



Incorporating Emergency Medical Services into Opioid Recovery Initiatives in New Jersey

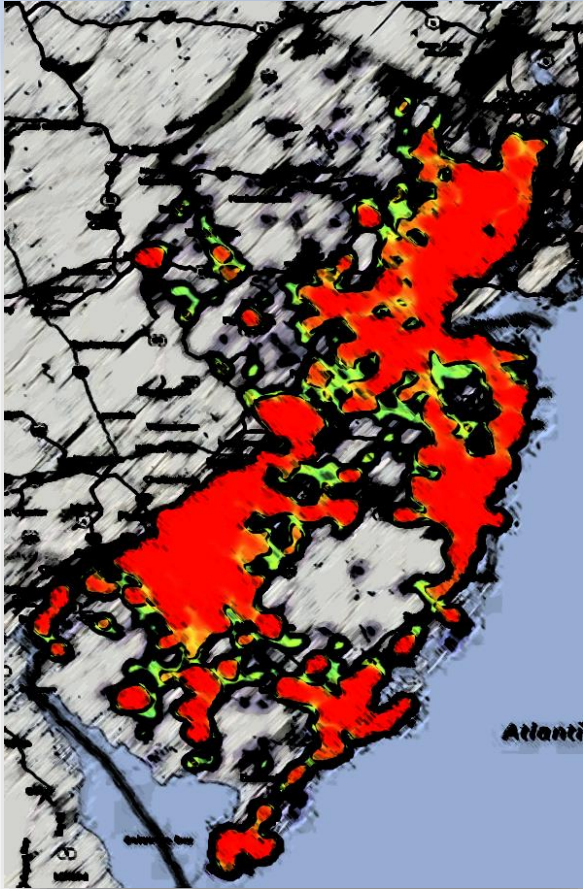
Presented by: Timothy Seplaki, BS, NRP, CPM

EMS Workforce

- 1:** What are the biggest challenges in engaging EMS agencies in recovery initiatives in your state?
- 2:** What are the biggest governmental barriers to implementing EMS-related programs in your state?



EMS Workforce



- 23,940 EMTs
- 1,752 Paramedics
- = **25,692 EMS Clinicians**

Are we using this resource effectively??



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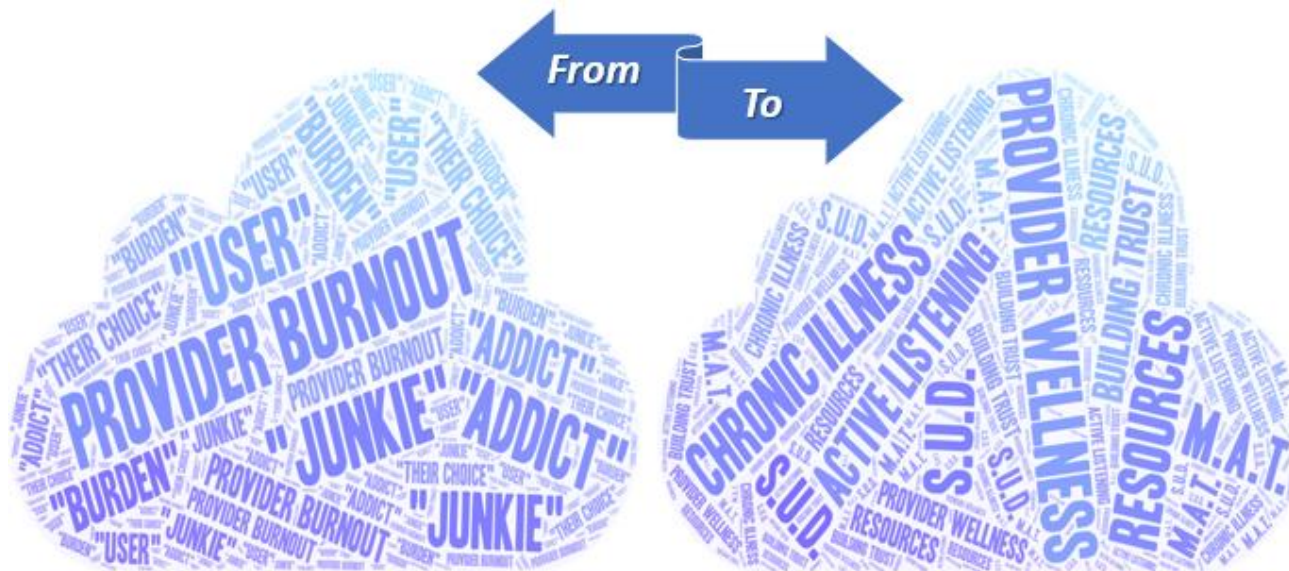
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Background

New Jersey's Overdose Epidemic:

- New Jersey's Emergency Medical Services (EMS) treat 37 overdoses per day
- Approx. half refuse transport or leave the ED prior to being seen
- EMS taught to treat the physical symptoms
- Breaking Stigma – “Choose to use” vs. SUD as a chronic illness
- Maximizing patient interaction

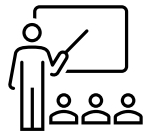


Five Minutes to Help Background



Goals of the Program for EMS Clinicians:

- Substance Use Disorder (SUD) as a chronic disease and Medication Assisted Treatment
- Understand the components of addiction treatment and harm reduction
- Practice motivational interviewing
- Learn proper communication with individuals following treatment from a suspected overdose
- Awareness of recovery resources available locally, regionally, statewide
- Access materials to provide patients with post-overdose



