

# Bibliography of Resources for Teaching

## Main Resources

## References used in the Guest lecture on OIDA

### Academic

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*This news article discusses the role of McKinsey in advising companies who were directly responsible for kickstarting the opioid epidemic in the US.*

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## Publications based on Opioid Industry Documents from the Archive

### Academic

Caleb Alexander, G., Mix, L. A., Choudhury, S., Taketa, R., Tomori, C., Mooghali, M., Fan, A., Mars, S., Ciccarone, D., Patton, M., Apollonio, D. E., Schmidt, L., Steinman, M. A., Greene, J., Knight, K. R., Ling, P. M., Seymour, A. K., Glantz, S., & Tasker, K. (2022). The Opioid Industry Documents Archive: A living digital repository. *American Journal of Public Health, 112*(8), 1126–1129. <https://doi.org/10.2105/ajph.2022.306951>

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*This study discusses issues with research funded by opioid manufacturers that was used to support increased opioid prescribing.*

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Roderos, A., Wong, A., Chhen, J., Chiu, C., & Apollonio, D. E. (2023). Retail chain pharmacy opioid dispensing practices from 1997 to 2020: A content analysis of internal industry documents. *Drug and Alcohol Dependence Reports*, 100199. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.dadr.2023.100199>

*This article discusses the important role community pharmacy chains played in the opioid epidemic, which led to over 500,000 opioid overdose deaths between 1997 and 2020.*

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*This article discusses the industry strategies used to market opioids to children and women in the USA.*

Yakubi, H., Gac, B., & Apollonio, D. E. (2022b). Marketing opioids to veterans and older adults: A content analysis of internal industry documents released from *state of Oklahoma v. Purdue Pharma LP, et al.* *Journal of Health Politics, Policy and Law*, 47(4), 453–472.

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*This article discusses the industry strategies used to market opioids to older adults and veterans in the USA.*

## Investigative journalism and media that uses the OIDA collection

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<https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/health/2022/12/08/fentanyl-drugmaker-insys-documents/10841172002/?gnt-cfr=1>

*This article discusses how a fentanyl drugmaker Insys therapeutics bribed doctors, harmed patients, and amassed millions in the process.*

Fife, R., Chase, S., & Curry, B. (2023, June 20). *McKinsey pitched Purdue Pharma Canada on plan to boost opioid sales in 2014, memo reveals.* The Globe and Mail.

<https://www.theglobeandmail.com/politics/article-mckinsey-opioid-lawsuit-purdue-pharma/>

*This article discusses the involvement of McKinsey in advising Purdue Pharma to boost opioid sales in 2014 at Canada.*

Fortesa Latifi, V. S. (2022, July 25). *Some Trevor project staffers say CEO should resign after learning of work for opioid maker.* Teen Vogue. <https://www.teenvogue.com/story/trevor-project-feature-amit-paley>

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*This news article discusses the negligence of regulatory agencies in working with McKinsey without considering the conflict of interest represented by connections with big pharma companies.*

Hedgpeth, J. (2023). *The bankruptcy of Purdue Pharma in the wake of big tobacco.* Colorado Law Scholarly Commons. [https://scholar.law.colorado.edu/lawreview\\_forum/vol94/iss1/3/](https://scholar.law.colorado.edu/lawreview_forum/vol94/iss1/3/)

*This article compares the bankruptcy of Purdue Pharma as well its trajectory in the opioid industry to the various Tobacco companies that started the nicotine addiction in the US.*

Kornfield, M., Higham, S., & Rich, S. (2022, May). *Inside the opioid sales machine of the "kingpin" of Opioid Makers.* The Washington Post.

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Lev Facher, K. S. (2023, July 31). Documents detail how pharmacy giants Walgreens, CVS, and Walmart failed patients in the opioid crisis. STAT. <https://www.statnews.com/2022/10/14/walgreens-cvs-walmart-opioid-epidemic-documents/>

*This article explores the role of big chain pharmacies such as Walgreens, CVS, and Walmart in failing patients during the opioid crisis through irresponsible dispensing and verification practices.*

Ornstein, C. (2022, May 17). Documents reveal ties between opioid makers and doctors. ProPublica. <https://www.propublica.org/article/pharmaceuticals-pay-doctors-drugs>

