The following report outlines emergency department (ED) and urgent care (UC) drug overdose events by Lake County residents during the month of August. During this timeframe, a total of 37 recorded drug overdose ED/UC events met the inclusion criteria listed below, accounting for 0.6% of all September ED/UC visits among Lake County residents. This represents a decrease from the previous month’s 49 drug overdose ED/UC visits. One fatality was reported among those reporting to ED/UCs during the month of September.

In September, Lake County drug overdose ED/UC admissions occurred among individuals ranging from 16 to 89 years of age. Three events involved an illicit substance and 41 involved an unspecified substance (Figure 1). Moreover, 22 ED/UC visits resulted in routine discharge, while four were transferred to other care facilities, three were discharged to treatment, two left against medical advice, one resulted in a fatality, and five lacked reported discharge information.

August

49

Overdose Visits

September

37

Overdose Visits

Figure 1. Overdoses by Type

Ages:

16 to 89

Average:

40 Years

97%

Caucasian

51%

Female

Illicit

8%

Unspecified Substance

92%

Inclusion Criteria:
The data presented in this report was retrieved from Ohio’s EpiCenter Health Monitoring System, as identified by the “Ohio Opioid-Related: Suspected Drug Overdose” classifier. Data prior to August 2019 was identified using the “Traumatic Injury: Drugs” classifier. This report contains information about Lake County residents, regardless of ED/UC location, and drug–related cases include all ED/UC admits specifying overdose or poisoning. Admits without supporting information, or otherwise indicative of a suicide attempt, intentional overdose, or accidental insulin overdose were excluded from this analysis, as were cases presenting for detox or withdrawal symptoms. In most cases, the drug responsible for the overdose is not indicated. As such, the included figures are not limited to opioid-related events.
Geographical Distribution

In what areas were overdoses most prevalent?

In September, the greatest frequency of ED/UC overdose events occurred amongst those residing in zip code 44095 (Figure 2). ED/UC overdose events increased in 44057 (8.0%) and 44095 (24.3%), and decreased in 44060 (1.5%), 44077 (5.5%), 44081 (0.7%), 44092 (14.3%), and 44094 (10.3%). For the eleventh consecutive month, no overdose visits were observed among residents of 44045.

ED/UC overdose events varied by age across each of the reported zip codes (Figure 3). Overdose event frequency was highest among those 25 to 44 years of age (59.0%), followed by those 45 to 64 years of age (27.0%), 18 to 24 years of age (5.5%), 65 years or older (5.5%), and those 18 years and younger (3.0%).

At which Lake County facilities did overdose events present?

During the month of September, the highest proportion of Lake County residents who presented to ERs/UCs for suspected drug overdoses presented to West Medical Center (43.3%), followed by TriPoint (27.0%), facilities outside of Lake County (21.6%), and Madison Campus (8.1%).

Table 1. Overdose Reporting Facility

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Facility</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>(%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Madison Campus</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>8.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TriPoint Medical Center</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>27.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Medical Center</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>43.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outside of County</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>21.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>37</strong></td>
<td><strong>100.0</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
How does this compare with past years?

The September 2020 Lake County ED/UC overdose event rate per 100,000 population is the seventh highest rate observed for September in the past 10 years (Figure 4). It is 35% lower than the rate for September 2019, and 60% lower than the peak rate of 40.1 observed in September 2016.

In order to provide for comparisons of daily ED/UC overdose event frequency, September events by day are illustrated for 2018, 2019, and 2020 (Figure 5). The daily maximum of six for September of 2020 is 14% lower than the daily maximum of seven reported in 2019, but 50% higher than the daily maximums of four reported in 2018. Moreover, mean daily ED/UC overdose event frequency for September of 2020 (1.2) is lower than the rates in both September of 2018 and 2019 (1.9).

A total of 10 days with no ED/UC overdose events were observed during September of 2020, as compared to four days in September of 2019, and three in September of 2018. September 2020 overdose events peaked on September 27, as compared to the 2019 peak which occurred on September 8, and the 2018 peaks, which occurred on September 9, 19, and 21.
When organized by month, ED/UC overdose events decreased 21% from September to November, increased 29% from November to December, decreased 47% from December to February, increased 97% from February to July, and decreased 39% from July to September (Figure 8). A total of 397 ED/UC visits for drug-related overdose events have been observed thus far in 2020, as compared to 463 during the same time frame in 2019.

When organized by day of week, the frequency of ED/UC overdose events was highest on Sundays and Tuesdays (27.0%, respectively; Figure 6). Wednesdays experienced the second highest frequency of overdose events (16.2%), followed by Saturday (10.8%) and Friday (8.1%). Mondays and Thursdays had the lowest frequency of occurrences (5.4%, respectively).

September ED/UC overdose events were most prominent during the 10:00 am hour (Figure 7). Secondary peaks occurred around 3:00 pm and 9:00-10:00 pm hours. No overdose events presented to ED/UCs during the hours of 2:00 am, 4:00 am, 7:00 am, 11:00 am, 6:00-7:00 pm, or 11:00 pm hours during the month of September.

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Project DAWN Naloxone Clinics

Due to the ongoing situation with COVID-19 and response efforts, all in-person Project DAWN Clinics have been canceled until further notice.

Training and registration to receive a naloxone kit is available on our website for residents of Lake County, as well as other counties in Ohio without an active Project DAWN Program. For more information, please visit: [https://www.lcghd.org/naloxone-distribution/](https://www.lcghd.org/naloxone-distribution/).

Pharmaceutical Disposal Instructions

Before disposing of pharmaceuticals at one of the drop-off locations, be sure to remove or black-out identifiable information on the pharmacy label. Disposable items suitable for drop-off include:

- Unused or expired medications
- Prescriptions, non-prescription pills, syrups, and creams
- Pain and mood altering medications
- Pain relievers, over-the-counter cold and flu medication, vitamins, and pet medications

Pharmaceutical Drug Collection and Disposal Locations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Eastlake Police Department       | 35150 Lakeshore Boulevard    | 440-996-2 |}

Note: No Sunday Hours at Lakeland

Lake County General Health District Resources

Lake County General Health District

Public Health

Prevent. Promote. Protect.

5966 Heisley Road · Mentor, Ohio 44060 · 440.350.2543 · www.lcghd.org

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