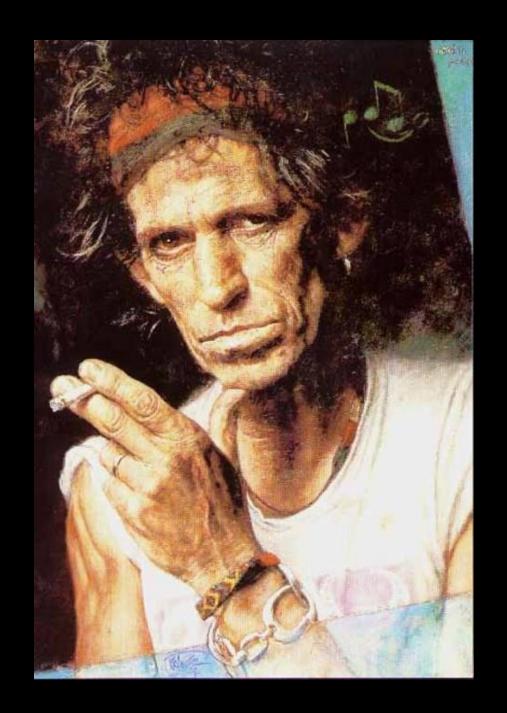
# "Dealing with Substance-Abusing Patrons in the Library: From Meth to Marijuana, Opiates to Alcohol"



Presented by
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"I've never had a problem with drugs. I've had problems with the police."

Keith Richards
The Rolling Stones



### Our Purpose Today . . .

- To respect your life and work experiences; some of you may have a lot of knowledge already.
- To have a collective conversation about the issue of patrons and substance abuse as a library safety and security issue.
- To make you feel more comfortable about an uncomfortable subject.
- To give you the information, tools, and courage to confront this issue, if it ever appears.

#### Some Caveats . . .

- I'm not a physician, DRE, mental health clinician, pharmacologist, attorney, or recovering addict / alcoholic.
- My background is in HR, security, behavioral issues, and law enforcement.
- We cannot ignore this problem away.
- This issue will require help from your Police / Sheriff's Department and qualified medical support.
- You must weigh the real hazards connected to getting involved versus waiting for paramedics.



# COUGH SYRUP

EACH OUNCE CONTAINS	Allen
ALCOHOL, (less than 1%)	4/4m.
CANNABIS INDICA, F.E.,	4½m.
	21/sm
	Vagr.
MORPHIA. SULPH,	1/8gr.

SKILLFULLY COMBINED WITH A NUMBER OF OTHER INGREDIENTS

DOSE-One half teaspoonful three

### Defining Our Terms

- A drug is any substance, when taken into the body, can cause physical or mental impairment. It can be legal, illegal; abused, not abused; prescribed, overthe-counter; natural, synthetic.
- Abuse is when the substance is not taken for medical reasons, not as prescribed, or irresponsibly.
- Tolerance occurs when the same dose of the drug produces diminishing results. As such, larger and larger doses will be taken to get the original effects.

### **Drug Impacts**

These substances affect the body's Central Nervous System (brain, brain stem, spinal cord); eyesight; heart (pulse and blood pressure); respiration; balance and coordination; motor skills; decision-making and thought processes.

Poly-drug users: Alcohol + marijuana and their drug of choice. (Odors and Eyes)

## What would you do. . .?

A patron appears before you with what smells like alcohol on his/her breath. This person slurs his/her words, stumbles, sweats heavily, appears incoherent, even a bit belligerent, and seems under the influence of . . .

**HYPOGLYCEMIA** (low blood sugar)

# Substance Abuse Cycle

#### Stages from use to abuse:

- Experimentation
- Social use
- Regular use
- Daily preoccupation
- Dependency / addiction



What is the difference between a "physical addiction" and a "psychological addiction"?

#### S.H.O.C.A.D.I.Ds

Stimulants cocaine, meth, Ritalin, Adderall

Hallucinogens LSD, Ecstasy, mushrooms

Opiates morphine, heroin, pain pills, fentanyl, carfentanil

Cannabis marijuana, hashish, hash oil

Alcohol beer, wine, distilled spirits

Depressants anti-anxiety, tranquilizers, Valium

Inhalants solvents, aerosols, gases

Dissociative Anesthetics PCP, Ketamine, DXM

Source: California Narcotics Officers Association. www.CNOA.org



#### **Stimulants**

Examples: cocaine, rock / crack cocaine, methamphetamine, Ritalin, Adderall.

