

Opioids Pain and Addiction- Beyond the Realm of Hungry Ghosts

Brian Barnes CSWA, MAC, CADC III

Brianna Sustersic M.D., DABIM, DABAM

Andy Mendenhall M.D., DABAM, DABFM, DAAPM

Central City Concern

Disclosures

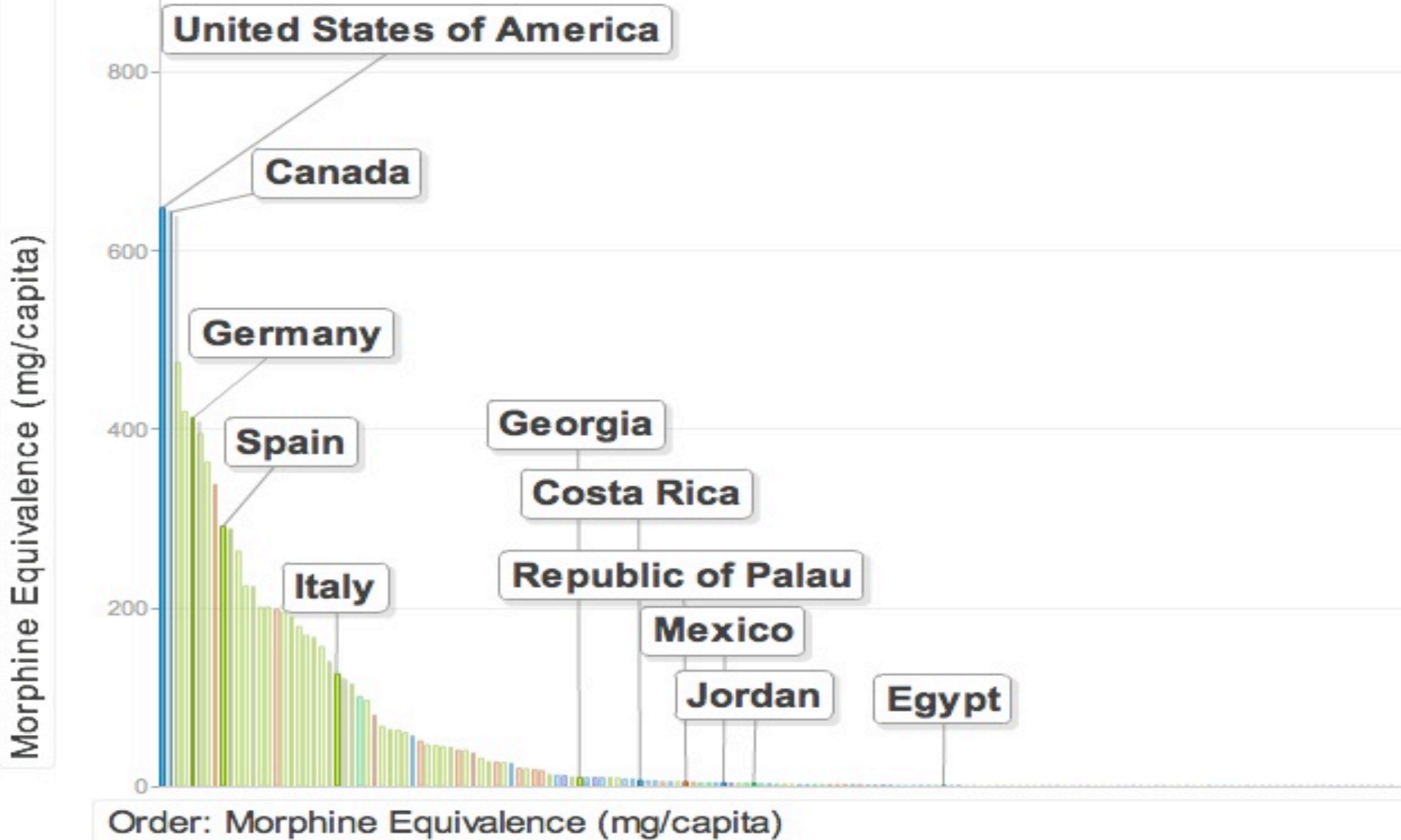
- No disclosures

Learning Objectives

- 1. Understand more about how pain patients behave and what drives aberrant behavior.
- 2. Discuss care transformation for patients with pain and Rx opioid use that occurred over the past two decades at CCC.
- 3. Understand evidence-based approaches to caring for patients with pain who meet criteria for a substance use disorder.
- 4. Discuss an integrated system of care for these complex patients and what success looks like.

