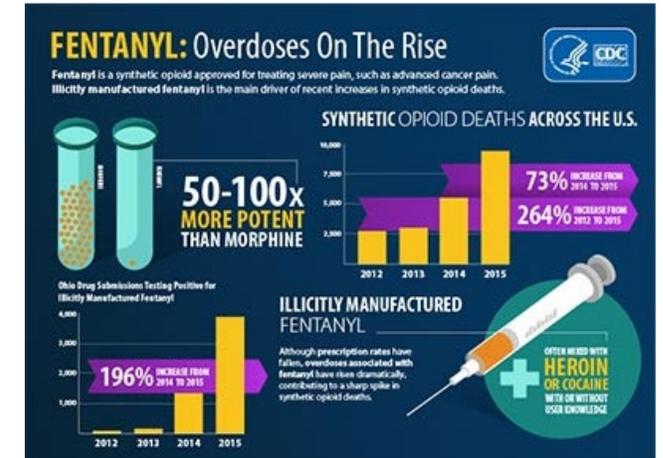
It can lead to physical and mental health problems.

but

No amount of stress justifies abuse.

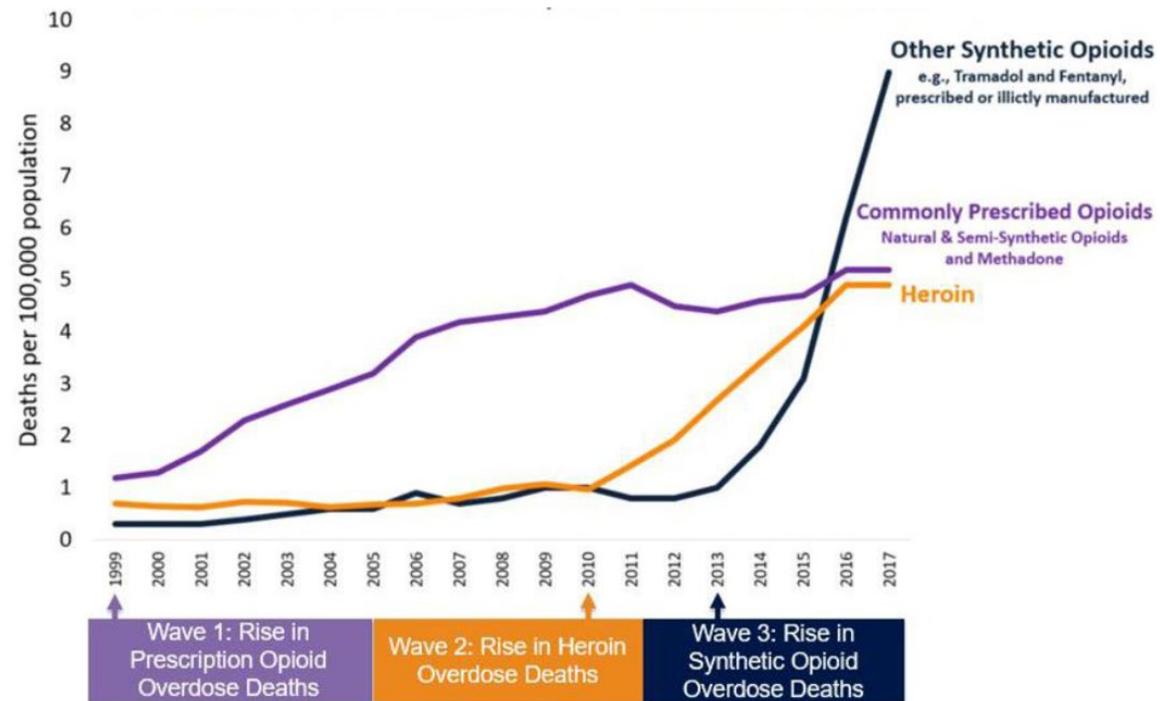
HOW DOES OPIOIDS AFFECT OUR OLDER POPULATION

- Prescription Opioids
- Fentanyl
- Herion



ELDER ABUSE AND THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC

Three Waves of the Opioid Epidemic



SOURCE: National Vital Statistics System Mortality File.

OPIOID DEATHS

- American life expectancy declined for the 3rd consecutive year in 2017 driven by the increase in deaths from drug overdoses
- More than 1 out of 5 drug overdose deaths involved an opioid
- Every day, on average, 30 Americans die of a opioid overdose
- Opioid overdoses killed more than 47,600 people in 2017

IMPACTS OF THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC ON OLDER ADULTS

- Health
- Families
- Mistreatment

OPIOID PRESCRIPTION



National Poll on Aging, University of Michigan,
2018.



