

The Fourth Wave of the Opioid Epidemic: Current Trends and Treatment Strategies

Level

Intermediate

CE

CPA/BBS/BRN/CJER

Track

Clinical

Bio

Gloria Miele, PhD

Gloria has been helping health care providers put science into practice for over twenty-five years. She is currently Program Director for State Opioid Projects at UCLA's Integrated Substance Abuse Programs (ISAP), where she helps lead statewide initiatives to provide training and technical assistance for California's health care workforce treating people with opioid and other substance use disorders. She is also Chair of UCLA ISAP's Continuing Medical Education Committee. From 2001-2016, Gloria was Training Director for NIDA's Clinical Trials Network's Greater New York Node, where she designed, developed and delivered training for national multisite effectiveness trials, including reducing HIV risk for substance using women, treating women with trauma and substance use disorders, testing technology-assisted care in clinical practice and evaluating medications for opioid use disorder. She was Instructor of Clinical Psychology (in Psychiatry) at Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons for twenty years. She is co-author of *Trauma Services for Women in Substance Abuse Treatment: An Integrated Approach* (APA Press, 2010), as well as dozens of peer-reviewed and other publications. She volunteers for a variety of non-profits and serves on various boards, including the Institutional Review Board for California State University Channel Islands (CSUCI) and the Scientific Advisory Board for the International Center on Responsible Gaming (ICRG). Other interests include leadership development in nonprofit and healthcare settings and self-care for helping professionals.

Narrative

This presentation will address "The Fourth Wave" of the opioid epidemic, including recent data on rising mortality due to fentanyl alone and in combination with methamphetamine. The rise of polysubstance use raises the complexity of treatment and the risk of overdose. Best practices for treatment options, including use of medications will be discussed, as well as other evidence-based strategies for client engagement and risk reduction.

Learning Objectives

Explain three key factors in the history and epidemiology of overdose due to opioids.

Identify 3 FDA-approved medications for opioid use disorder.

Propose 3 harm reduction measures to prevent overdose deaths due to synthetic opioids.