Down the Up Staircase
Addiction is only a few steps away...

Supplemental Information on Oxycontin/Heroin Abuse
Past & present youth trends?

Then...
- Cigarettes
- Alcohol
- Marijuana

Now...
- OxyContin
- Heroin
Why do young people try it?

- Have Fun
- Availability
- Pleasure
- Depression
- Rebellion

- Bored
- Escape Reality
- Peer Pressure
- Relieve Stress
- Curiosity
Across the U.S.

- Nearly 7 million Americans are abusing prescription drugs.
  - That 7 million was just 3.8 million in the year 2000.
- Prescription pain relievers are new drug users’ drug of choice, vs. marijuana or cocaine.
- Nearly 1 in 10 high school seniors admits to abusing powerful prescription painkillers.

(Source: US Drug Enforcement Administration Fact Sheet)
“OxyContin continues to be the pharmaceutical drug of choice in the state of Kansas. It is favored by its users over street drugs such as heroin due to the consistent purity and quality.”

“The availability of Mexican black tar heroin in most of Kansas remains limited to small, user quantities, although larger quantities can be found in cities such as Wichita and Kansas City.”

From 2004 to 2006, the number of Kansans admitted for treatment for heroin and other opiate abuse rose 24%.

(Source: whitehousedrugpolicy.org)
Oxy & Heroin in Johnson County

Overdoses & Deaths by Year:

- 2007
- 2008
- 2009
- 2010
Johnson County Students

- 15% of Johnson County 10th graders and 23% of 12th graders reported using prescription drugs that were not prescribed to them.
- One in thirteen 10th graders and one in ten 12th graders had used these substances in the last 30 days.

2009 Johnson County Communities That Care Student Survey
What’s Oxy?

- Synthetic form of opium
- Moderate-to-severe pain reliever
- Produced in pharmaceutical labs
- Legally available only by prescription
- U.S. is highest per capita consumer as of 2007
- OxyContin – derivative of Oxycodone; a time-release formula
What Oxy Looks Like

OxyContin®
(oxycodone HCl)
Abuse of OxyContin

- Restricted breathing, vomiting, dizziness
- Constipation, nausea, sedation
- Headache, dry mouth, sweating
- Growing tolerance for drug
- Physical addiction/withdrawal
- Death by suffocation/asphyxia
Did You Know?

- “95% of Johnson County Methadone clinic patients are Oxy abusers…”
- “Mixing alcohol with Oxy is a lethal combination…gradually stop breathing…”
- “Once they’re addicted, Oxy abusers often switch to heroin…”

(Source: Maggie Jenkins, Bridge Way Clinical Director)
True or False?

Giving OxyContin to a friend is legal.
False

“Giving” OxyContin to a friend is included in the same statute as “selling.”

Giving it or selling it, makes you a felony drug dealer.
OxyContin: Gateway to Heroin

- People using and addicted to OxyContin switch to heroin for a few reasons:
  - Both opiates – similar highs
  - Heroin is more accessible; OxyContin requires a prescription from a physician to legally obtain the drug.
  - Heroin is less expensive; OxyContin (purchased on the street) can cost as much as $80 per pill. Heroin costs about half as much as OxyContin.

(Source: http://www.drug-rehabs.com/)
What’s Heroin?

- Derivative of morphine/poppy plant
- White, off-white, or brown powder, or
- Black tar-like substance
- Snorted, smoked, or injected
- Schedule 1 substance; Illegal in the U.S.
What Heroin Looks Like:
(Black Tar)
What Heroin Looks Like:
(Powder)
What Heroin Looks Like:
(Liquified)
Heroin’s Short-term Effects

- Rush or surge of euphoria
- Skin turns red
- Cotton mouth
- Going on the nod
- Fuzzy thinking
- And more...
Heroin’s Long Term Effects

- Collapsed veins, abscesses, liver disease, infected heart lining & valves
- Lung, kidney, & brain damage
- Drug craving, restlessness, insomnia, muscle & bone pain, diarrhea, vomiting
- HIV, Hepatitis A&C
- Death
Did You Know?

Any method of Heroin use (snorting, smoking, or injecting) is addictive and deadly.

Injecting heroin adds further risk of infection (e.g., Hepatitis, HIV, etc.).
What Can You Do?

- Be attentive to your kids and your friends. Don’t rationalize away signs of substance abuse.
- Safeguard all medicines at home. Monitor quantities and control access.
- Have clear rules about not sharing medicines, and following doctor’s advice and dosages.
- Properly conceal and dispose of all unused medicines in the trash.
- Recognize paraphernalia when you see it…
Heroin & Oxy Paraphernalia
Crime & Punishment

- **Possession of Oxy/Heroin:**
  - Probation
  - Mandatory Drug Treatment
  - 10-42 months prison

- **Sale of Oxy/Heroin:**
  - 1\(^{st}\) Time  14-51 months prison
  - 2\(^{nd}\) Time  46-83 months prison
  - 3\(^{rd}\) Time  138-204 months prison

- **Sale of Oxy/Heroin within 1000’ of School:**
  - 1\(^{st}\) Time  46-83 months prison
Did You Know?

Juvenile criminal records don’t disappear when you turn 18; they can affect college admissions and future job opportunities.
What Can I Do?

- Emergency – 9-1-1
- Youth – Adolescent Center for Treatment (JCMH) – (913) 782-0283
- Adults - Adult Substance Abuse Program (JCMH) – (913) 831-2550
- Adults – Detox (JCMH) – (913) 826-4100
- First Call – Alcohol/Drug Prevention & Recovery – (816) 361-5900
Resources

U.S. Dept of Justice
www.ojp.gov

Regional Prevention Center
http://www.4prevention.info

The Truth About Drugs
http://www.drugfreeworld.org/#/interactive

Drug Information Online
http://www.drugs.com/

NIDA (National Institute on Drug Abuse)
http://www.nida.nih.gov/NIDAHome.html