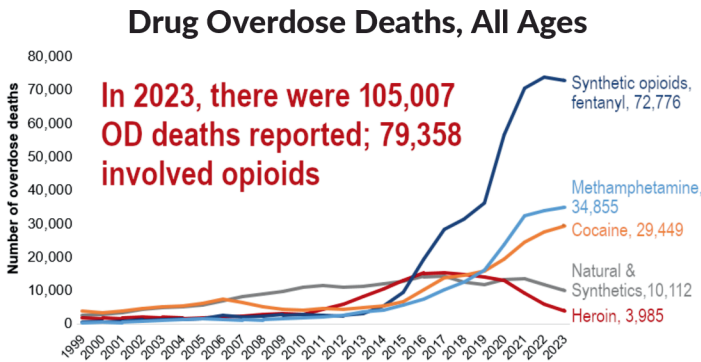
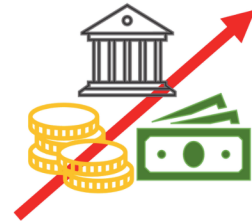


Substance use disorders are deadly & costly



Source: The Multiple Cause of Death data are produced by the Division of Vital Statistics, National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), United States Department of Health and Human Services (US DHHS)

Economic Cost of SUDs in the United States



Over \$700 billion a year in increased health care costs, crime, and lost productivity

Source: NIDA. 2021, August 3. Introduction. Retrieved from <https://nida.nih.gov/publications/drugs-brains-behavior-science-addiction/introduction> on 2023, February 15

The National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) invests in research that saves lives & money

Federal investment in Naloxone R&D has yielded one of the most cost-effective and impactful public health tools in modern history

No other NIH Institute is equipped to lead this work.

NIDA-supported research has led to the development and approval of lifesaving medications for opioid use disorder (MOUD) and overdose, including:

- Buprenorphine and buprenorphine + naloxone (relapse prevention; MOUD)
- NARCAN® and Nalmefene (opioid overdose reversal)

The HEAL Initiative increased medications in development from 14 to almost 100

NIDA invested ~\$62 million in the development of buprenorphine, a ground-breaking MOUD

Return on Investment

~69,500%

Market ROI

~1,548,000%

Public Health ROI

\$900 Billion to \$1.8 Trillion

Economic value of lives saved by buprenorphine

Lives Saved

- Buprenorphine reduces risk of death by 50% and reduces mortality from 2-3% to 1%
- Buprenorphine conservatively prevents 90-180K premature deaths

NIDA invested ~\$54 million annually in the distribution of Naloxone/Narcan® since 2017

Return on Investment

- Public health savings >\$100 billion annually
- ROI Estimate of ~5,000%
- Market value of \$7-9 billion (2017-24)

\$1 Trillion

Economic value of lives saved since 2017

Lives Saved

- 27,000 lives in 2024 alone (~100K since 2017)
- 1 life saved per 14 doses distributed

NIDA investments have helped reduce the supply of fentanyl in illicit drug markets, expand access to Naloxone and MOUD, and contributed to a 27% decline in overdose deaths in 2024.

Importance of Basic Research

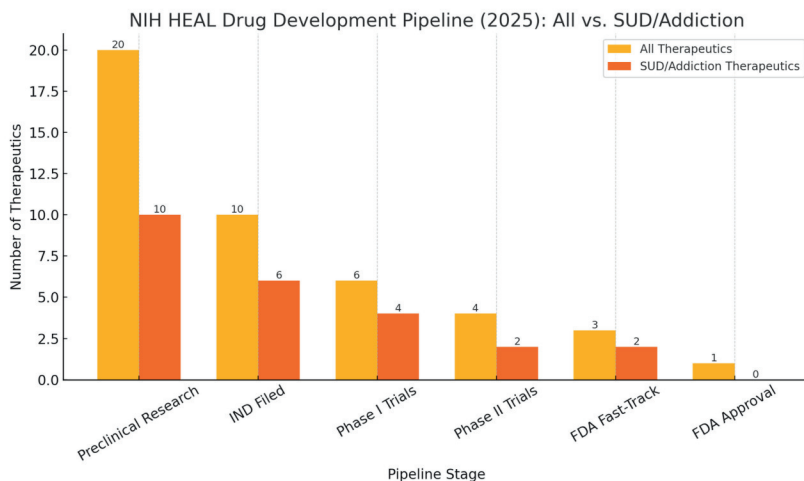
- Basic science is the foundation for clinical research
- Treating patients is like building a house on that foundation
- Pre-clinical research provides the backbone for clinical research
- This research is then translated into real-world applications, including the development of new medications for treating drug overdose and SUDs

NIH/NIDA Funding Needs

Medication & Device Development

- New & improved medications for SUDs
- Non-addictive pain medications
- Novel devices for SUDs and overdose

The HEAL Initiative



Helping to End Addiction Long-Term

- Recovery Research Networks
- Clinical Trials Network
- Preventing OUD
- Justice Community Overdose
- Innovation Network (JCOIN)
- Medications Development

SOURCE: National Institutes of Health. NIH HEAL Initiative®: 2025 Annual Report. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; 2025. Accessed January 28, 2026