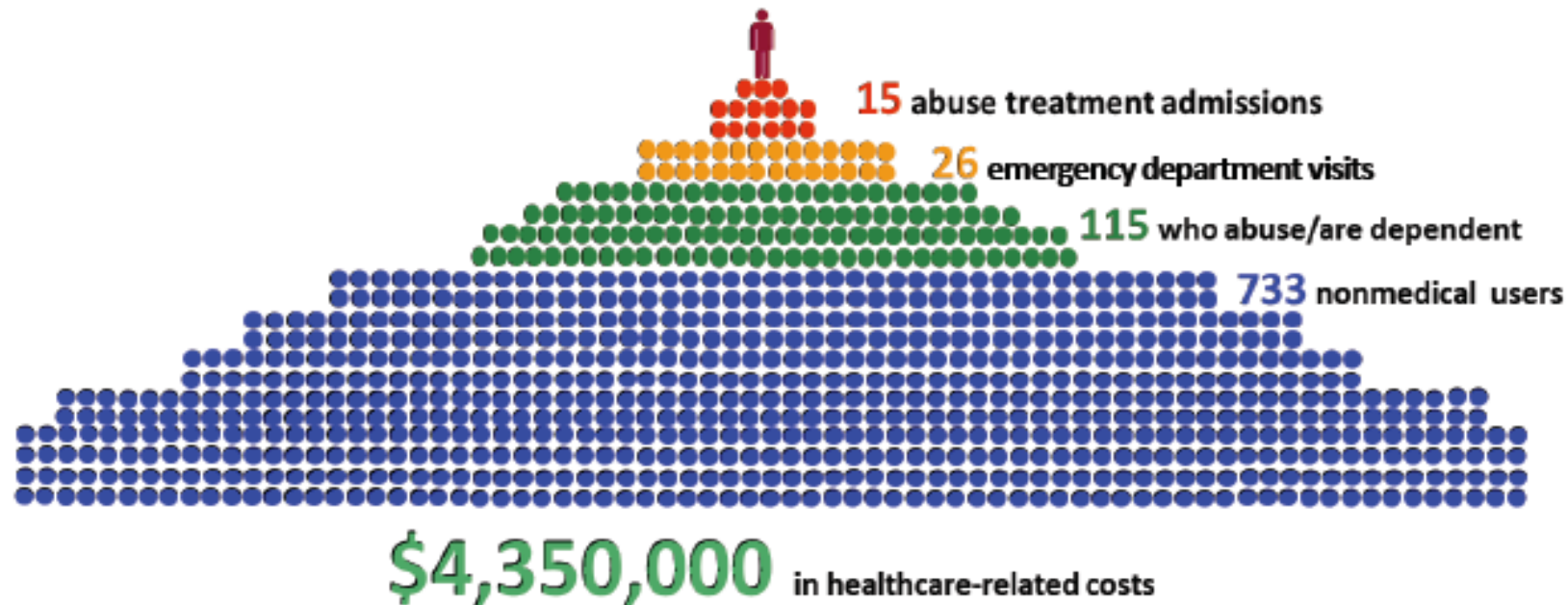
What is Central City Concern?

- 1. Network of 13 FQHC's and CMHC's in the Portland Metropolitan region.
 - Actively serving primary care and mental health population of 8,600+
 - Medically disenfranchised patients <200% FPL
 - Frequent co-occurring SPMI, SUDS, High Medical Acuity/Complexity
- 2. SUD services embedded within the above and freestanding programs serve another 5,500 patients annually.
 - Hooper Detoxification Center
 - Letty Owing Center
 - Eastside Concern and 5 additional SUDS programs



Overdose deaths are the tip of the iceberg

For every **1** prescription opioid overdose death in 2010 there were...



