

Assessing Opioid Misuse in Agricultural Worker Communities

Virtual Forum for Migrant and Community Health

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Panelists

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Agenda

- ▶ Strategies and Challenges in Addressing Opioid Misuse for Agricultural Workers
- ▶ Results of FHN Opioid Use Assessment
- ▶ Reasons for opioid misuse among agricultural workers
- ▶ Health center training needs
- ▶ Q&A

Objectives

- ▶ Increased knowledge of the trends in opioid misuse in agricultural worker communities
- ▶ Increased understanding of the root causes of opioid misuse among agricultural workers
- ▶ Increased knowledge of strategies to address opioid misuse
- ▶ Greater ability to assess a health center's needs to address opioid misuse among agricultural workers

Strategies and Challenges in Addressing Opioid Misuse for Agricultural Workers

Laszlo Madaras, MD, MPH
Migrant Clinicians Network



A more terrible lord over Mankind
than even Death itself

- Albert Schweitzer



Most drugs of abuse
are NOT new

Historical Uses



Am. J. Ph.] 7 [December, 11

BAYER Pharmaceutical Products
HEROIN-HYDROCHLORID

is pre-eminently adapted for the manufacture of cough elixirs, cough balsams, cough drops, cough lozenges, and cough medicines of any kind. Price in 1 oz. packages, \$4.85 per ounce; less in larger quantities. The efficient dose being very small (1-48 to 1-24 gr.), it is

The Cheapest Specific for the Relief of Cough
(In bronchitis, phthisis, whooping cough, etc., etc.)

WRITE FOR LITERATURE TO
LABORATORIES OF ELBERFELD COMPANY
SELLING AGENTS
40 **Stone Street** NEW YORK

See Promoted Heroin Accessed 4/3/16

COCAINE
TOOTHACHE DROPS

Instantaneous Cure!
PRICE 15 CENTS.
Prepared by the
LLOYD MANUFACTURING CO.
219 HUDSON AVE., ALBANY, N. Y.
For sale by all Druggists.
(Registered March 1885.) See other side.

A vintage advertisement for Cocaine Toothache Drops. The top half features a colorful illustration of a woman in a red dress and white apron, and a child in a yellow shirt and hat, sitting on a wooden crate. The background shows a house and trees. The bottom half contains the product name, price, and manufacturer information.

Legal Medicinal in USA



Amphetamines

- Ritalin
- Adderall



Marijuana (in some states)



Pain Relief

Legal Recreational in USA



Caffeine



Tobacco



Alcohol



Opium: a dried latex secretion of the poppy plant

- 2% codeine
- 10 % morphine



Morphine: an alkaloid isolated from opium in 1804 by German chemist, many uses for pain control, after Greek god of dreams Morpheus



Heroin: synthesized morphine in 1898, thought to be non-addicting, sold by Bayer pharmaceutical company for 10 years before harmful effects recognized (more powerful than morphine)

Not Legal in USA



Cocaine (but used in Peru and other nearby countries medicinally)



Heroin (some countries decriminalized and added needle exchange programs in “zones” where the drug could be used)



Metamphetamines (amphetamines with an additional methyl (CH₃) group attached)

Psychoactive Drugs

Affect the function of the brain and produce psychological effects.

Changes in mood, perception, behavior, cognition

Often addicting.

Caffeine, nicotine, alcohol, cocaine, heroin.

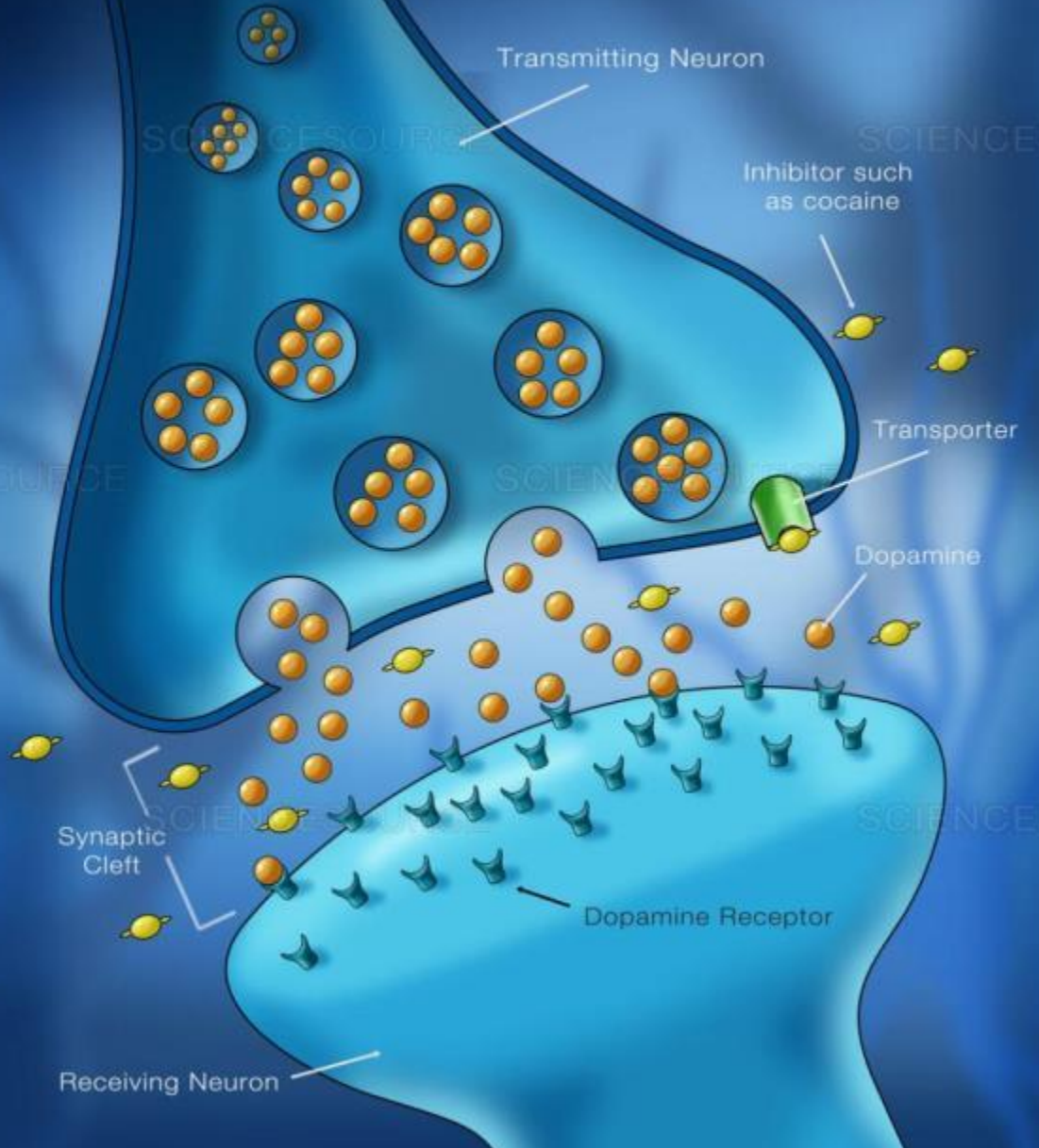
Ritalin, adderall.