*This article explores the financial relationships between pharmaceutical companies and the medical community, especially doctors.*

Press, C. J. (2023, March 13). McKinsey consulted Va while advising opioid makers to target agency for sales. The Wall Street Journal. <https://www.wsj.com/articles/mckinsey-consulted-va-while-advising-opioid-makers-to-target-agency-for-sales-170fcf94>

*The article discusses the role of McKinsey in advising companies such as Purdue Pharma to target veteran affairs for sale of their opioid products.*

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Schmitt, K. (2022, October 4). Documenting pharma's role in the opioid crisis. Hopkins Bloomberg Public Health Magazine. <https://magazine.jhsph.edu/2022/documenting-pharmas-role-opioid-crisis>

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*This article discusses the history of the drug oxycontin using unsealed internal Purdue pharma documents and correspondence released using OIDA documents*

*What Internal Drug Company documents on opioids reveal*. (2019, September 13). <https://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/2019/investigations/opioid-drug-company-documents/>

*An analysis of internal drug company documents related to the opioid epidemic and crisis presented by Washington Post.*

## Additional Resources for Teaching

### Relevant Statistics and Information

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

[Commonly Used Terms | Opioids | CDC](#)

**Summary:** This website provides the commonly used terms when describing and addressing patients with substance use disorders and basic naming conventions, terminologies, and definitions for common opioid related chemicals, synthetic products, and therapies.

[Opioid Overdose | Drug Overdose | CDC Injury Center](#)

**Summary:** The website provides data on the opioid overdose occurrence with respect to prescription drugs, heroin, and synthetic drugs. In addition, it also provides detailed data on fentanyl contaminated illegal substances and raises concern over its potency and the ability to kill unaware users.

[U.S. Opioid Dispensing Rate Maps | Drug Overdose | CDC Injury Center](#)

**Summary:** The website provides interactive maps of data on the geographical distribution of opioids dispensed per 100 people in in the United States at both the state and county level from 2006 to 2020.

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)

[Highlights for the 2021 National Survey on Drug Use and Health \(samhsa.gov\)](#)

**Summary:** This document presents the highlights of substance use and mental health estimates by race and ethnicity in the US in 2021.

[Results from the 2021 National Survey on Drug Use and Health \(NSDUH\): Key Substance Use and Mental Health Indicators in the United States | SAMHSA Publications and Digital Products](#)

**Summary:** the 2021 National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH) focuses on substance use, mental health, and treatment within the civilian, noninstitutionalized U.S. population aged 12 and older. The report presents estimates by age group and race/ethnicity for selected measures.

[National Survey on Drug Use and Health \(samhsa.gov\)](https://www.samhsa.gov/2k21-national-survey-on-drug-use-and-health)

**Summary:** Location to find the NSDUH survey for other years.

[National Substance Use and Mental Health Services Survey \(samhsa.gov\)](https://www.samhsa.gov/2k21-national-substance-use-and-mental-health-services-survey)

**Summary:** A survey that collects information pertaining to substance use and mental health services from treatment facilities in the US. Location to find these surveys from previous years or future years when available.

[National Survey of Substance Abuse Treatment Services \(samhsa.gov\)](https://www.samhsa.gov/2k21-national-survey-of-substance-abuse-treatment-services)

**Summary:** A census of treatment facilities on information such as location, organization, structure, services, and utilization of substance abuse treatment facilities in the US. Location to find these surveys from previous years or future years when available.

[Drug Abuse Warning Network \(samhsa.gov\)](https://www.samhsa.gov/drug-abuse-warning-network)

**Summary:** This network is a nationwide public health surveillance system produced by SAMHSA to capture data on emergency department visits related to substance use and misuse directly from the electronic health records provided by hospitals who participate.

[National Institute on Drug Abuse \(NIDA\)](https://www.nida.nih.gov/about-nida)

[Criminal Justice Drug fact](https://www.nida.nih.gov/publications/criminal-justice-drug-fact-sheet)

**Summary:** The website provides comprehensive information on the intersection of substance use disorders (SUDs) and the criminal justice system in the United States.

[Drug Overdose Death Rates | National Institute on Drug Abuse \(NIDA\) \(nih.gov\)](https://www.nida.nih.gov/data-research/drug-overdose-death-rates)

**Summary:** This website is made by NIDA to provide figures made with data provided by the CDC on drug overdose mortality characterized by genders, drug categories, and other factors.