SAMHSA NSDUH, DAWN, TEDS data sets.

Coalition Against Insurance Fraud. Prescription for Peril. <http://www.insurancefraud.org/downloads/drugDiversion.pdf> 2007.

How do patients with access to Daily Opioid Therapy Behave?

- 1. Est. 35% of patients taking C.O.T. meet criteria for Opioid Use Disorder.
- 2. 71% of claimants receiving C.O.T. > 3 months are not taking their medications as prescribed.
- 3. Among “chronic pain population” with sample of 939,000 urine drug screens;
 - 38% medication was absent
 - 29% non-prescribed opioid medication
 - 27% medication levels higher than prescribed
 - 11% illicit drugs

ABSENT from this analysis was ETOH Consumption

- Andy to Add Reference Source

The “experience” of opioid analgesia

- Occurs as a potentially novel and unique experience for each patient with each exposure.
 - Opioid analgesic → Mid-brain dopamine release
 - The SAME Survival-Based Reward/Reinforcement pathway that leads to addictive drive/behavior.

The human midbrain is tasked with integrating the ‘intensity’ of the pain signal with the ‘intensity’ of the analgesic signal.

Mismatch = Euphoria **or** Inadequate Analgesia

What about potentiation with ETOH or other illicit substances?

A Definition of “Salience”

Webster’s: “The state of being prominent”

-Consider salience in the setting of pain:

Analgesia → Fundamentally emotional dissociation from the experience of physical distress.

- What about medication induced: euphoria/reinforcement?
- What about opioid hyperalgesia?
- What about therapeutic dependency?
- How do these lines blur over time?

Intro Questions?

Evolution of CCC Pain Management Care: 2000-2018

- 1. “Misbehaving” patients needed management, not abandonment.
 - Pain is a co-occurring condition for many patients who use substances other than opioids.
- 2. Adoption of IOM/CDC Prescribing Recommendations
- 3. Wider knowledge regarding evidence-based practices regarding the treatment of opioid use disorder with Buprenorphine/naloxone or Methadone.

The CCC Experience of Population Transformation: Patient Identification

- 1. Patient identification
- 2. What tools were utilized to identify a person with a possible substance use disorder?
- 3. Once identified, what were the next steps to create a patient-centered frame for intervention?

Evidence-Based Approaches to Caring for Patients with Pain and Substance Use Disorders

- 1. What did CCC Build?
 - Continuum of care “track” based on risk and complexity of individual patients
 - All behavior can be understood if we understand the context
 - All people “behave” in order to get a need met
- 2. What is “Hot Sauce”?
 - The most complex patients are the “spiciest”, the *Hot Sauce* that challenges our providers and the systems we work in
 - “If not us, then who? If not now, then when?”
 - The most complex patients (co-occurring pain, SUD, MH, and other health issues) are the patients we strive to treat.
 - If we can deliver on a care plan that helps these patients, then we have successfully treated the whole person. That’s mission-driven and the right thing to do.

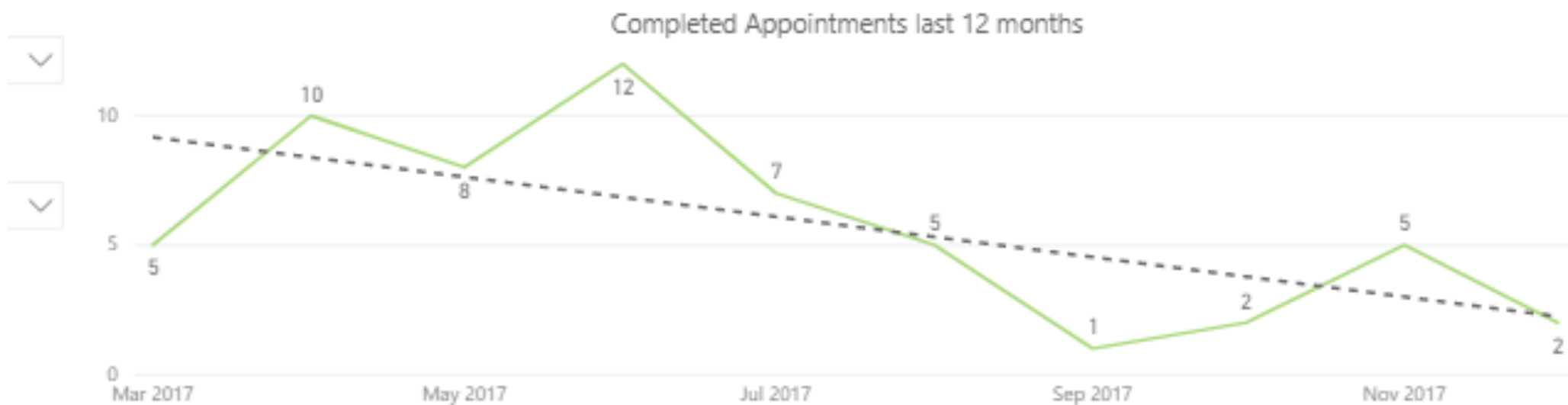
Evidence-Based Approaches to Caring for Patients with Pain and Substance Use Disorders

