



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

# SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER TREATMENT AND PREVENTION IN VIRGINIA

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OCTOBER 20, 2018

# SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER TREATMENT AND PREVENTION

## **Strategies and Interventions:**

- Implement MedEx and expand ARTS program
- Focus on prevention and de-stigmatizing addiction
- Build capacity of communities through local coalition development
- Limit availability of prescription opioids for misuse

# SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER TREATMENT AND PREVENTION

## **Strategies and Interventions:**

- Establish pathways to treatment and increase trained providers
- Support services for people in recovery
- Establish operational comprehensive harm reduction programs
- Develop model protocols for medication assisted treatment (MAT) for individuals released from correctional settings

# SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER FRAMEWORK



# 2017 REGULATORY CHANGES: BOARDS OF MEDICINE AND DENTISTRY REGULATIONS – PAIN MANAGEMENT

- Initial acute pain opioid prescriptions not to exceed 7 days
- Document reasons to exceed 50 MME/day, refer to pain specialist over 120 and co-prescribe naloxone
- Limit co-prescribing of benzos, sedative hypnotics, carisoprodol, and tramadol
- Buprenorphine primarily indicated for addiction
- Requirement of patient history and risk prior to Rx
- Consider non-opioid treatment first
- Document rationale to continue opioids every 3 months
- Regular opioid use disorder screens and referral to Tx

# PRESCRIBING REGULATION IMPACT

 Health Professions

Virginia Residents Receiving  
Opioid Prescriptions



The Virginia Prescription Monitoring Program recorded 580,256 Virginia Residents received an opioid prescription in Q2 2018. This is a decline from the previous quarter and is part of a general downward trend in the number of Virginia residents who receive opioid prescriptions.

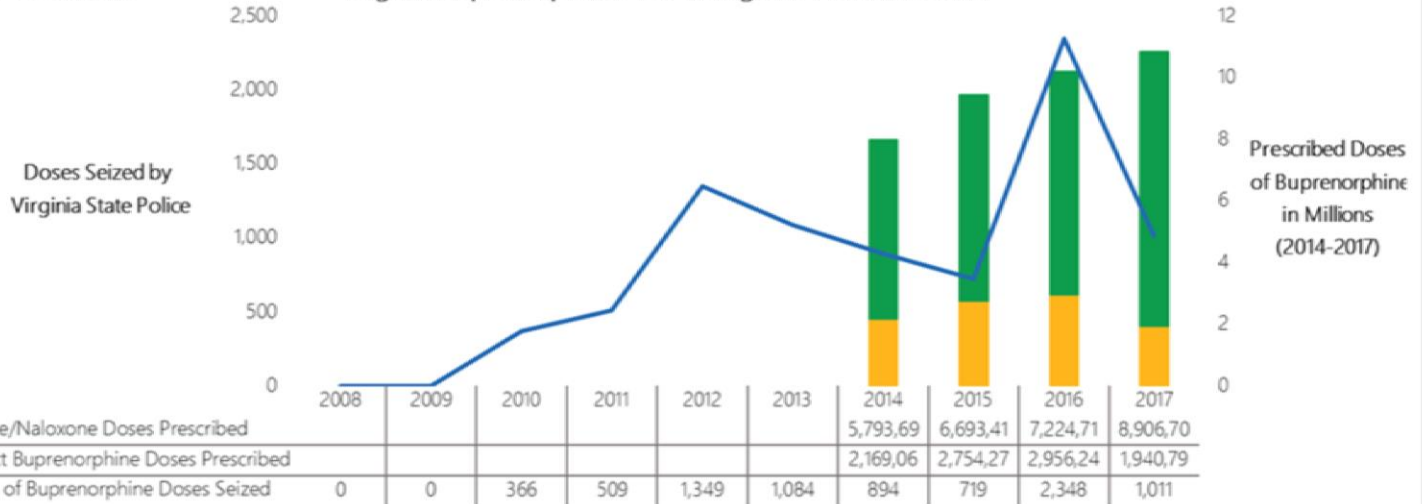
# 2017 REGULATORY CHANGES: BOARD OF MEDICINE REGULATIONS – ADDICTION TREATMENT

- Requires MAT be prescribed alongside counseling
- Requires use of less-abusable/divertable suboxone as opposed to subutex
- Requires that Subutex (monoproduct) is to be prescribed only for pregnant women and people with documented allergies