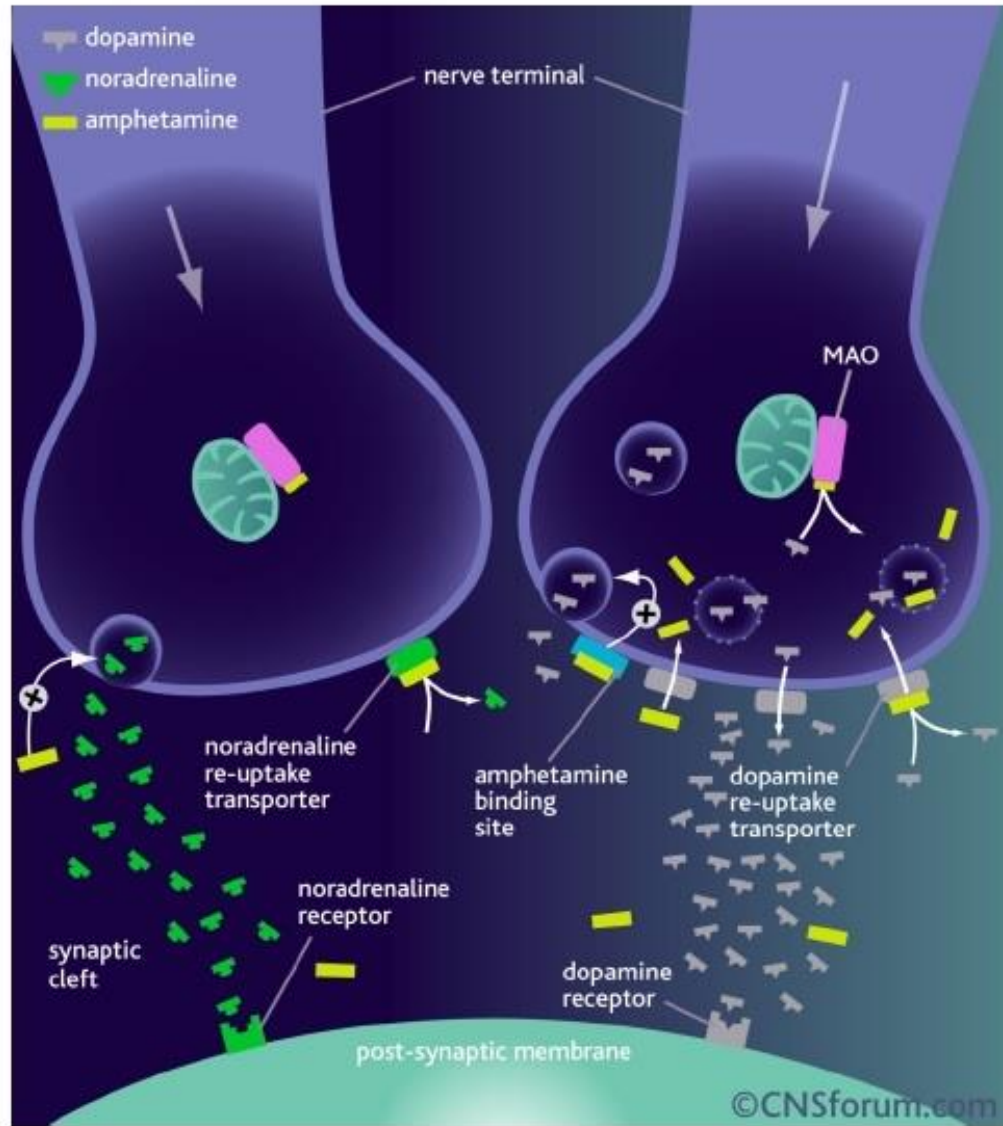
Use versus addiction.



OPIOIDS

Dopamine Reuptake Inhibitor







What causes
addiction?

Poor choices?

Bad parenting?

Weak character?



Brain physiology

Addiction yes, but is it
unhealthy?



What is Addiction?

- Substance use disorder – when it is unhealthy. Preferred medical terminology.
- Abuse – when unhealthy and there is harm done.
- Dependence – psychologic/physical (tolerance)
 - Abrupt withdrawal harmful
- Craving – when not using, cannot think of anything else



Tolerance

Tolerance – brain expects the drug.
Withdrawal when not getting the expected dose/type of drug.





Injuries at Work

Common Causes



Lifting



Falling from ladders



Carrying



Bending over



Reaching

Ohio Dairy Farm Worker Killed In Feed Mixer Accident

JUNE 8, 2015

MADISON COUNTY, OHIO- Farm Journal

A dairy farm vet in Ohio was tragically killed in accident over the weekend. The worker was apparently pushing hay into a mixer when he fell in.

