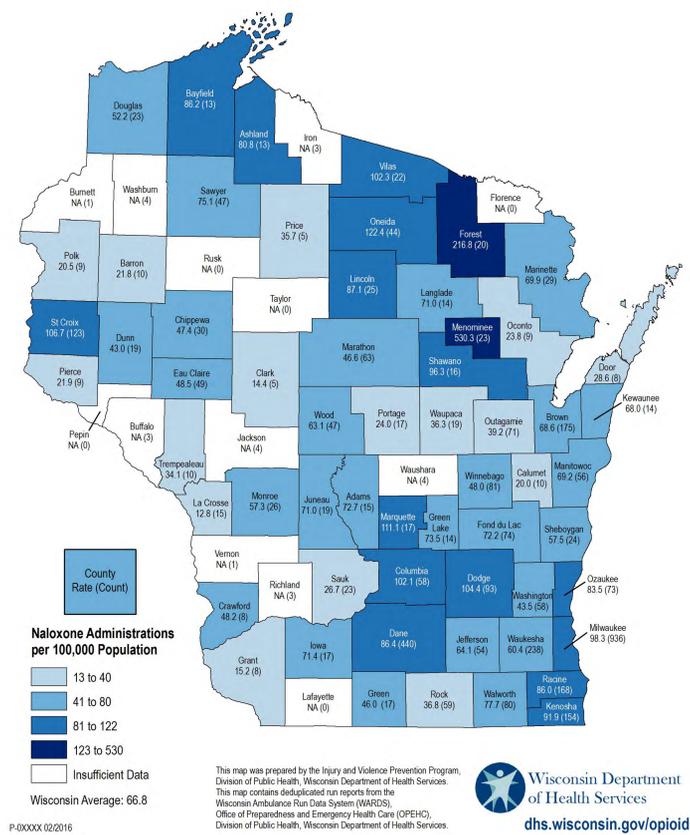


Opioid Crisis: Creating Awareness in Our Community

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- Opioids are powerful natural and manmade drugs that are commonly used as pain relievers but can be very addictive. Examples include: heroin, oxycodone, hydrocodone, morphine, codeine, and fentanyl.
- In 2016, 827 people died from opioid-related deaths, according to the Wisconsin Department of Health Services.
- Since 2000, the number of deaths in the state due to prescription opioid abuse increased 600 percent in 2016.
- In 2014, more Wisconsin residents died from drug overdoses than from motor vehicle accidents.

Emergency Medical Services Runs with Naloxone Administration by Patient County of Residence, Wisconsin, 2015



Aim:

To give students, faculty, and staff of Bellin College the opportunity to learn more about the opioid crisis within our local community.

Summary of Results:

- Attendees learned the alternatives to opioids
- Increased knowledge about non-pharmacological interventions for pain
- 71% increase in knowledge related to opioids
- Attendees increased their knowledge of the signs and symptoms of opioid abuse

What's Next?

- Pamphlets were developed to expand opioid knowledge in our community
- Continued education on the opioid crisis
- Recommendation to the curriculum committees to enhance content on the opioid crisis

Lessons Learned:

- Naloxone is the medication of choice to reverse the effects of an opioid overdose
- Better understanding of signs and symptoms of an overdose
- Much more education necessary to combat the opioid crisis

Methods:

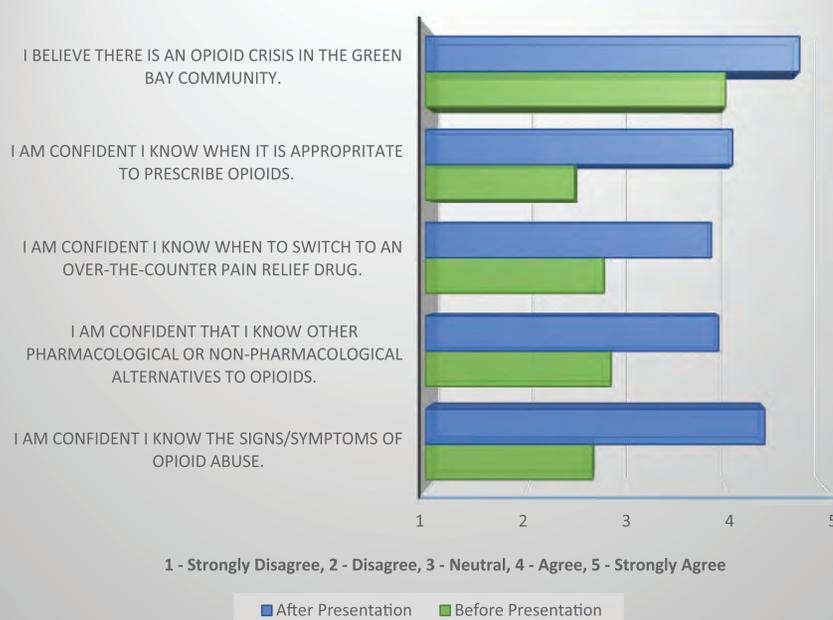
Measures:

A two-part survey was completed by students to rate their level of competency and knowledge of the opioids crisis. A survey was completed pre and post presentation from our guest speaker Andrew Cohen, Pharm.D., Pharmacy Clinical Coordinator, Bellin Memorial Hospital.

Goals:

- To raise awareness and increase our student, faculty, and staff's understanding of the opioid crisis in our community.
- Educate student, faculty, and staff about the signs and symptoms of opioid abuse, appropriate prescription use and awareness of non-pharmacological alternatives to opioids.

Opioid Presentation Data



What Participants Had To Say:

"It made me think about how I would talk with my patient about other pain relief measures. It really opened my eyes about how often patients abuse opioids in many different situations."

"This presentation greatly helped contribute to my pre-existing knowledge regarding use of opioids. Every time from now on that I administer opioids in the acute care setting, I will take a step back and analyze the situation to be sure that it is in the best interest for the patient at hand."

"I will be more aware of when I am passing opioid medications and I will be sure to educate my clients each time they are given an opioid. The opioid crisis is a problem right in our backyard."

"The opioid crisis is a very real issue right here in our community. Action is being taken to reverse the situation and it involves everyone (me)."

"It has really opened my eyes on it all. I now know what signs to look for and the alternatives to prescribing a medication."