- 3. How does it work-what is the programming?
 - Medical providers (or others on the Care Teams) become aware of potential behavior outside of agreement for pain medications and/or co-existence of other SUD.
 - Referral to Controlled Substance Review Committee (interdisciplinary team – meets weekly to review cases)
 - Referral to Hot Sauce when determination is made that co-occurring pain, Rx, and SUD present a risk that is likely to benefit from SUD treatment groups, counseling, skill-building
 - Patient may continue on pain medications or may switch to buprenorphine depending on CSRC recommendation and interdisciplinary, collaborative treatment planning
 - 12-week curriculum. Patient completes program when all 12 weeks are attended
 - “Skills and pills”
 - Consistently observed transformation from arms crossed to arms wide open (mind, body, spirit as well)
 - Curriculum includes equal parts of SUD, pain management, Chinese medicine, experiential (Qi Gong and acupuncture)

Evidence-Based Approaches to Caring for Patients with Pain and Substance Use Disorders

- 4. Data on the Program
 - Introduced in 2013 with data available from 01/01/2016
 - 41 patients
 - 274 groups attended
 - Decreased referral and attendance from 2016 (189) – 2017 (75) of 60%, which correlates with decreased prescribing of pain medications resulting in smaller pool of potential referrals *and* increased buprenorphine prescribing for OUD with increased enrollment in other SUDS groups within Primary Care.

“Hot Sauce” Data



The CCC Experience of Population Transformation: Integrative Treatment

- 1. What was the patient experience?
 - How did this experience change over the past 8-9 years?
- 2. How clinical boundaries are set and what did the patient's experience look like after intervention?
- 3. What did you learn?
- 4. What do we know about this patient population?

Changing Course in Opioid Therapy: Evidence-Based Approaches to Pain and Addiction

- 1. These medications change neurobiology profoundly.
- 2. Nearly all patients have been through a withdrawal experience at some point.
 - PTSD-like response for some patients
 - Programmed withdrawal avoidance
 - Resistance to change is default pathway
- 3. Introspective/perceptive impairment of the patient that is therapeutically dependent, independent of the presence or absence of a SUD.

A spectrum of patients with pain.



Disabled 58 y.o.
Six spine surgeries
Cervical+ Lumbar
Asperger's syndrome



Divorced 37 y.o. 2 kids
L-Spine w a/p Fusion
4 level C bilat
foramenotomies



College-bound 26 y.o.
C4-T2 bilat laminectomies with
Posterior fusion of all levels

Buprenorphine in the setting of Pain and Addiction

- 1. A standard of care for more than 14 years.
- 2. What has your observation been regarding this patient cohort?
- 3. What does it look like when it doesn't go well?
- 4. What does it look like when it goes well?