TMR mixers and tub grinders can be especially dangerous since they have powerful mixing screws often edged with sharp knives used to reduce particle size of jammed forages.

Farm worker dies after being buried under pile of corn

March 24, 2015 • Associated Press

LEBANON, Conn. -- A Connecticut farm worker has died after a pile of milled corn collapsed on him. Police say the collapse happened when 54-year-old Donald Merchant, of South Windham, was using equipment to move corn from a large mound at the Square A Farm on Monday. When he got off the equipment, some of it toppled onto him. Merchant was found unresponsive by other farm workers, who dug him out.

Man airlifted to hospital after New Athens farming accident

April 30, 2018

Belleville, IL-- A man was badly injured after a farming accident in New Athens on Monday afternoon.

The St. Clair Sheriff's Department was investigating a possible explosion in the 2900

2-year-old boy killed in Kansas farm accident

October 20, 2011

BELLEVILLE, Kan. (AP) - AP Wire

A 2-year-old Belleville boy has died after being run over by a payload tractor near Scandia in north-central Kansas.

The Salina Journal reports Cayden Michael Dunstan was with his father, who was strapping down large hay bales that had been loaded onto a semitrailer.

The Republic County Sheriff's Office says the tractor was being backed away from the trailer when Cayden ran into its path and was run over just after 7 p.m. Saturday. Cayden's parents took him to a hospital in Belleville, where he died as a LifeWatch helicopter waited to fly him to a hospital in Omaha, Neb.

43-year-old man killed in Kansas harvest accident

JUNE 22, 2016

BELOIT, Kan. (AP)- Associated Press

Authorities say a man has been killed in a wheat-harvest accident in north-central Kansas. The Mitchell County Sheriff's Office identified the victim in a news release as 43-year-old Michael Anderson, of Beloit.

About 25 hit by fungicide drift from crop duster in Tippecanoe County

7/15/2015

WILLIAMSPORT — Indiana Economic Digest

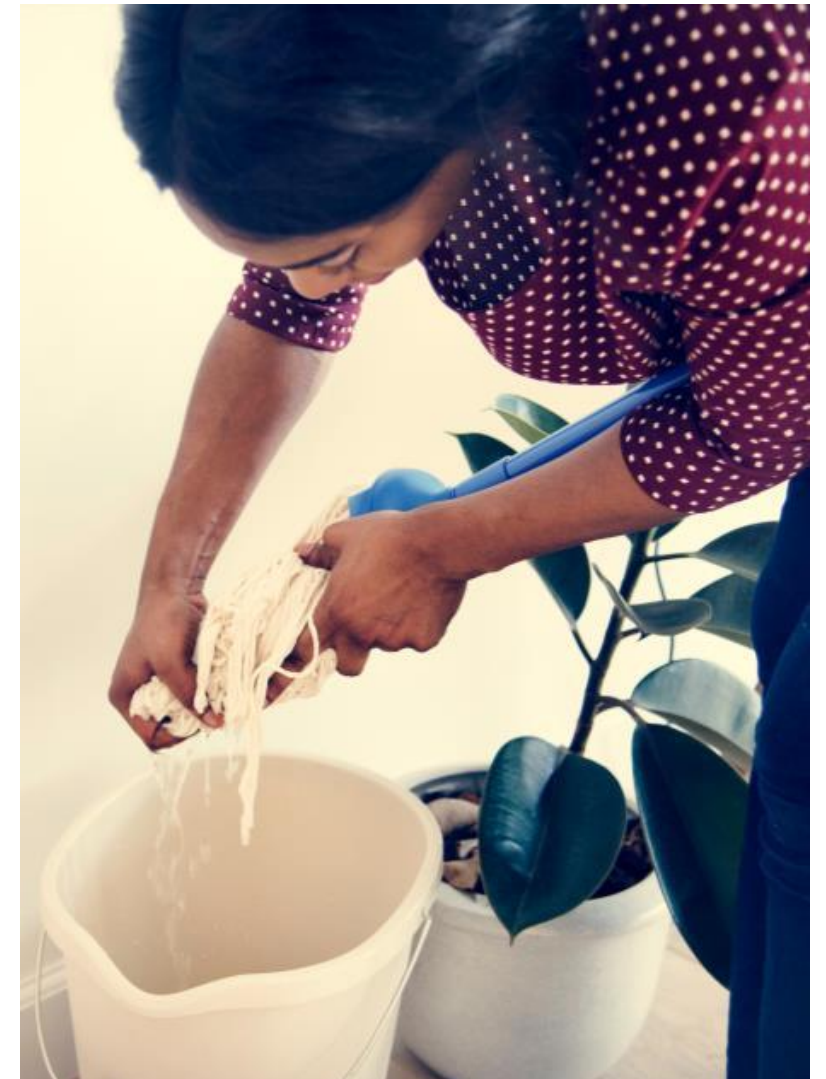
About 25 people were hit by drifting fungicide Wednesday while a crop duster sprayed a neighboring field.

The group, primarily teens, were detasseling corn on a field owned by Hubner Industries, said Roger Vail, safety manager for the seed production company.

About 50 people were working but only about half were affected by the drift, according to Neal Wood, the subcontractor who manages the workers.

Risk factors:

Awkward or uncomfortable postures, repetitive motion



Opioids and Work



Cultural Dimensions of Pain Management



Pain is a subjective phenomenon that often defies objective medical assessment, it is particularly susceptible to social psychological influences, such as stereotypes.

What do we want?