[Products - Vital Statistics Rapid Release - Provisional Drug Overdose Data \(cdc.gov\)](https://www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/data/provisional)

**Summary:** This website provides 12 months-ending provisional drug overdose death counts by state and drug categories.

[Department of Health and Human Services \(HHS\)](https://www.hhs.gov/health-services)

[The Opioid Crisis and Economic Opportunity: Geographic and Economic Trends](https://www.hhs.gov/health-services/2021-opioid-crisis-economic-opportunity-geographic-economic-trends)

**Summary:** This study examines relationships between indicators of economic opportunity and the prevalence of prescription opioids and substance use in the United States. Overall, areas with lower economic opportunity are disproportionately affected by the opioid crisis. However, the extent of that relationship varies regionally.

## Other Sources

[Drug Related Crime Statistics \[2023\]: Offenses Involving Drug Use \(drugabusestatistics.org\)](https://www.drugabusestatistics.org/)

**Summary:** The website provides statistics on drug related crimes as well as offenses that involve drug use within the US context.

#### [Commercial Determinants of Health](#)

**Summary:** This WHO website provides information on how private sector and businesses could impact public health through means such as marketing strategies, lobbying, and misinformation.

#### [Tracking Opioid Settlements & Spending Plans Since 2019 \(opioidsettlementtracker.com\)](#)

**Summary:** Opioid Settlements and Lawsuits as well as the number of reparations paid since 2019.

## Books

### By Advisory Board Members

Herzberg, D. (2020). *White Market Drugs: Big Pharma and the Hidden History of Addiction in America*. University of Chicago.

Keefe, P.R. (2021). *Empire of Pain: The Secret History of the Sackler Dynasty*. Doubleday.

Lembke, A. (2016). *Drug Dealer, MD: How Doctors Were Duped, Patients Got Hooked, and Why It's So Hard to Stop*. Johns Hopkins University Press.

### Other Book Resources

Hansen, H. (2023). *Whiteout: How Racial Capitalism Changed the Color of Opioids in America*. University of California Press.

Higham, S. & Horwitz, S. (2022). *American Cartel: Inside the Battle to Bring Down the Opioid Industry*. Penguin Random House.

Hughes, E. (2022). *The Hard Sell: Crime and Punishment at an Opioid Startup*. Penguin Random House.

Macy, B. (2018). *Dopesick: Dealers, Doctors, and the Drug Company that Addicted America*. Little, Brown and Company.

Macy, B. (2022). *Raising Lazarus*. Little, Brown and Company.

Meier, B. (2018). *Pain Killer: An Empire of Deceit and the Origin of America's Opioid Epidemic*. Penguin Random House.

Quinones, S. (2015). *Dreamland: The True Tale of America's Opiate Epidemic*. Bloomsbury.

Sullivan, A. (2021). *Opioid Reckoning: Love, Loss, and Redemption in the Rehab State*. University of Minnesota Press.

Temple, J. (2016). *American Pain*. Lyons Press.

## News Articles about the Role of Corporate Tactics in the Opioid Crisis

"Mallinckrodt makes final plea for approval of bankruptcy opioid deal." Reuters. Retrieved from <https://www.reuters.com/legal/transactional/mallinckrodt-makes-final-plea-approval-bankruptcy-opioid-deal-2022-01-06/>

**Summary:** This article talked about Mallinckrodt Pharmaceutical's final appeal for the approval of a bankruptcy deal related to its involvement in the opioid epidemic, a significant moment in the ongoing legal battles with big pharma.

## Audiovisual Resources

### YouTube

#### News Documentaries

FRONTLINE PBS. (2020, January 23). How Insys Therapeutics Bribed Doctors and Made Millions [Video]. YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NqXZnAczbkM>

**Summary:** The video discusses the unethical actions of Insys Therapeutics that involved bribing doctors to prescribe Subsys, an opioid based pain medication, to patients with moderate or minor pain, shared by former VP of sales Alec Burlakoff.

CNBC Ambition. (2021, February 8). The First 10 Minutes: Profiting From Painkillers | CNBC Prime [Video]. YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GvJjDYY4chw>

**Summary:** This video discusses how the American opioid crisis has rapidly turned into an epidemic, especially escalated by individuals like John Kapoor, who have capitalized on it for personal gains.

