

Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County

September 2022 Vol 23, Issue 9

Public Health LOOK OUT!

- October is **Breast Cancer Awareness Month**. This annual campaign aims to raise awareness about the impacts of breast cancer and bring in funding to research a cure. According to the WHO, breast cancer is the most common cancer among women worldwide, affecting the lives of millions of women. If you notice any irregularities make sure to consult your physician as together, we can rise to make sure no women lack the necessary support. To get involved visit the <u>National Breast Cancer</u> <u>Foundation</u> webpage.
- International Infection Prevention Week (IIPW) is observed from October 16th to October 22nd. Originally established in 1986 to highlight the importance of infection prevention, this year's theme is "The Future is Infection Prevention: 50 Years of Infection Prevention" emphasizing the importance of infection prevention throughout the years. Visit <u>infectionprevention-andyou.org</u> to learn more!
- World Mental Health Day is recognized on October 10th to shed light on mental health and the multitude of existing barriers in access to mental health care. This year's theme is "Make Mental Health & Well-Being for All a Global Priority" with the mission of making people come together to bring awareness to the mental health needs of all individuals. Visit <u>WHO.int</u> to learn more about mental health.

For the most recent information on COVID-19 in Florida please visit: <u>https://floridahealthcovid19.gov/</u>

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Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County Epidemiology, Disease Control, and Immunization Services 1350 NW 14th St, Annex Building Miami, FL 33125 Phone: 305-470-5660 Fax: 305-470-5533 eFax: 786-732-8714



MONKEY**POX**

If You Have Monkeypox: Self Care

Taking Care of Yourself

 Use gauze or bandages to cover the rash to limit spread to others and to the environment.



- Don't lance (pop) or scratch lesions from the rash.
- Do not shave the area with the rash until the scabs have fallen off and a new layer of skin has formed.
- Keep skin lesions/rash clean and dry when not showering or bathing.
- Wash hands often with soap and water or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer, especially after direct contact with the rash.
- If you have rash on your hands, be careful when washing or using sanitizer so as not to irritate the rash.
- If you have rash on your hands, wear gloves that are non-irritating when handling common objects or touching surfaces in shared spaces. If you can, use disposable gloves that can be discarded after each use. Reusable gloves should be washed with soap and water between use.
- Wear a well-fitting mask around other people until the rash and all other symptoms have resolved.



 Eat healthy and get plenty of rest to allow your body to heal.

Managing Your Pain Symptoms

 Medicines like ibuprofen (Advil, Motrin) and acetaminophen (Tylenol) can help you feel better. Your healthcare provider may prescribe stronger pain relievers.



- For rash in the mouth, rinse with salt water at least four times a day. Prescription mouthwashes, or local anesthetics like viscous lidocaine can be used to manage pain. Oral antiseptics like chlorhexidine mouthwash can be used to help keep the mouth clean.
- Contact your healthcare provider if pain becomes severe and unmanageable at home.

Rash Relief

- The most important thing is to try to not touch or scratch the rash. This can spread the rash, increase the chance of spreading the virus to others, and possibly cause infection by bacteria. If you do accidentally touch the rash, wash your hands with soap and water and avoid touching sensitive areas like your eyes, nose, mouth, genitals, and rectum (butthole).
- Topical benzocaine/lidocaine gels can be used for temporary relief. Oral antihistamines such as Benadryl and topical creams such as calamine lotion or petroleum jelly may help with itching.
- Soaking in a warm bath (using oatmeal or other over-thecounter bath products for itchy skin) may offer some relief to the dry, itchy sensations.
- People who have the rash in or around their anus (butthole) or genitals (penis, testicles, labia, vagina), or perineum (taint) may also benefit from a sitz-bath. A sitz bath is a round, shallow basin. There is also the option to sit in a bathtub with shallow, warm water. Your healthcare provider may prescribe medication like povidone-iodine or other products to be added to the water in a sitz bath. Adding Epsom salt, vinegar, or baking soda to the water can be soothing.



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www.cdc.gov/monkeypox

Opioid-Related Deaths in Miami-Dade County, 2017-2021.

By: Kelsey Bricker

Background

From 2017-2020, Florida was ranked as one of the highest states for drug overdose-related deaths in the United States.¹ In 2017, the age-adjusted rate of drug overdose deaths was 25.1, which increased to 35.0 in 2020.¹ Although Miami-Dade County does not have the highest rate of deaths from drug poisonings compared to other counties in the state of Florida, drug poisonings are a lead-ing cause of injury-related deaths in Miami-Dade County.² More specifically, opioid overdoses accounted for 70% of all fatal overdoses in 2020.² The purpose of this analysis is to explore the demographic characteristics and geographic regions in Miami-Dade County that have a high rate of deaths involving opioids from 2017-2021.