- ✓ Bridge patient's goals with medical options
- ✓ Address all aspects of pain and suffering: physical, emotional, spiritual, social
- ✓ Maximize quality of life
- ✓ Assist in search for meaning
- ✓ Help to achieve goals, dreams, aspirations

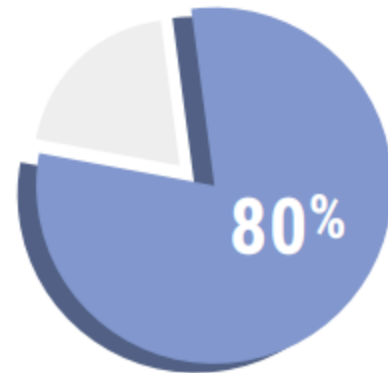


Disparities in Pain

- Sex, race/ethnic, and age differences in pain have been reported in clinical and experimental research.
- Gender role expectations have partly explained the variability in sex differences in pain
- One's expectations of the pain experience of another person are influenced by the stereotypes one has about different genders, races, and ages.
- Racial and ethnic disparities in pain perception, assessment, and treatment were found in all settings (i.e., postoperative, emergency room) and across all types of pain (i.e., acute, cancer, chronic nonmalignant, and experimental).

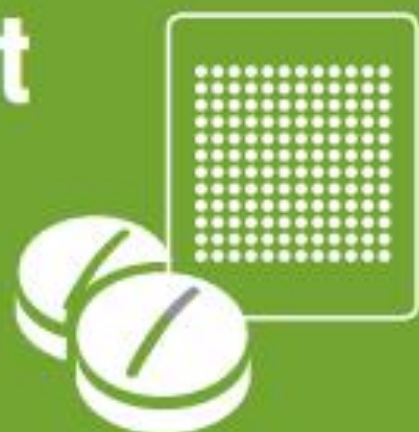
Medication-assisted treatment (MAT) is the use of medications such as buprenorphine, methadone, and extended release naltrexone, often in combination with counseling and behavioral therapies, to treat opioid use disorder.

- Barriers to MAT include stigma of addiction (substance use disorder), not recognizing opioid use disorder, a lack of awareness of treatments available, lack of physician training, and limited access to treatments and treatment providers.
- For more information and a detailed resource on MAT, please visit the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) MAT webpage: <https://www.samhsa.gov/medication-assisted-treatment>



Nearly 80% of those with an opioid use disorder don't receive treatment.⁹

Treating opioid use disorder: medication-assisted treatment



Use of medication-assisted treatment (MAT) has been shown to increase recovery rates, decrease overdose deaths, decrease criminal activity, and lower the risk of infections such as HIV and hepatitis C.

Guidelines for Pain Management

- Prompt recognition and treatment of pain,
- Involvement of patients in the pain management plan,
- Improvement of treatment patterns,
- Reassessment and adjustment of the pain management plan as needed, and
- Monitoring processes and outcomes of pain management.

American Pain Society recommendations for improving the quality of acute and cancer pain management, 2005

FHN Opioid Use Assessment in Agricultural Worker Communities

Background

- ▶ **Assessment period:**

 - July - November 2019

- ▶ **Organizers:**

 - Farmworker Health Network (FHN)

 - Farmworker Justice, Health Outreach Partners, MHP Salud, Migrant Clinicians Network, National Center for Farmworker Health, National Association of Community Health Centers

- ▶ **Objective:**

 - Understand the extent of opioid misuse among agricultural worker communities and identify potential training and technical assistance needs

FHN Opioid Use Assessment in Agricultural Worker Communities

Methods

- ▶ **Online survey (78 respondents)**

- 68 from health centers, 4 from legal services organizations, 4 from community organizations, 2 from academic institutions

- ▶ **Individual in-depth interviews (9 respondents)**

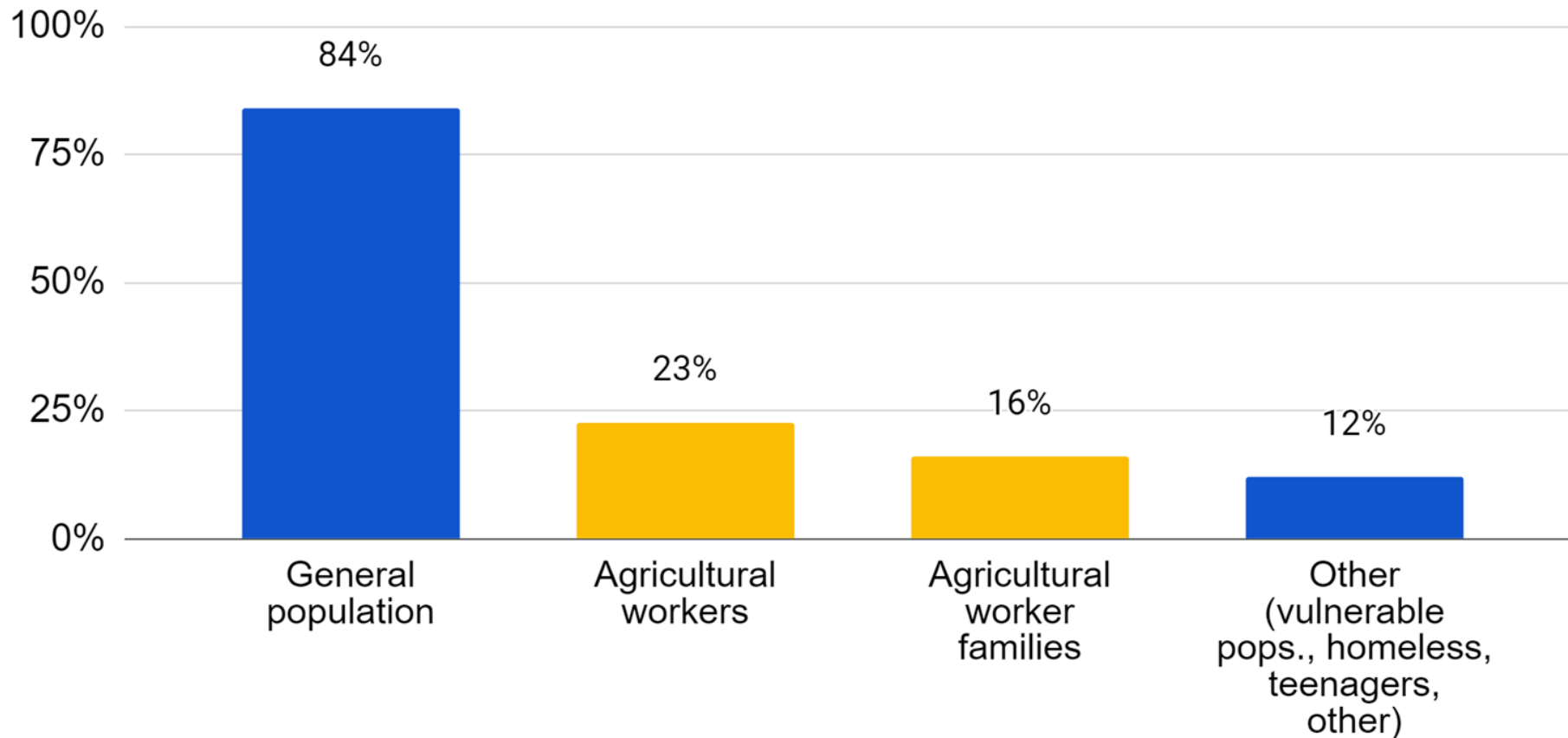
- 6 from health centers, 2 from CBOs, 1 from academic institution