FRONTLINE PBS | Official. (2020, June 18). Opioids, Inc. (full documentary) | FRONTLINE [Video]. YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WvCld2vKug8>

**Summary:** This documentary investigates the practices of Insys Therapeutics, revealing a rather disturbing narrative of pushing opioids, bribing doctors, and generating substantial profits by getting people hooked on their product Subsys. In addition, the video also shows the complicity of certain Wall Street investors who remained indifferent to these unethical behaviors.

Java Discover. (2021, December 3). The US Prescription Opioids Killing 170 Each Day | Big Pharma's Impunity: Tackling the Opioid Crisis [Video]. YouTube.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X320p3xx9KE>

**Summary:** This documentary follows the perspectives of those who are at the forefront of battle against opioid epidemic such as addicts trying to get clean, police, and prosecutors.

PBS NewsHour. (2021, February 10). How a powerful corporate consulting firm helped create the opioid epidemic [Video]. YouTube. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=msUA\\_6ZrZJ4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=msUA_6ZrZJ4)

**Summary:** This video explores how McKinsey has exacerbated the opioid crisis by supplying pharma companies with marketing strategies and schemes and how its actions caused conflict of interest by working with Purdue Pharma and FDA at the same time.

60 Minutes. (2020, June 23). Pharma execs used strip clubs, broke FDA laws to boost opioid sales [Video]. YouTube. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G1jLVP156\\_E](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G1jLVP156_E)

**Summary:** This documentary follows Alec Burlakoff and how he and other sales representatives bribed doctors to prescribe opioids to patients and specific other tactics used by pharma companies to push sales and get approval for marketing new drugs.

ColdFusion. (2019, July 27). The Sackler Family – A Secretive Billion Dollar Opioid Empire [Video]. YouTube. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zGcKURD\\_osM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zGcKURD_osM)

**Summary:** This documentary dives into how the Sackler family kickstarted the opioid epidemic and what was the motivation and thoughts behind their actions and what consequences and legal actions were taken against them.

ENDEVR. (2021, November 3). Opioid Tragedy: Inside the Fentanyl Crisis | Ten Dollar Death Trip | ENDEVR Documentary [Video]. YouTube. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Dfv\\_tISYl8A](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Dfv_tISYl8A)

**Summary:** This documentary follows the footsteps of healthcare workers, activists, dealers, and those who regularly use fentanyl in Vancouver Canada, and attempts to understand the stories behind each person and what initiatives are out there to help fight back against the spreading influence of these artificial synthetic drugs and how would the world respond to an issue transcending border.

Arkansas PBS. (2021, October 26). "7 Days: The Opioid Crisis in Arkansas" - Mid-America Emmy® Nominee [Video]. YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vBp0l7ClwO4>

**Summary:** This documentary shares stories on people from Arkansas who have experienced opioids either themselves or have lost family members to it and discusses the continued fight against regulating opioids misuse and addiction.

Unreported World. (2022, May 1). Fentanyl's deadly grip on St. Louis | Unreported World [Video]. YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qd5is7guSVY>

**Summary:** Similarly focused but with a focus on St. Louis and its population and how they deal with the increasingly dire situation regarding opioid misuse and overdoses.

VICE News. (2019, June 18). This OxyContin Salesman of The Year Doesn't Regret His Work (HBO) [Video]. YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NkkeolEJcHE>

**Summary:** This documentary follows the story of a sales representative who was the best at selling Oxycontin in 2008 and how he viewed his involvement in selling the products fueled the epidemic and what was going on inside the big pharma companies and what they were teaching their employees to do off the book.

The Fifth Estate. (2014, September 2). OxyContin - Time Bomb - the fifth estate [Video]. YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iNOHAJs9dBY>

**Summary:** This documentary discusses the situation with Oxycontin in Canada and how it evolved over the years until certain health networks and plans in Canada dropped oxycontin from the drug list altogether.

The Wall Street Journal. (2017, January 3). American Epidemic: The Nation's Struggle with Opioid Addiction [Video]. YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nNj89ohoYQ0>

**Summary:** This documentary presents stories of patients who were addicted to opioids and their families, and how they together fought against the lingering effects of opioids on their body and family dynamics. In addition, it aims to show how any ordinary person could be affected by opioids and that the epidemic itself is not far from all of us.

