

U.S. Opioid Epidemic & COVID-19 Pandemic

THE PERFECT STORM



applya[®]
Corporation

Confidence, Collaboration, & Compliance are all benefits your workplace will experience while utilizing our aPP network.

Widespread misuse of both prescription and non-prescription opioids led the United States to the epidemic of today. In 2017, Health and Human Services (HHS) declared a public health emergency.

Flash forward to 2020 to the introduction of another dynamic negatively affecting the United States population - COVID-19.

According to Harvey W. Kaufman, M.D., Senior Medical Director, Head of Health Trends Research Program at Quest Diagnostics, the combination of the opioid epidemic with the COVID-19 pandemic "has created the perfect storm for a rise in substance use disorders and other forms of prescription and illicit drug misuse. Stress, job losses, and depression compounded with isolation and a lack of access to health services can trigger prescription medication overuse, illicit drug use, or relapses."

Misuse of nonprescribed opioids and drug mixing rises

Quest reports an increase in drug positivity rate for non-prescribed fentanyl and 44% for heroin during the pandemic compared to the period prior to the pandemic.

Nonprescribed opioids also increased by 10%.

How do we weather the storm?

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends improving opioid prescribing, preventing opioid use disorder, treating opioid use disorder, and reversing overdoses.

applya can coordinate testing to include fentanyl in your child services, workplace testing, professional monitoring, and any other program testing for substance abuse/misuse.

We test through urine, hair/hair exposure, lab-based, and point of collection testing as an add on to a current panel or stand-alone test at a lower cost alternative compared to other national providers.

Contact sales@applya.com or 864-990-3696 today to discuss testing solution options and pricing.