- ▶ **Focus groups/roundtables**

- Midwest Stream Forum (Denver, CO, Sept. 26, 2019)
- East Coast Migrant Stream Forum (San Juan, PR, Oct. 10, 2019)

Results: Online survey

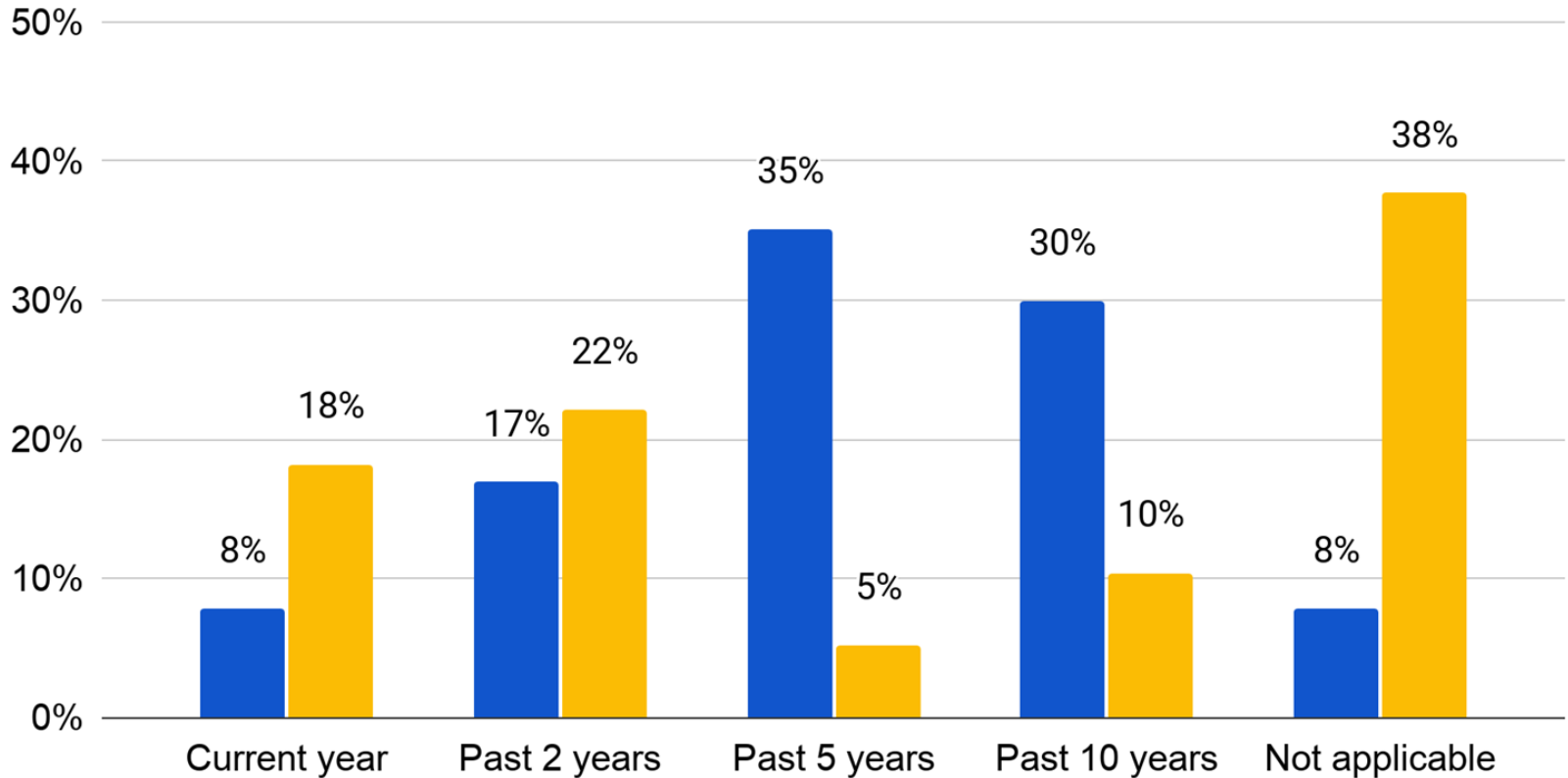
Are you seeing opioid misuse among the following populations in your community (please check all that apply)?