Methods

Death data between 2017-2021 was analyzed to explore opioid-related deaths for ages 12 years old and older in Miami-Dade County. Opioid-related deaths were identified using International Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision, Clinical Modification (ICD-10-CM) codes. Opioid-related deaths were identified using the ICD-10-CM code, *T40*, within all cause-of-death diagnoses fields. Mortality rate was calculated per 100,000 population using population estimates from Florida Charts. The statistical analysis was conducted using SAS 9.4. To examine high density geographic locations of opioid overdoses in Miami-Dade County and frequencies of opioid overdose deaths by resident zip code, ArcMap 10.8 was used.

Results

Time series

From 2017-2021, there were a total of 1,176 deaths due to opioid poisonings in Miami-Dade County. Since 2018, deaths due to opioid overdoses have increased by 50% (Figure 1). The highest frequency of opioid-related deaths occurred in 2020 (Figure 1). The increase in 2020 may be contributed to the COVID-19 pandemic which caused a rise in mental health problems and less access to treatment services.

Drug type

Synthetic opioids (ICD-10-CM: T40.4) accounted for 85% of all deaths due to opioid overdoses in Miami-Dade County from 2017-2021 (Figure 2). These synthetic opioids are classified as synthetic analgesics other than methadone, including drugs such as fentanyl and tramadol.³ These results are similar to national data trends, and it is thought that the source of fentanyl is likely to be illicitly manufactured than pharmaceutical.⁴ Next, non-synthetic opioids (ICD-10-CM: T40.2) accounted for 10% of overdose related deaths. Deaths due to non-synthetic opioids include morphine, codeine, oxycodone, hydrocodone, hydromorphone, and oxymorphone.³

Gender

From 2017-2021, men had a higher frequency and mortality rate per 100,000 population of overdose deaths compared to women (Figure 3). More specifically, men had the highest frequency and mortality rate from opioid overdoses in 2020 compared to other years (Figure 3). In 2020 and 2021, women had the highest frequency of opioid-related deaths but had the highest mortality rate in 2017 compared to other years (Figure 3).

Figure 1. Opioid-Related Deaths in Miami-Dade County from 2017-2021.



Figure 2. Opioid-Related Deaths by Drug Type in Miami-Dade County from 2017-2021



Race and Ethnicity

While the Hispanic population had a higher frequency of overdose deaths each year, the Non-Hispanic White and Non-Hispanic Black populations had a higher mortality rate between 2017 and 2021 (Figure 4). In 2020, all populations had the highest frequency of overdose deaths and mortality rate per 100,000 (Figure 4). The mortality rate of overdoses was 24.8 for Non-Hispanic Whites, 13.6 for Non-Hispanic Blacks, and 7.6 for the Hispanic population (Figure 4). Compared to other populations, the mortality rate of overdoses for the Non-Hispanic Black population has greatly increased from 8.1 in 2017 to 13.1 in 2021, while other populations have remained constant.

Figure 4. Frequency and Mortality Rate of Opioid Overdoses by Race and Ethnicity



Figure 5. Opioid-Related Deaths in Miami-Dade County by Age Group



Areas of Opioid-Related Deaths

The high-density map shows the location of opioid overdose deaths in Miami-Dade County from 2017-2021 (Figure 7). The highest frequency of deaths per square mile occurred in Downtown and surrounding neighborhoods. Other high-density areas of overdose deaths were in South Beach, North Beach, and Leisure City. Next, the zip code frequency map shows overdose deaths by resident zip code (Figure 8). The zip codes with the highest frequency of deaths were Hialeah (33012), West Little River (33147), Allapattah (33142), and Cutler Bay (33157).

Figure 3. Frequency and Mortality Rate of Opioid Overdoses by Gender



Age Group

From 2017-2021, the age group with the highest frequency of opioid overdose deaths were adults 25-34 years old. This age group had a higher proportion of opioid related deaths in 2017, 2018, 2020, and 2021 (Figure 5). In 2019, adults 35-44 years old had the highest proportion of overdose deaths among all age groups (Figure 5). Lastly, between 2017 and 2021, adults 25-54 years old accounted for 72% of all overdose-related deaths.

Education Level

Adults who graduated high school or obtained a Graduate Equivalency Degree (GED) had the highest percentage of overdose deaths at 48%, followed by those with some college education or an associate degree (20%) (Figure 6). Next, 18% of fatal opioid overdoses occurred in those who attended high school but did not obtain a degree, and nine percent occurred among those with a bachelor's degree or higher.