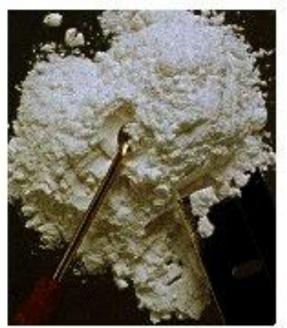
Ingestion: smoked, snorted, swallowed, injected.

Effects: CNS stimulation, energy, euphoria.

Symptoms: dilated pupils, rapid pulse rate, agitation, anxiety, mood swings, severe rebounds.

Chronic use: skin lesions, tooth loss, paranoia, depression, tremors, brain damage, pupil injury, violence, seizures, sudden heart attack.













BEFORE



A = R













# Hallucinogens



Examples: LSD, Ecstasy, psilocybin, peyote, salvia.

Ingestion: swallowed, smoked.

Effects: Changes in thoughts, senses, emotions; impacts balance and coordination.

Symptoms: raised body temperature, out of touch with reality, tremors, confusion.

Chronic use: panic attacks, depression, flashbacks, transposed senses, suicidal thoughts.



## Opiates



Examples: Heroin, pain pills, Methadone

Ingestion: smoked, snorted, swallowed, injected.

Effects: CNS depressant, euphoria, "drifting down."

Symptoms: pinpoint pupils, muscle relaxation, "on the nod" (narcosis), slow pulse and reactions.

Chronic use: weight loss, easy to overdose, possibility of hepatitis, HIV / AIDS for needle users. Death, especially when mixed with alcohol or stimulants.





Fatal dose of fentanyl (2 mg or 2000 mcg)



Fatal dose of carfentanil (0.02 mg or 20 mcg)

# Opiate Users Under the Influence

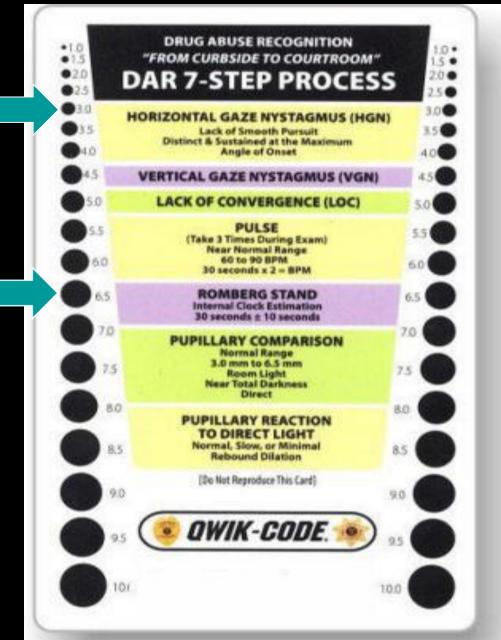
- Opiate narcosis "on the nod."
- Slacked, flushed face, dry mouth, slow movements and responses, slurred speech.
- Pinpoint pupils, droopy eyelids.
- Slow pulse.
- Itching, yawning, raspy voice.
- Fresh injection sites.
- Lack of awareness.











# Opiate Users in Withdrawal

- Agitation, anger, depression, desperation.
- Sweats, chills, shaking, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea.
- Flu-like symptoms, runny nose, teary eyes.
- Abdominal pain, bone pain, muscle spasms, cramps.

\* Opiate users may seem under the influence of meth when in withdrawal.

# Opiate Users in Distress

- Bluish nails or lips.
- Breathing problems.
- Weak pulse.
- Pinpoint pupils.
- Disorientation or delirium.
- Extreme drowsiness.
- Repeated loss of consciousness.





# Naloxone = Narcan Miracle Drug or Enabler?



Narcan.com

Takes effect in two to three minutes; lasts one to two hours.

