



The American College of Neuropsychopharmacology

Invite you to a briefing on

The Nation's Opioid Addiction and Overdose Crisis

June 30, 2016

12:00 pm – 1:00 pm

HELP Committee Hearing Room

Lunch will be served

Dr. Nora Volkow, Director of the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), will provide a short overview of what science tells us about the intertwined problems of nonmedical use of prescription pain medicines, heroin use, and opioid overdose deaths in the U.S. The misuse of and addiction to opioids such as heroin and prescription pain medicines is a serious national problem that affects public health as well as social and economic welfare. Science has provided some solutions to aspects of the problem, but we also know that existing evidence-based prevention and treatment strategies are highly underutilized. Accompanying Dr. Volkow will be Mr. Justin Riley, President and CEO of Young People in Recovery to offer a patient's perspective.

Significant efforts have been undertaken across the United States to reduce diversion and misuse of prescription opioids and to reduce opioid overdoses and related deaths. NIDA supports research to understand the impact of these policy changes on rates of opioid misuse, opioid use disorders, and related public health outcomes. This research has demonstrated the efficacy of multiple types of interventions including:

- Educational initiatives delivered in school and community settings (primary prevention)
- Supporting consistent use of prescription drug monitoring programs (PDMPs)
- Implementation of overdose education and naloxone distribution programs to issue naloxone directly to opioid users and potential bystanders
- Aggressive law enforcement efforts to address doctor shopping and pill mills
- Diverting justice-involved individuals with substance use disorders to Drug Courts with mandated engagement in treatment
- Expansion of access to Medication Assisted Treatments
- Abuse-deterrent formulations for opioid analgesics

Dr. Natalie Rasgon, Stanford University School of Medicine, and Dr. Charles Nemeroff, University of Miami Miller School of Medicine will also be in attendance as leaders of the American College of Neuropsychopharmacology.

We hope that you will be able to join us for this informative and timely briefing. This widely-attended event complies with all appropriate regulations. **Please RSVP to Sarah Timm at stimm@acnp.org or 615-324-2374.**