Figure 6. Opioid-Related Deaths in Miami-Dade County by Level of Education Completed

Discussion

Findings from this data analysis indicate that men and adults aged 25-34 years old had a higher percentage of fatal overdoses between 2017 and 2021. These results are similar to national data trends that were explored by the National Safety Council (NSC).⁵ The NSC stated that seven out of ten preventable opioid overdose death victims are male, and adults 25-34 years old continue to experience the highest frequency of overdose deaths.⁵ In addition, the current analysis found that although the Hispanic population had the highest frequency of fatal overdoses each year, the Non-Hispanic White and Non-Hispanic Black population had the highest mortality rate. When exploring socioeconomic backgrounds, measured by educational attainment, those with a higher education were less likely to die of an opioid overdose. This evidence supports results from a previous study which found that those with a higher education are less likely to use prescription opioids for chronic pain.⁶ Next, geographic locations of overdose deaths and frequency by resident zip code show that fatal opioid overdoses are occurring in residential and tourist areas of the county. More investigation is needed to explore the relationship between resource deprivation in neighborhoods and geographic location of fatal opioid overdoses.

Prevention

Risk factors that may increase the likelihood of a fatal overdose include the recent release from an institution, the occurrence of a previous overdose, a mental health diagnosis, and previous substance use disorder treatment.⁷ When risk factors are present, prevention strategies include enhancing linkage to care, increasing access to risk reduction services, increasing distribution of naloxone, and improving prescribing practices.⁷ In addition, recognizing signs of an overdose can save a life if Naloxone is promptly administered. Signs of an overdose include pale skin, blue lips and fingernails, slowed breathing, small pupils and being unconscious.⁸

Naloxone training:

https://www.redcross.org/take-a-class/opioidoverdose

Naloxone Distribution Sites in Miami-Dade County:

https://www.isavefl.com/find-naloxone.shtml

How to prevent overdoses:

https://www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/prevention/index.html

Figure 7. Geographical Hotspots of Opioid Overdose Deaths in Miami Dade County, 2017-2021







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Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County Epidemiology, Disease Control and Immunization Services

Influenza Like Illness Surveillance Report

On a daily basis, all of Miami-Dade County's emergency department (ED) hospitals electronically transmit ED data to the Florida Department of Health. This data is then categorized into 11 distinct syndromes. The influenza-like illness (ILI) syndrome consists of fever with either cough or sore throat. It can also include a chief complaint of "flu" or "ILI". This season's 2020-2021 data is compared to the previous 4 influenza seasons (2016-2017, 2017-2018, 2018-2019, 2019-2020).



Across all ages, there were 33,926 ED visits; among them 1,669 (4.9%) were ILI. During the same week last year, 4.5% of ED visits were ILI.

PARTICIPATE IN INFLUENZA SENTINEL PROVIDER SURVEILLANCE

Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County NEEDS Influenza Sentinel Providers!

Sentinel providers are key to the success of the Florida Department of Health's Influenza Surveillance System. Data reported by sentinel providers gives a picture of the influenza virus and ILI activity in the U.S. and Florida which can be used to guide prevention and control activities, vaccine strain selection, and patient care.

- Providers of any specialty, in any type of practice, are eligible to be sentinel providers.
- Most providers report that it takes **less than 30 minutes a week** to compile and report data on the total number of patients seen and the number of patients seen with influenza-like illness.
- Sentinel providers can submit specimens from a subset of patients to the state laboratory for virus isolation free of charge.

For more information, please contact **Stephanie Ramirez** at 305-470-5660.



Miami-Dade County Monthly Report Select Reportable Disease/Conditions August 2022

Diseases/Conditions	2022	2022	2021	2020
Diseases/ Conditions	Current Month	Year to Date	Year to Date	Year to Date
HIV/AIDS				
AIDS*	23	283	277	212
HIV	166	1239	865	673
STD			1000	
Infectious Syphilis*	80	460	411	287
Chlam ydia*	1205	9569	9437	7418
Gonorrhea*	542	4323	4169	2735
TB				
Tuberculosis**	7	90	70	53
Epidemiology, Disease Control &				
Immunization Services				
Epidemiology				
Campylobacteriosis	61	429	358	360
Chikungunya Fever	0	0	0	0
Ciguatera Poisoning	0	3	10	7
Cryptosporidiosis	9	50	29	13
Cyclosporiasis	15	55	15	2
Dengue Fever	137	212	1	13
Escherichia coli, Shiga Toxin-Producing	28	124	74	34
Encephalitis, West Nile Virus	0	0	0	0
Giardiasis, Acute	14	177	55	71
Influenza, Pediatric Death	0	0	0	0
Legionellosis	4	27	37	16
Leptospirosis	0	0	1	0
Listeriosis	1	4	7	9
Lyme disease	1	8	4	3
Malaria	0	0	3	2
Meningitis (except aseptic)	1	0	0	0
Meningococcal Disease	2	0	0	0
Salmonella serotype Typhy (Typhoid Fever)	1	1	0	0
Salmonellosis	155	763	593	588
Shigellosis	19	107	46	81
Pneumoniae, invasive disease	12	56	33	34
Vibriosis	3	23	14	9
West Nile Fever	0	0	0	17
Zika Virus (non-congenital)	0	0	0	0
Immunization Preventable Diseases				
Measles	0	0	0	0
Mumps	2	5	2	1
Pertussis	0	4	0	9
Rubella	0	0	0	0
Tetanus	0	0	0	0
Varicella	1	21	10	24
Hepatitis				
Hepatitis A	1	19	5	9
Hepatitis B (Acute)	10	68	21	34
Healthy Homes				
Lead Poisoning	67	252	80	48