# TREATMENT REGULATION IMPACT



Virginia Buprenorphine Prescribing and Police Seizures

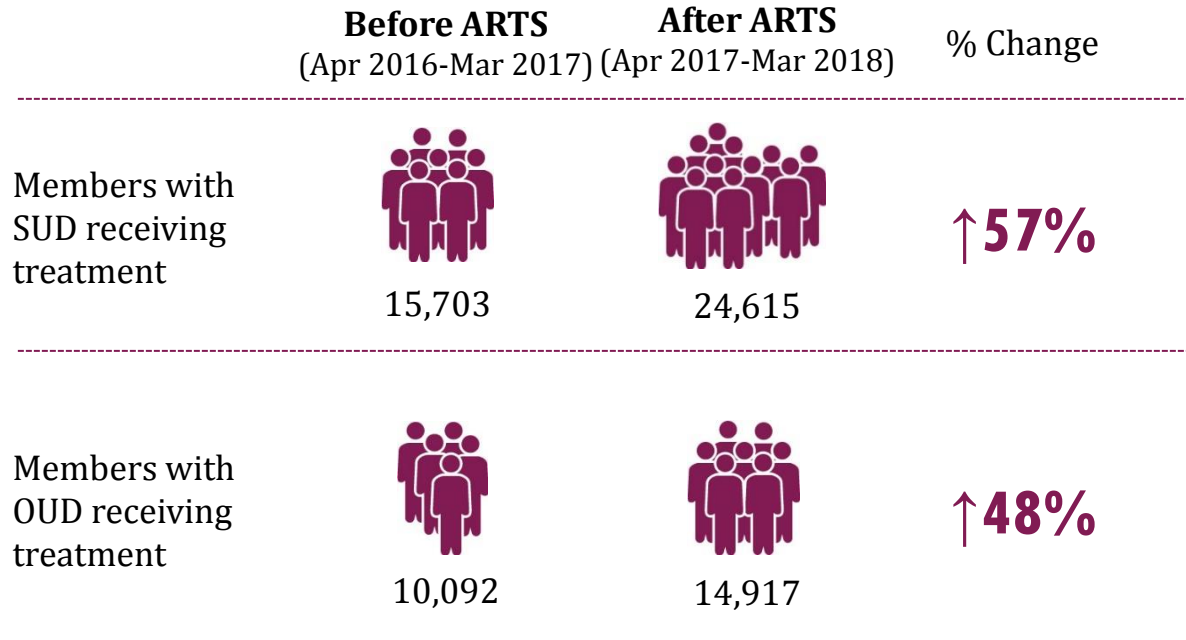


Source: Buprenorphine Seizures Data 2008-2017 Virginia State Police Bureau of Criminal Investigations. Buprenorphine prescription doses (2014-2017) from Virginia Prescription Monitoring Program



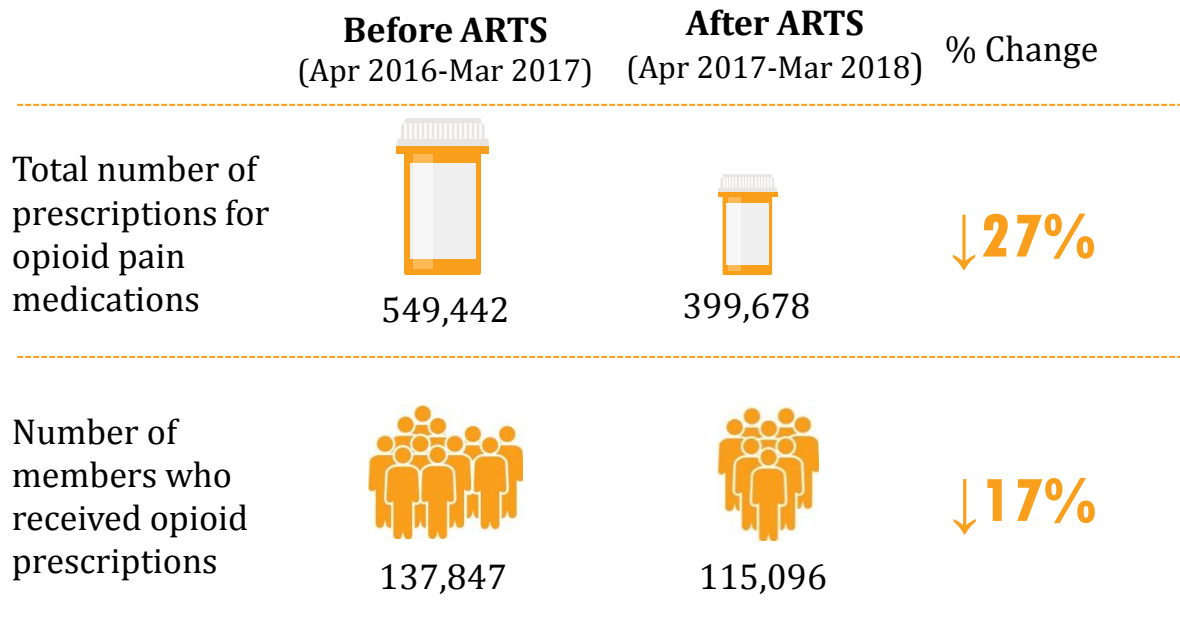
# VCU Evaluation: Outcomes From First Year of ARTS