TELUS Health. (2018, November 22). Painkiller: Inside the Opioid Crisis [Video]. YouTube.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nLrUHrpjd2o>

**Summary:** Canadian Screen Award winner documentary focusing on the streets of Vancouver and those who were impacted and have family members killed by opioids and drug overdoses in Canada.

Witness. (2023, August 6). America's Opioid Crisis: The Doctors on Trial for Murder | Witness | Prescription Drugs Documentary [Video]. YouTube.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VJSEOCspkac>

**Summary:** This documentary explores the role doctors play in fueling the opioid epidemic especially since patients were often led to believe that doctors would do no harm to them and this as a result caused many patients to be hooked on opioids such as oxycontin and attempts to understand to what extent does pain management as a practice influence doctor's decision to prescribe such potent medications.

Quartz. (2019, September 18). Why America's opioid epidemic is going global [Video]. YouTube.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uxVeGsjHxjY>

**Summary:** With how much that has been going on in the US on opioid misuse and overdose for things such as Oxycontin and fentanyl, we often ignore the scope of the issue and what is happening abroad. This documentary explores how Mundipharma, the oversea arm of Purdue pharma market and sell its drug in other countries such as France.

I Love Docs. (2023, August 14). The American Opioid Crisis - Documentary [Video]. YouTube.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bv4wp138OyQ>

**Summary:** Similarly focused documentary that focuses on talbot, a peaceful and beautiful county in Maryland that is plagued by opioid misuse and overdose deaths among its residents, with a focus on the perspectives of parents who lost their children, police who saw in firsthand the rise of drug related crimes and etc.

Cronkite News. (2017, January 10). HookedRx: From Prescription to Addiction | Cronkite News [Video]. YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hl2yh2kKfmM>

**Summary:** Similarly focused documentary that focuses on Arizona's Opioid crisis.

WRAL Docs. (2023, March 15). Crisis Next Door - The Fentanyl Epidemic [Video]. YouTube.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cidH\\_i4BA10](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cidH_i4BA10)



**Summary:** This documentary details the stories of those families who were impacted by opioids and shares how opioids gradually manipulate users to seek street drugs and other illegal substances which further exacerbate issues related to opioid misuse and overdose in our society.

## Talk Show Clips

Last Week Tonight. (2016, October 24). Opioids: Last Week Tonight with John Oliver (HBO) [Video]. YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5pdPrQFjo2o>

**Summary:** John Oliver discusses the extent to which the opioid epidemic in the US has evolved, drawing attention the alarming nature of the crisis.

Last Week Tonight. (2019, April 15). Opioids II: Last Week Tonight with John Oliver (HBO) [Video]. YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-qCKR6wy94U>

**Summary:** John Oliver explores how the big pharmaceutical companies have contributed to the ever-worsening opioid epidemic in the US and how the lack of oversight on these companies by agencies such as FDA and DEA played an important role on the current statement of crisis, and expresses concern over whether or not these regulatory bodies are capable of protecting citizens from the greed of big pharma.

Last Week Tonight. (2021, September 8). Opioids III: The Sacklers: Last Week Tonight with John Oliver (HBO) [Video]. YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uaCalhfETsM>

**Summary:** John Oliver discusses the role of the Sackler family in the aggressive marketing of Oxycontin which resulted in the start of a rampant opioid epidemic and how they are being prosecuted and trialed for their crimes and what concessions they have made to keep their reputations at the expenses of those who were previously affected by Purdue Pharma's drug Oxycontin.

Last Week Tonight. (2023, October 23). McKinsey: Last Week Tonight with John Oliver (HBO) [Video]. YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AiOUojVd6xQ>

**Summary:** John Oliver takes an approach on examining the controversial and hypocritical role of the consulting company McKinsey in helping companies such as Purdue Pharma develop promotional and marketing strategies that ultimately resulted in people getting addicted to Oxycontin and contribute to the opioid epidemic. He also discusses how McKinsey's actions may have violated the rule of conflict of interest as its consultants were working for both the FDA and Purdue Pharma at the same time and calls for more regulation and oversight on these consulting company and their behaviors, working for unethical clients around the globe.

