

HOW MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY CAN HELP COMBAT AMERICA'S OPIOID EPIDEMIC



Today, innovative medical technology solutions can help play a role in fighting this national crisis. Check out the medical devices helping combat the opioid epidemic.



OVERDOSE DEATHS 5 TIMES HIGHER

According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, overdose deaths involving prescription opioids were five times higher in 2017 than in 1999.¹



> 650 K PRESCRIPTIONS FILLED EACH DAY

More than 650,000 prescriptions for opioids are filled each day in the U.S.^{2,3} and many are consumed for non-medical, abuse-related purposes.



130 DEATHS EACH DAY

Tragically, 130 Americans die every day from an opioid overdose,⁴ making overdoses the leading cause of death among people under the age of 50.⁵

SOLUTION: MONITOR WITHDRAWAL & PREVENT OVERDOSE

Several technologies and apps have been developed to manage opioid withdrawal symptoms and to help caregivers and first responders administer life-saving drugs quickly and confidently to potential overdose victims.

- Peripheral Nerve Stimulation (PNS)
- Auto-Injection System
- Naloxone App
- Battery-Operated Chip

SOLUTION: MANAGING CHRONIC PAIN

Many people accidentally become addicted to opioids while trying to treat chronic pain. However, several medical technology alternatives have been proven to reduce or eliminate pain altogether.

- Implantable Intraspinal Drug Infusion Pumps
- Deep Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (TMS) Therapy
- Pulsed Electromagnetic Field (PEMF) Therapy
- Radiofrequency Neuroablation
- Spinal Cord Stimulation (SCS)

SOLUTION: MEDICATION MANAGEMENT DEVICES AND APPS

There are devices and apps that help people manage their daily medications by monitoring the medication dosage and schedule to encourage responsible stewardship. Additionally, medication delivery, dispensing, and disposal technology can help to prevent and detect drug diversion in health care facilities, while also promoting patient safety.

- Medication Management/Dispensing Technology
- Medication Disposal Technology
- Medicine Management Apps

SOLUTION: TREAT ACUTE PAIN

Millions suffer from acute pain that usually comes on suddenly and is caused by something specific such as surgery, broken bones, dental work, or childbirth.

- Continuous Peripheral Nerve Block (cPNB)
- Cryotherapy (Cold Therapy) Treatment
- Peripheral Nerve Stimulation (PNS)
- Portable Pain Relief Systems
- Neuromuscular Electrical Stimulation

SOLUTION: MONITORING OVERDOSE RISK THROUGH DIAGNOSTIC TESTS

Diagnostic tests are a critical tool to monitor pain medication use and are essential to reducing the number of people addicted to opioids. These tests also help identify high-risk patients who are abusing or diverting prescription drugs, and help doctors determine what medications are appropriate for the individual patient.

- Diagnostic Tests
- Pain Medication DNA Insight
- Blood Testing

Footnotes

- 1.) Prescription Opioid Data, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), viewed on August 13, 2019: <https://www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/data/prescribing.html>
- 2.) Help, Resources and Information, HHS, viewed January 29, 2018: <https://www.hhs.gov/opioids/>
- 3.) Prescribing Data, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), viewed January 29, 2018: <https://www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/data/prescribing.html>
- 4.) National Institute on Drug Abuse. "Opioid Overdose Crisis." Available at drugabuse.gov/drugs-abuse/opioids/opioid-overdose-crisis
- 5.) The New York Times, Drug Deaths in America Are Rising Faster Than Ever, By Josh Katz, June 5, 2017.