Results: Online survey

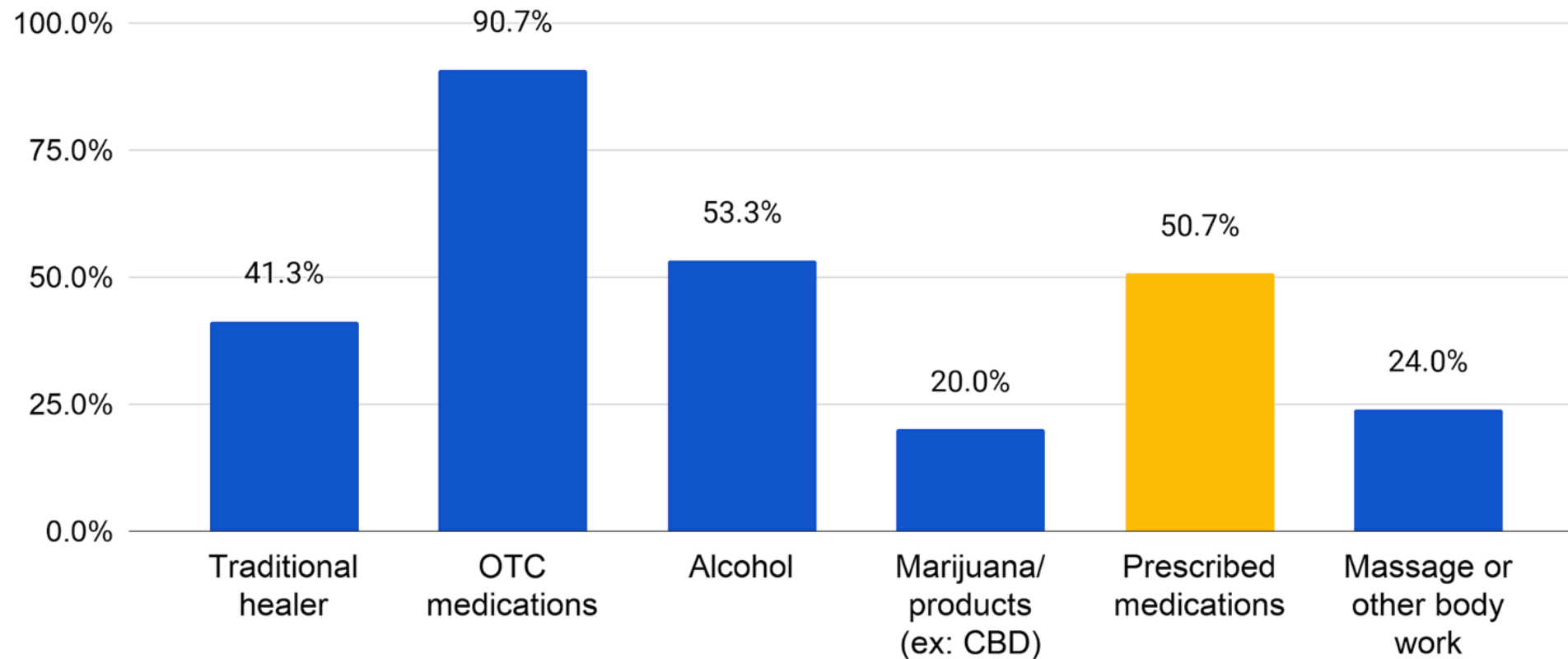
If applicable, when did you become aware of opioid misuse among these populations?

■ General population ■ Agricultural workers



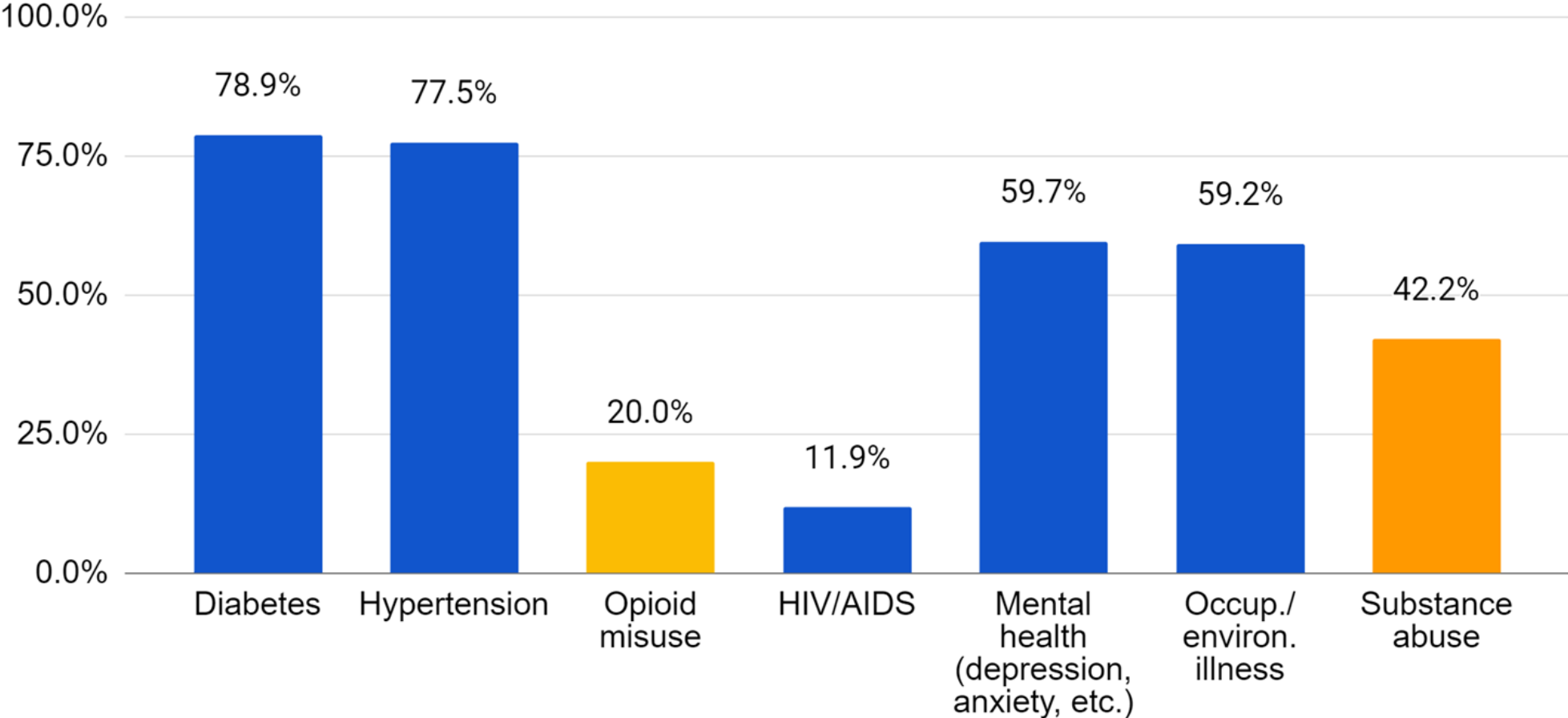
Results: Online survey

What have you observed as strategies used by agricultural workers to manage pain (check all that apply)?