#### Hard Narcan Questions

- What is the usual dosage for someone in an opiate overdose?
- How does it work? How soon?
- Can you overdose someone with Narcan?
- Will Narcan affect a non-opiate user?
- How long does it last? Additional doses?
- Can you kill someone with Narcan?
- Will I need to do CPR as well?

# Giving Narcan

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xa7X00\_QKWk

#### Harder Narcan Questions

- Giving Narcan to an opiate user in distress?
- Train staff to give Narcan?
- Store Narcan at the library?
- What are the legal issues if I do or don't give Narcan?
- How do we protect staff from opiate users post-Narcan?
- Do we encourage more opiate use by giving Narcan?
- Paramedics and police response? Arrests? Impounds?
- Cost recovery issues?
- Ethical issues?



# Serious Safety Hazards

- Bloodborne pathogens (lots of vomit)!
- MRSA!
- HIV/AIDS!
- Hepatitis!
- Fentanyl exposure!
- Needle sticks!

Gloves, mask must be used!



# **Opiate Users: Library Security**

- More restroom checks.
- Camera system with posted signs near restrooms. Blue lights?
- More sharps boxes.
- Talk to known opiate users.
- Ban known opiate users.
- Spread the word among street people.
- Get help from police, SAPs, social workers.



#### Cannabis



Examples: marijuana, hashish, hash oil.

Ingestion: smoked, swallowed.

Effects: CNS depressant and hallucinogen; euphoria, slow reactions. (THC is stronger.)

Symptoms: red eyes, strong odor; memory, movement, and reaction time issues.

Chronic use: depression, panic attacks, cancer, emphysema, loss of motivation.

#### Alcohol

Examples: beer, wine, spirits

Ingestion: swallowed, inserted.

Effects: CNS depressant; euphoria, slow reactions.

Symptoms: memory, balance, movement, motor skills, and reaction time issues.

Chronic use: highly-addictive over time; whole-body damage; depression, seizures during withdrawal; social, and behavioral impacts.





#### Depressants

Examples: barbiturates, anti-anxiety, anti-depression, tranquilizers, GHB, "roofies."

Ingestion: swallowed.

Effects: CNS depressant; euphoria, slow reactions.

Symptoms: drowsy, very slow respiration, slow speech, reactions, coordination, drunk-like.

Chronic use: depression, panic attacks, suicidal thoughts, withdrawal symptoms. *Can be fatal when mixed with alcohol.* 



#### **Inhalants**



Examples: paint, Freon, aerosols, nitrous oxide.

Ingestion: inhaled

Effects: hallucinogenic; euphoria, slow reactions.

Symptoms: drunk-like behaviors, confusion, coughing, breathing problems.

Chronic use: suffocation, heart attack, brain and lung damage.



#### Dissociative Anesthetics

Examples: PCP, Ketamine, DXM

Ingestion: smoked, swallowed.

Effects: CNS hallucinogen; mood alteration, pain cessation, no sense of time, psychoses.

Symptoms: muscle rigidity, elevated body temperature, agitation, sensory overload.

Chronic use: flashbacks, violence, seizures, brain damage, schizophrenia symptoms.





#### Your Homework . . .

- Review your library's emergency responses to substance abuse: when to call paramedics and police; safety around biological and blood borne pathogens, safe cleanup.
- Develop a list of city and county resources (AA.org, NA.org).
- Run an all-hands staff meeting on this issue, covering your policy, the response process, Narcan training discussion.

#### Post-Test

- 1. A patron has pinpoint pupils and appears "asleep on his feet." We suspect what drug type?
- 2. A patron has huge pupils and appears very agitated. We suspect what drug type?
- 3. Patrons in withdrawal from opiates seem like they're under the influence of meth.
- 4. A patron appears dazed and confused. She talks about odd colors and strange shapes. We suspect what drug type?
- 5. A patron appears dazed and confused and smells like cleaning solvents. We suspect what drug type?

#### Post-Test

- 6. What drug type has the highest risk of death when mixed with alcohol?
- 7. What drug type is most likely to cause skin lesions and tooth loss?
- 8. What drug types cause memory loss?
- 9. After alcohol, what is the most commonly abused drug type?
- 10. Which drug types are most likely to cause users to steal?