

HEROIN

 on the rise

Nationally and Locally

Multiple national and local reports cite an ongoing and disturbing rise in heroin use stretching from rural to suburban and urban populations.

Why the increasing trend?

Number of patients and quantity of opiate pain medications being prescribed growing



An increase in the number of people addicted to prescription pain medications



An increase in drive to switch to heroin when both access and cost become a factor.

In addition



Heroin is often more potent and more plentiful today than in the last several decades.

The increase in the potency of heroin results in an increase in the risk of an overdose.



Heroin on the street is much less expensive than diverted pills, especially the popular oxycodone.

LOCALLY (NEW YORK STATE)

Change in the demographics of those using heroin:

Previously thought to be confined to urban areas.

Now appearing across all communities.

Previously an older client population was addicted to heroin (40s and 50s)

Population now in early 20s and younger

Heroin is one of the most addictive drugs in the world.

25%

of people who try heroin become addicted.



National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence- Rochester Area

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NCADD-RA provides awareness presentations on current trends, including prescription drugs and their relationship to the rise in heroin.