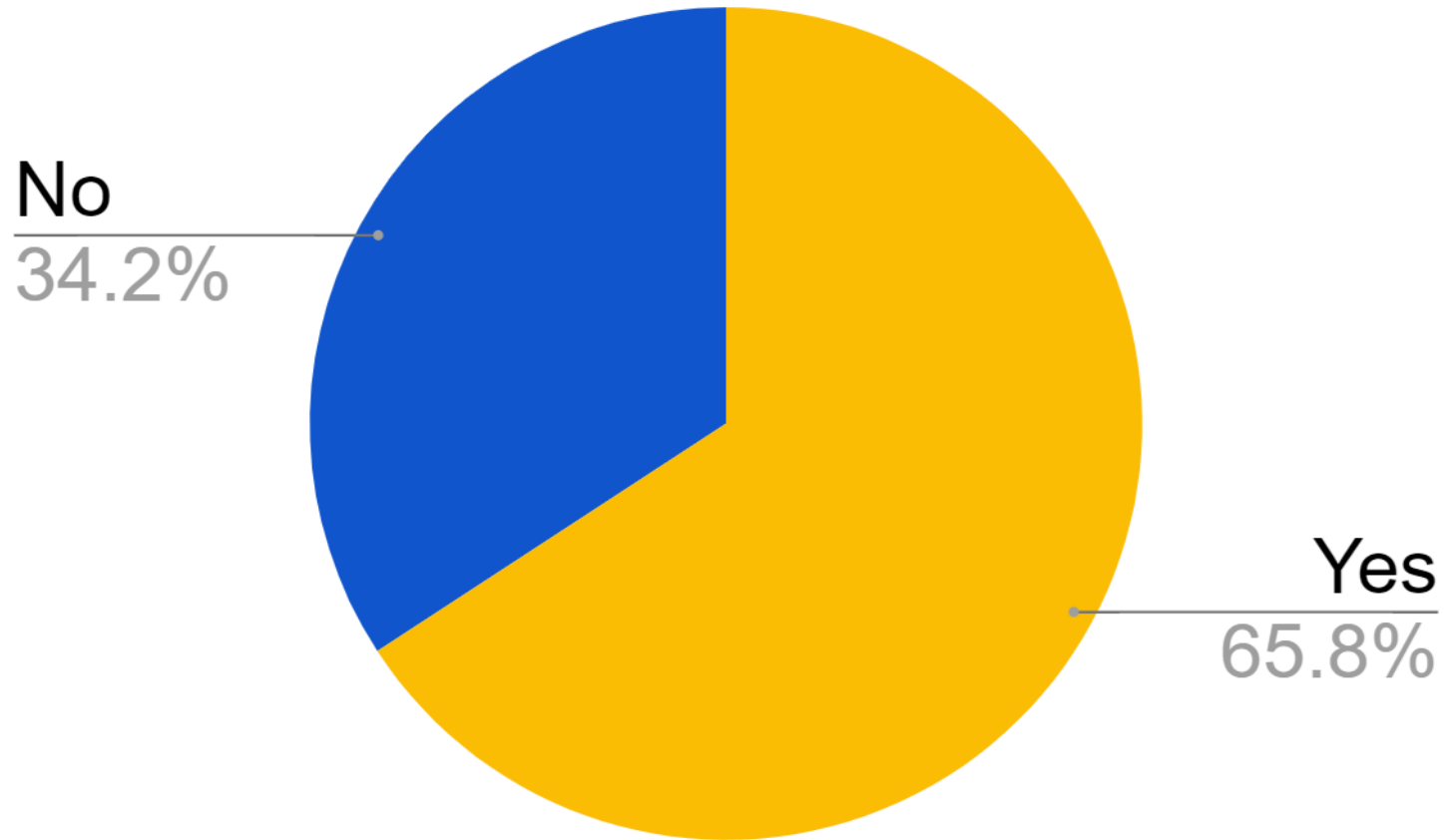
Results: Online survey

Percentage of respondents who identified each of these issues as a high priority issue impacting farmworkers in their community



Results: Online survey

Is your organization working to address opioid misuse?



Results: Online survey

Has your organization adapted any of the following clinical opioid management strategies for use with agricultural workers or other special populations?