Elements of an Integrative System of Care

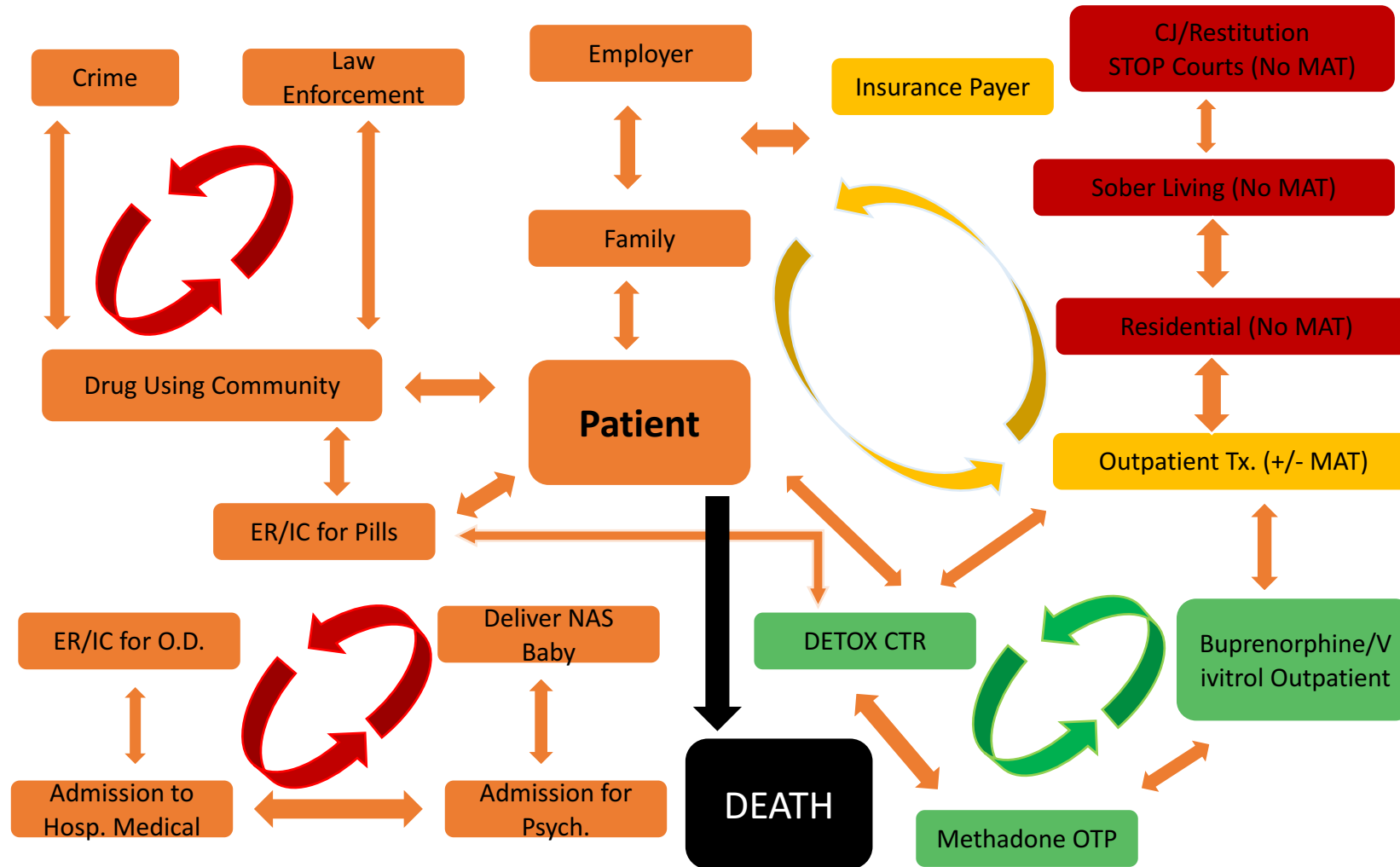
- 1. Values and Ethics that inform clinical operations?
- 2. Key elements that ensure a Minimum Viable Program (MVP)?
- 3. Outcomes/Data
- 4. Partnerships that help acknowledge that individuals are consumers of healthcare across the continuum.