The Late Show with Stephen Colbert. (2018, September 15). Colbert Links Big Pharma's Sackler Family to America's Opioid Crisis [Video]. YouTube.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cJ\\_lyeH7OQs](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cJ_lyeH7OQs)

**Summary:** Stephen Colbert discusses the involvement of the Sackler Family in the ongoing opioid crisis and point out the sinister nature of their actions and motives.

The Daily Show with Trevor Noah. (2019, September 11). Big Pharma Pays Up for Their Part in the Opioid Crisis | The Daily Show [Video]. YouTube. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=phjk0k\\_CQN8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=phjk0k_CQN8)

**Summary:** Trevor Noah discusses the recent progress in legal actions against pharmaceutical companies that were involved with starting the opioid epidemic in the US, saying that although they are now punished and asked to pay reparations to those whom they have harmed, the scale to which they have damaged our society is immeasurable and require further scrutiny.

## Documentary films

### [All the Beauty and Bloodshed](#)

Poitras, L. (Producer) (2022). All the Beauty and Bloodshed [Documentary]. Praxis Films.

### [The Crime of the Century](#)

Gibney, A. (Director). (2021). The Crime of the Century [Documentary]. Jigsaw Productions.

### [Heroin\(e\)](#)

Wilson, E. (Director). (2017). Heroin(e) [Documentary]. Netflix.

## TV Shows

### [Dopesick](#)

Harrop, D., Soderbergh, S., Macy, W. H., & Koppelman, B. (Producers). (2021). Dopesick [TV series]. Fox 21 Television Studios.

### [Painkiller](#)

Stahl, A., & Ehrlich, R. (Directors). (2021). Painkiller [TV Series]. Vice Media.

## Relevant Academic Articles

Hoopsick, R. A., Homish, G. G., & Leonard, K. E. (2021). Differences in Opioid Overdose Mortality Rates Among Middle-Aged Adults by Race/Ethnicity and Sex, 1999-2018. *Public health reports (Washington, D.C.: 1974)*, 136(2), 192–200. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0033354920968806>

**Summary:** This study examined national trends in opioid overdose mortality rates among middle-aged adults by race/ethnicity and sex and urges policymakers to consider unique subgroup risks and the alternative trajectories of opioid use.

Santoro, T. N., & Santoro, J. D. (2018). Racial Bias in the US Opioid Epidemic: A Review of the History of Systemic Bias and Implications for Care. *Cureus*, 10(12), e3733.

<https://doi.org/10.7759/cureus.3733>

**Summary:** This article discussed racial bias in the context of the opioid epidemic in the United States. It provided a historical review of systemic bias and its implications for healthcare and examined how racial bias has influenced the response to the opioid crisis and the disparities in treatment and care for different racial groups.

Volkow, N. D., & Blanco, C. (2021). The changing opioid crisis: development, challenges and opportunities. *Molecular psychiatry*, 26(1), 218–233. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41380-020-0661-4>

**Summary:** This study discussed the evolving nature of the opioid crisis, highlighting its development, challenges, and potential opportunities for intervention and examined the changing patterns of opioid misuse and the implications for public health strategies.

Kariisa, M., Davis, N. L., Kumar, S., et al. (2022). Vital Signs: Drug Overdose Deaths, by Selected Sociodemographic and Social Determinants of Health Characteristics — 25 States and the District of Columbia, 2019–2020. *MMWR Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*, 71, 940–947.

<https://doi.org/10.15585/mmwr.mm7129e2>

**Summary:** This study provides a detailed analysis of drug overdose deaths in the U.S. during 2019–2020, focusing on demographic disparities and associated impact by opioid use.

Singh, G. K., Kim, I. E., Girmay, M., Perry, C., Daus, G. P., Vedamuthu, I. P., De Los Reyes, A. A., Ramey, C. T., Martin, E. K., & Allender, M. (2019). Opioid Epidemic in the United States: Empirical Trends, and A Literature Review of Social Determinants and Epidemiological, Pain Management, and Treatment Patterns. *International journal of MCH and AIDS*, 8(2), 89–100.

<https://doi.org/10.21106/ijma.284>

**Summary:** This article identified gaps and analyzed recent empirical trends in US drug overdose mortality by key social determinants as well as conducted a selective review of the recent literature available on the magnitude of the opioid crisis facing different racial/ethnic, socioeconomic, and rural-urban segments of the US population.