*Data is provisional at the county level and is subject to edit checks by state and federal agencies.

** Data on tuberculosis are provisional at the county level.

Data on EDC-IS includes Confirmed and Probable cases.

FREE MONKEYPOX JYNNEOS VACCINES	 What's New at DOH-Miami-Dade: Heavy rains from Hurricane Ian can cause standing 	
VACCINATIONS ARE AVAILABLE BY APPOINTMENT ONLY	water which creates an environment for mosquitoes to breed. Please visit <u>miamidade.floridahealth.gov</u> for guidance on mosquito-borne illness prevention!	
	• DOH-Miami-Dade is offering FREE Jynneos Mon- keypox vaccine to high-risk populations. To be- come fully immunized, you must be vaccinated with 2 doses, the second dose 28 days after the initial	
IROPICAL PARK 200 MIAMI 1350 NW 14TH ST MIAMI, FL 33125 HEALTH DISTRICT CENTER TO SOURCE AND MONTHMENT WITH INTERVISION AND THE ST INTERVISION AND THE ST <td colspan<="" th=""><th> dose. Schedule an appointment <u>here</u>! Tecovirimat (TPOXX) is the antiviral drug recommended for individuals who are more likely to get severely ill. DOH-Miami-Dade is able to request TPOXX and provide drugs to all patients who meet the necessary criteria. For more information, call the DOH-Miami Dade at (305) 470-5660! </th></td>	<th> dose. Schedule an appointment <u>here</u>! Tecovirimat (TPOXX) is the antiviral drug recommended for individuals who are more likely to get severely ill. DOH-Miami-Dade is able to request TPOXX and provide drugs to all patients who meet the necessary criteria. For more information, call the DOH-Miami Dade at (305) 470-5660! </th>	 dose. Schedule an appointment <u>here</u>! Tecovirimat (TPOXX) is the antiviral drug recommended for individuals who are more likely to get severely ill. DOH-Miami-Dade is able to request TPOXX and provide drugs to all patients who meet the necessary criteria. For more information, call the DOH-Miami Dade at (305) 470-5660!
MIAM-DADE COUNTY CITED TO CLEDIT FUNCTION 18255 HOMESTEAD AVE MIAMI, FL 33157 18501 NE 22ND AVE NORTH MIAMI BEACH, FL 33160 10 SOUTHALT AND ADDRIVENT YOUR INTER/ BOOK APPOINTMENT YOUR AND ADDRIVENT YOUR AND ADDRIVENT YOUR INTER/ BOOK APPOINTMENT YOUR ADDRIVENT YOUR AND ADDRIVENT YOUR AND ADDRIVENT YOUR ADDRIVENT	DOH Miami-Dade offers COVID-19 vaccines, vac- cine boosters, pediatric vaccines, and flu shots. Visit <u>miamidade.floridahealth.gov</u> for clinic locations and appointments!	
+ + - Contract of the latter is the latter i	To report diseases and for information, call EDC-IS at:	
Be brave.	Childhood Lead Poisoning 305-470-6877 Prevention Program	
Ask questions.	Epidemiology and Disease 305-470-5660 Surveillance	
Get the facts about gynecologic cancer.	Hepatitis Program 305-470-5536	
	HIV/AIDS Program 305-470-6999	
Inside Knowledge	Immunization Services 305-470-5660	
	STD Program 305-575-5430	
	Tuberculosis Program 305-575-5415	
	Appointment Line 786-845-0550	

About the Epi Monthly Report

The Epi Monthly Report is a publication of the Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County: Epidemiology, Disease Control & Immunization Services. The publication serves a primary audience of physicians, nurses, and public health professionals. Articles published in the Epi Monthly Report may focus on quantitative research and analysis, program updates, field investigations, or provider education. For more information or to submit an article, please contact Yoselin Garcia at (786) 582-2266 or Yoselin.Garcia@flhealth.gov.