ASAM
**THE NATIONAL
PRACTICE
GUIDELINE**

For the Use of Medications
in the Treatment of
Addiction Involving Opioid Use

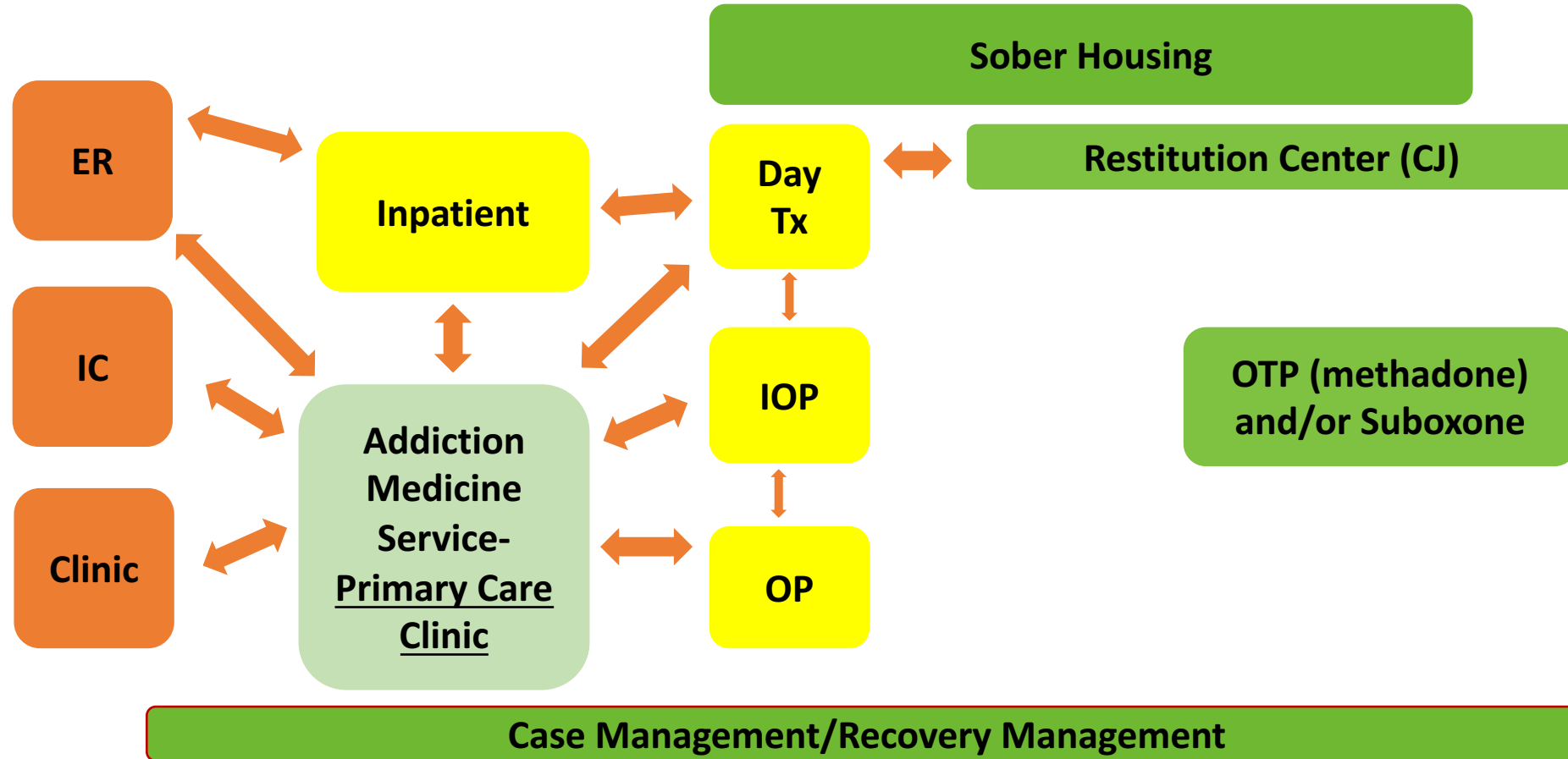


Opioid Use Disorder Patient Experience



A Fully Integrated Medical Home for Recovery within Primary Care

A FULLY DEVELOPED SYSTEM: Accountable Care Organization



THANK YOU

- Andy Mendenhall M.D.
- Andrew.mendenhall@ccconcern.org