



## Public Health Advisory

6/24/2024

### Increased Risk of Injury and Overdose Due to Disrupted Access to Prescription Stimulants

#### SITUATIONAL AWARENESS SUMMARY

**Situation:** The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) issued a [Health Advisory](#) on 6/13/24, regarding a federal indictment against a large subscription-based telehealth company that provides treatment nationwide for adults. This disruption may affect 30,000 to 50,000 patients, potentially interrupting their ADHD treatment and access to care. Additionally, a national shortage of several prescription stimulants (amphetamine, dextroamphetamine, lisdexamfetamine, and methamphetamine) is reported on the [FDA Drug Shortages](#) website. Patients with a disruption in access to stimulant medications may seek care and medications outside regulated healthcare systems, increasing the risk of injury and overdose from counterfeit and/or adulterated medication.

#### Recommendations for clinical providers:

- ✓ **Assist:** Provide **care that is free of stigma** for patients experiencing treatment disruptions.
  - Inform patients and their caregivers about **potential medication access difficulties and offer alternative [FDA-approved treatments](#)** or referrals to specialized clinicians.
- ✓ **Prescribe:** After [appropriate evaluation of ADHD](#), **continue prescribing medically indicated medications. Use the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP)** database to check patients stimulant prescription utilization histories.
- ✓ **Educate:** Counsel patients with a harm reduction model:
  - Emphasize the importance of obtaining prescriptions from licensed healthcare facilities and pharmacies as 70% of pills seized by the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) from the illegal drug market contain lethal dose of fentanyl.
  - Provide overdose prevention education including information on accessing fentanyl or xylazine test strips and naloxone (link to SNHD resource [here](#)).
  - Advise patients to contact Poison Control at 1-800-222-1222 for questions about any unknown substances.
  - Direct patients to call #988 or 1-800-662-HELP (4357) for help with stimulant use disorder or psychological distress.

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**Health Alert:** conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention

**Health Advisory:** provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action

**Health Update:** provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; unlikely to require immediate action

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