Training Components:

- 1-hour self guided class available 24/7
- 4-hour Interactive Provider Course
- 8-hour Local Instructor Course



Five Minutes to Help Training Outcomes

- 150 instructors trained
- 215 providers attended classes
- Over 1000 attended the online class

- 98% of instructors had increased confidence in teaching the course
- 90% indicated they have applied concepts learned

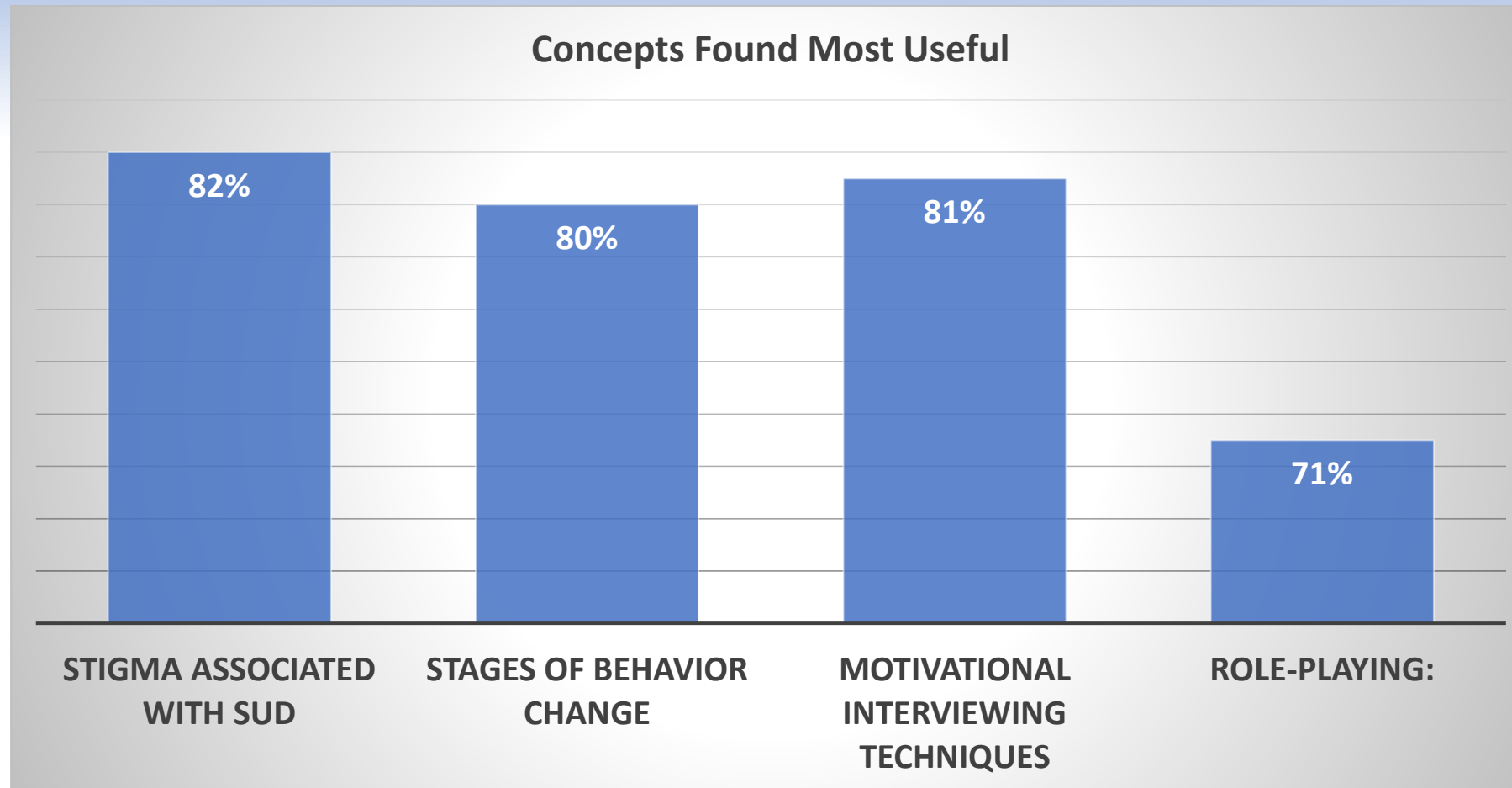
Quotes from Instructors:

"I have changed my attitude and goals when responding to overdose calls."

"I learned compassion, understanding, empathy, and active listening, while recognizing the situation is an illness, not a choice."

"I have thought more about how to talk to individuals struggling with SUD and the verbiage I use when doing so."

Five Minutes to Help Survey



Moving Forward

- Refresher Course
- “Chat Bot” Practice Module
- National Conference on EMS
- Naloxone Leave Behind Law
- Expansion of Buprenorphine

BotFlow

This is a practice conversation with a patient with SUD who is suffering from an overdose. Select the option that is the best response to what the patient says. In some cases, there is more than one possible answer.

How would you begin a conversation with Rob after administering Narcan to him?

What do you think about the idea of recovery?

Rob: I'm not sure. I went once before and it helped, but then I relapsed.

Why do you think you relapsed?

It takes a lot of courage to begin treatment. Tell me about the benefits of being in recovery.



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