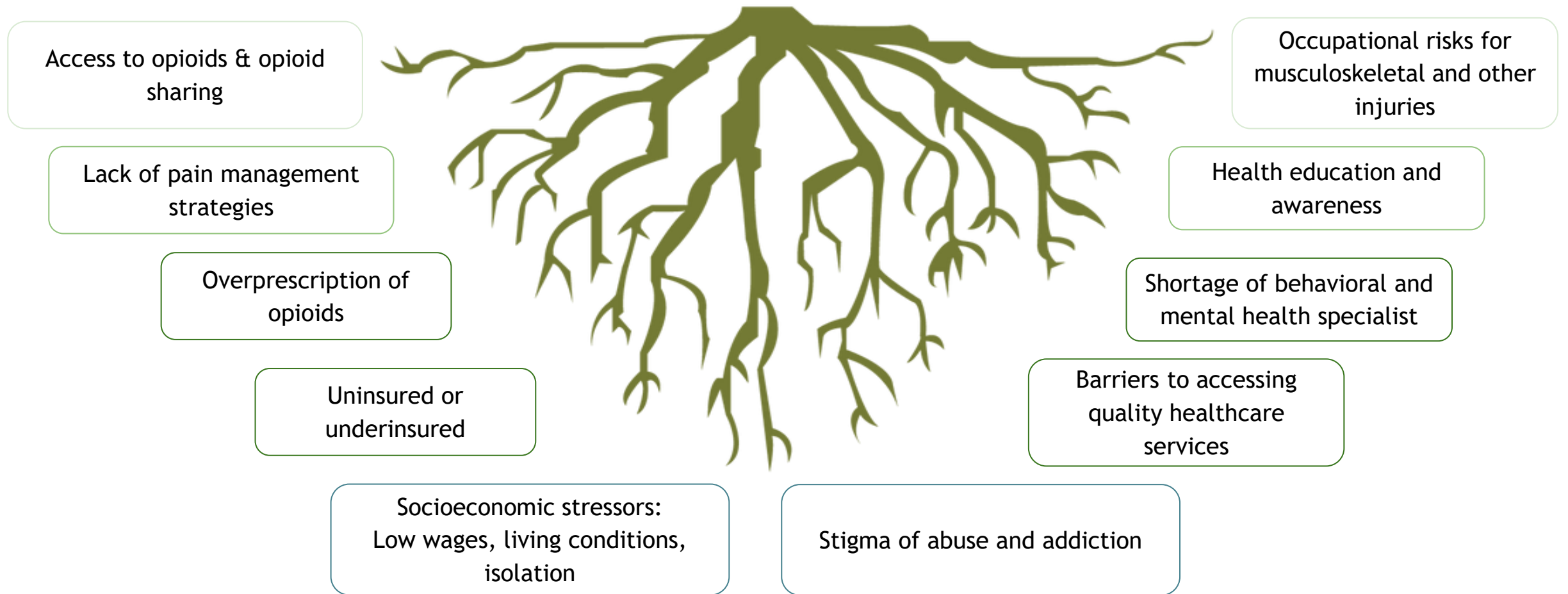
- a. Revise and implement policies, patient agreements & workflows: **50%**
- b. Proactively track and monitor patient care: **51.9%**
- c. Implement planned patient-centered visits: **48.1%**
- d. Measure implementation success: **32.7%**

Reasons for Opioid Misuse Among Agricultural Workers

- From interviews and focus groups:
 - Self-medication
 - Socioeconomic disadvantages
 - Ease of obtaining opioids from family, friends, emergency rooms, or in Mexico
 - Dealers selling opioids in workplaces
 - Occupational injuries
 - Overprescription of pain medication
 - Shortage of providers to treat opioid misuse
 - Stigma associated with addiction

Root Causes of Opioid Misuse Among Agricultural Workers

Opioid misuse





What Works?



CHW's Role in Addressing Opioid Misuse in Agricultural Worker Communities

- Disseminating Educational material
- Providing Support
- Offering Resources

Addressing Opioid Misuse Through Educational Material

- Linguistically and literacy-level appropriate materials
 - Culturally sensitive health education and outreach
- Reduces stigmas
 - Encourage others to understand/ Empathy
- Allows for progress
 - The community can express their concerns in a safe space
 - They can get people early care, reducing the negative impacts experienced by the individual, their family, and the community.
- Provide alternatives
 - lead classes on self-managing pain

Providing Support

- Group sessions
 - Clinical
 - Outreach

- Translate and explain material
 - Prescriptions
 - Doctors instructions

- Screening and referring

- Connecting health care providers and the community
 - 5 % of all doctors identify as Latino/Hispanic
 - They are safe to confide in and act as a bridge between patients and providers.

Offering Resources

- Transportation
 - Transportation to and from their homes/ area of work
 - Portable medical records and case management
 - Mobile medical units

- Referrals for assistance
 - Increasing collaboration with other agencies serving migrant populations

- Lack of information about healthcare coverage options
 - Confusing eligibility requirements

- Inform workers of their rights/ OSHA complaints

- Point them to many other resources

Salud para Todos

MHP Salud created Salud Para Todos (Health for All), a program that provides community education sessions on mental health topics such as stress, domestic violence, substance abuse and the relationship between chronic disease and mental health. Salud Para Todos helps improve communities by addressing the stigma around mental health and encouraging the community to be accepting of those facing emotional challenges. MHP Salud resources are culturally and linguistically responsive, easy-to-use, and created specifically for Community Health Worker programs operating within isolated or underserved communities. Materials are free to download with registration.

<https://2ow7t71bjuyu4dst8o28010f-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/edd/2015/10/Salud-Para-Todos-Manual-English.pdf>

Salud Para Todos



OUTCOMES-DRIVEN
EXPERIENCED
INNOVATIVE

Resources

- [Southeastern Coastal Center- for Agricultural Health and Safety](#)
 - Opioid abuse training and educational resources
- [SAMHSA's National Helpline- 1-800-662-HELP \(4357\)](#)
 - Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
 - Free, confidential, 24/7, 365 day-a-year, english and spanish
- [AAFP Chronic Pain Management Toolkit](#)
 - provided by the American Academy of Family Physicians
- [HHS- Help and Resources: National Opioid Crisis](#)
 - Facts, data, reading material, prevention, treatment and recovery
- [COMIC: ¡Cuídate! A Simple Guide For Preventing Muscle Injuries At Work](#)
 - comic style guides for preventing muscle injuries at work
- [CDC- Material on Chronic Pain](#)
 - Handouts, guidelines, infographics, podcasts, etc.
- [Ergonomics: Preventing Job-Related Pain](#)
 - Educational material on job-related pain

Health Center Training Needs

In the Opioid use assessment conducted by FHN, the organizations that participated requested training and technical assistance on the following:

- Patient Education Materials that are “nonjudgmental”
 - Videos, infographics, and fotonovelas for health education related to pain management
- Tips, alternative ways to manage pain and chronic pain
- Service brochure – where can folks find treatment, what kinds of treatment, etc.
- Education targeting stigma around “being weak”
- Something that helps track, log, and submit opioid cases
- Waiting room resources (alternative ways to manage pain)

Q&A