More members are receiving treatment for all Substance Use Disorders (SUD) and Opioid Use Disorder (OUD)



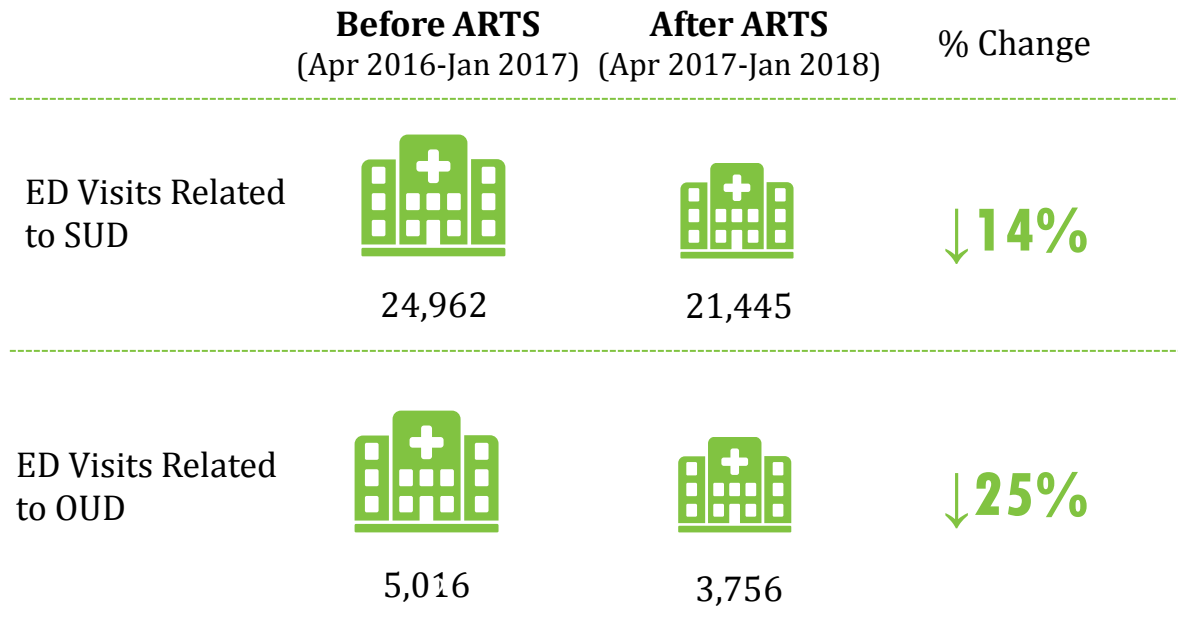
# VCU Evaluation: Outcomes From First Nine Months of ARTS

Decrease in total number of prescriptions and members with prescriptions for opioid pain medications



# VCU Evaluation: Outcomes From First Ten Months of ARTS

## Fewer Emergency Department visits related to Substance Use Disorder (SUD) and Opioid Use Disorder (SUD)



# COMPREHENSIVE HARM REDUCTION

- The *Code of Virginia, Section 32.1-45.4*, authorizes the State Health Commissioner to establish and operate local or regional comprehensive harm reduction (CHR) programs during a public health emergency.
- The purpose of this law is to interrupt transmission of HIV, hepatitis B virus, and hepatitis C virus by providing services such as testing, referral to substance use disorder treatment, and the provision of sterile and disposal of used hypodermic syringes and needles.
- As of August 8, 2018, VDH has authorized the Lenowisco Health District to operate a CHR program in Wise County, and Health Brigade, a free clinic, to operate a CHR program in Richmond.

# CURRENT KEY INITIATIVES OF THE ADMINISTRATION (ELT)

- Establish operational comprehensive harm reduction programs in Virginia.
- Build the capacity of Virginia's communities to address the addition epidemic through community mobilization and coalition development.
- Limit availability of prescription opioids for misuse.
- Develop model protocols for Medically Assisted Treatment (MAT) for individuals that are being released from correctional settings that local/regional jails and CSBs can use to implement.
- Establish pathways to treatment and recovery supports in Virginia.

# DANIEL CAREY, MD

Secretary of Health and Human Resources

[www.hhr.virginia.gov](http://www.hhr.virginia.gov)



@VaSecofHealth

**WE NEED YOUR  
VOICE TO SOLVE  
VIRGINIA'S  
OPIOID CRISIS**