

— 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:

[Drs. Frieden, Volkow again highlight Wednesday morning](#)

Research by the **National Institute on Drug Abuse** (NIDA) and aggressive efforts by the **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention** (CDC) are making inroads to address this complex problem. Citizens have become more engaged in prevention and treatment efforts, while science is offering promising new approaches that will save lives and hopefully reverse the alarming statistics. The directors of these organizations, [Dr. Nora Volkow](#) and [Dr. Tom Frieden](#), will once again provide the latest updates during the morning General Session of the Summit.

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Top Stories in the News:

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[Heroin epidemic increasingly seeps into public view](#)

Katherine Q. Seelye, The New York Times

With heroin cheap and widely available on city streets throughout the country, users are making their buys and shooting up as soon as they can, often in public places. Police officers are routinely finding drug users - unconscious or dead - in cars, in the bathrooms of fast-food restaurants, on mass transit and in parks, hospitals and libraries. The visibility of drug users may be partly attributed to the nature of the epidemic, which has grown largely out of dependence on legal opioid painkillers and has spread to white, urban, suburban and rural areas.

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[NIH says cannabis use disorder affects nearly 6 million people](#)

Susan Scutti, Medical Daily

In light of marijuana's evolving legal status, scientists at the **National Institutes of Health** have begun to advocate for public education regarding the drug's potential dangers. Their new study finds marijuana use is not harmless: In the past year, nearly six million people (2.5 percent of adults) experienced marijuana use disorder - considered a type of drug dependence or abuse.

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[Most teens who abuse ADHD meds get them from others](#)

HealthDay News

Abuse of ADHD stimulant drugs such Ritalin or Adderall is on the rise, and a new study finds that most teens who abuse the drugs get them from someone else. An expanding market for drugs to treat attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), "coupled with the increasing rates of ADHD diagnosis, provides greater availability of these drugs," study lead author Yanning Wang, from the University of Florida in Gainesville, said in a university news release.

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[CDC releases Prevention Status Reports](#)

National Center for Injury Prevention and Control

The CDC has released new **Prevention Status Reports** that highlight - for all 50 states and the District of Columbia - the status of public health policies and practices designed to address 10 important public health problems and concerns, including prescription drug overdose and alcohol-related harms.

Each report follows a simple framework: 1) Describe the public health problem using public health data, 2) Identify potential solutions to the problem drawn from research and expert recommendations, and 3) Report the status of those solutions for each state and the District of Columbia. The PSRs use a simple, three-level rating scale - green, yellow, or red - to show the extent to which each state has implemented the policy or practice in accordance with supporting evidence and/or expert recommendations.

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