

June 2023 Newsletter

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Cannabis Media Council Releases Guidelines for Responsible Cannabis Advertising

On June 1, the Cannabis Media Council released guidelines for responsible advertising for the cannabis industry. Read more [here](#).

NIH and FDA Call for More Research, Lower Barriers to Improve and Implement Drug- Checking Tools

In a new Commentary in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, leaders at the NIH and FDA highlight the urgent need to address current gaps in the research, development, and implementation of fentanyl test strips and other rapid drug-detecting tools that could help prevent overdose deaths. Read more [here](#).

Only 1 in 4 Adolescent Treatment Facilities Offer Buprenorphine

According to a new study published in *JAMA*, supported by NIDA and NCATS and led by researchers at Oregon Health & Science University, only 1 in 4 residential addiction treatment facilities caring for U.S. adolescents under 18 years old offer buprenorphine and only 1 in 8 offer buprenorphine for ongoing treatment. Read more [here](#).

Overdose Mortality Rates for Opioids and Stimulant Drugs Higher In Men

According to a new study published June 14 in *Neuropsychopharmacology*, led by investigators at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai in New York City and NIDA, men were significantly more vulnerable than women to overdose deaths involving opioid and stimulant drugs in 2020-2021. Read more [here](#).

Feds Aim to Complete Review of Cannabis by End of 2023

A key federal official has said that a review of the Schedule 1 classification of cannabis under federal law is on track to be submitted to President Joe Biden by the end of this year. HHS Secretary Xavier Becerra said the agency is working "as quickly as we can" to wrap up the review that was ordered by President Biden last year. Read more [here](#).

Xylazine Appears to Worsen Life-Threatening Effects of Opioids in Rats

A new study published in *Psychopharmacology*, suggests that xylazine can worsen the life-threatening effects of opioids in rats. Read more [here](#).

NIDA Accepting Applications to Notice of Special Interest on Xylazine

On June 12, NIDA released a Notice of Special Interest (NOSI) on "Xylazine: Understanding its Use and the Consequences." The purpose of this NOSI is to encourage research on the prevalence and consequences of xylazine use and the treatment of xylazine use and overdose alone or in combination with other drugs. Read more [here](#).

Biden Announces Intent to Appoint New CDC Director

On June 16, President Biden announced his intent to appoint Dr. Mandy Cohen as Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Cohen will replace current CDC Director Rochelle Walensky, who stepped down June 30. Read more [here](#).

FDA Issues First Draft Guidance on Clinical Trials with Psychedelic Drugs

On June 23, the Food and Drug Administration released its first draft guidance for researchers designing clinical trials using psychedelic drugs. Read more [here](#).

Link Between Cannabis Use Disorder and Schizophrenia Highest Among Young Men

A new study has found that young men with cannabis use disorder (CUD) are at an increased risk of developing schizophrenia. Read more [here](#).

U.S. Launching Global Opioid Coalition to Address Synthetic Drug Threats

The State Department will launch a global coalition to address synthetic drug threats at a virtual conference that Secretary of State Antony Blinken will host on July 7. Read more [here](#).

Xylazine Detections Increase According to CDC Data

According to new CDC data, the presence of Xylazine in overdoses from illegally manufactured fentanyl is up significantly in recent years. Read more [here](#).