“GRAND FAMILIES”

2018 Update Raising the Children of the Opioid Epidemic: Solutions and Support for Grand families.
Generations United.



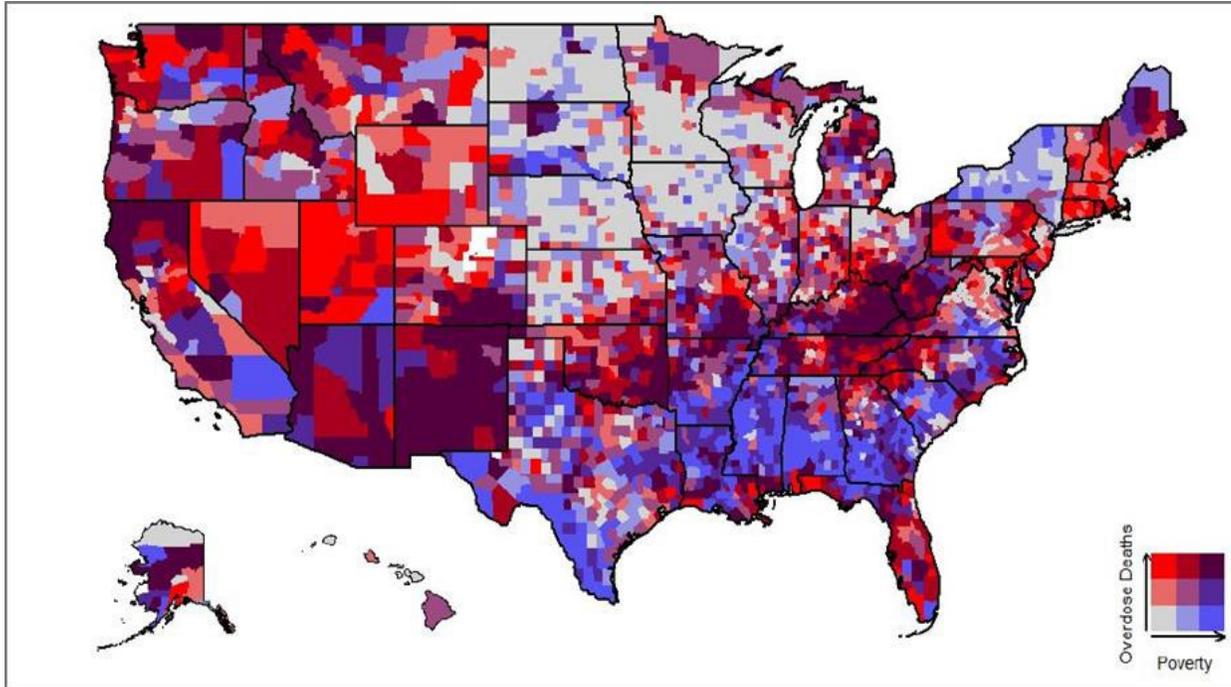
STRUGGLES OF GRAND FAMILIES

3. ELDER ABUSE



We don't tolerate abuse.

If you see it, report it. If you suspect abuse, contact your facility's administration, ombudsman, State Agency or the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS).



Sources
: U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates,
CDC
Small Area Estimates of Drug Mortality from Ghertner &
Groves, ASPE
Research Brief: The Opioid Crisis and Economic Opportunity:
Geographic and Economic Trends

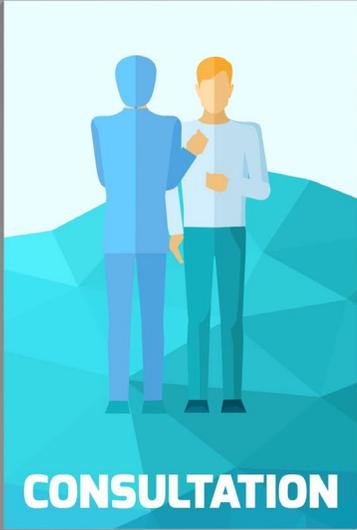
RURAL CRISIS

THE PROBLEM IS ESCALATING IN SCOPE AND SEVERITY





AN ELDER'S HOME BECOMES A SAFETY HAZARD FOR THEM



**SERVICES
ISSUES**



FINDINGS OF RESEARCH



THANK YOU FOR
YOUR TIME!

CONTACT OR MAKE
A REPORT TO APS

WWW.APS.MT.GOV

OR

844-277-9300