

— Atlanta, GA • March 28-31, 2016 —
NATIONAL
Rx DRUG ABUSE & HEROIN
SUMMIT
NationalRxDrugAbuseSummit.org

The largest national collaboration for those impacted by Rx drug abuse & heroin use.

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Summit Spotlight:

[Things you need to know about marijuana](#)

From pot shops in Denver to medical marijuana for kids, pot is a hot topic these days. But there is a lot of smoke and mirrors in the discussion about the drug in the United States. In this article, [Kevin Sabet](#), President of SAM, uncovers some commonly held notions about the drug - including what it does to the brain, how it has changed in composition since the hippie heyday of the 1970s, and why our young people should steer clear of it.

SAM will be holding a marijuana conference on Thursday, March 31, in conjunction with the National Rx Drug Abuse & Heroin Summit.

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Top Stories in the News:

Disclaimer: Articles and links within articles do not necessarily reflect the views or opinions of the National Rx Drug Abuse & Heroin Summit or Operation UNITE.

[Georgia hospital CEO, 5 others arrested in Rx drug bust](#)

Kimberly James, Atlanta Journal-Constitution

A north Georgia hospital was the target of a prescription drug bust and raided by federal agents February 4.

Six arrests were made including the hospital CEO and five other suspects, Channel 2 Action News reported.

Mike Gower, CEO of the Union County General Hospital in Blairsville, was apprehended after a nine-month long, multi-state Drug Enforcement Agency investigation that involved fraudulent prescriptions painkillers, authorities said.

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[Doctor gets 30 years to life for murders in Los Angeles case tied to patients' overdoses](#)

Marisa Gerber, Los Angeles Times

A judge on Friday, February 5, sentenced a Rowland Heights doctor to 30 years to life in prison for the murders of three of her patients who fatally overdosed, ending a landmark case expected to reshape how doctors nationwide handle prescriptions across the country.

The sentence came after a Los Angeles jury last year found Dr. Hsiu-Ying "Lisa" Tseng guilty of second-degree murder, the first time a doctor had been convicted of murder in the U.S. for overprescribing drugs.

Superior Court Judge George G. Lomeli said before sentencing Tseng that she had attempted to blame patients, pharmacists and other doctors rather than take responsibility for her own actions.

NOTE: Deputy District Attorney John Niedermann, who prosecuted this case, will present "Investigating Homicide by a Prescribing Doctor," in the Law Enforcement Track of the Summit on Tuesday, March 29, 2016.

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[Overdose reversal drug now available free to every U.S. high school](#)

Nick Wing, The Huffington Post

Any high school in the U.S. that wants to carry an emergency opioid overdose reversal kit will now be able to get one free of charge, thanks to a new initiative announced Monday by the Clinton Foundation and the drug's manufacturer.

Adapt Pharma, manufacturers of a nasal-spray form of naloxone, also known as Narcan, has partnered with the Clinton Health Matters Initiative to further expand access to the life-saving drug, the two groups said at the final day of the Clinton Health Matters Initiative Activation Summit. Naloxone is nonaddictive, nontoxic and easy to administer, especially through nasal application. It reverses the effects of an opioid overdose by essentially blocking the opioid receptors that heroin and many prescription painkillers target.

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[Abrupt dip in hydrocodone prescriptions found after rescheduling](#)

Pauline Anderson, Medscape

Following the rescheduling of hydrocodone combination products from Schedule III of the Controlled Substance Act to the more restrictive Schedule II, the number of these dispensed products declined, new data show.

The effect of the rescheduling by the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration in October 2014 is described by **Christopher M. Jones**, Pharm D, MPH, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and colleagues, in the [Letters](#) section of *JAMA International Medicine*, published online January 25.

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