

University of Utah Hospital

INITIAL EDDS EHR RESULTS, January 2016-May 2021

University of Utah Hospital (Salt Lake City, Utah) submitted drug test results for 1,884 specimens tested for at least one of five drugs by the hospital laboratory for the period of January 1, 2016 through May 20, 2021 that met the study eligibility criteria. De-identified data were obtained for patients 18 years or older presenting to the emergency department with a complaint of “overdose” or “naloxone” and/or any ICD 10-CM T36-T50 initial encounter diagnosis code of overdose with accidental (unintentional), intentional self-harm, or undetermined intent that had a drug test conducted with valid drug test results available.¹ Not all specimens were tested for all drugs. Therefore 1,465 urine specimens were tested for barbiturates, 1,780 blood (serum) specimens were tested for benzodiazepines, 1,626 urine specimens were tested for cocaine, 1,629 urine specimens were tested for opiates, and 1,629 urine specimens were tested for stimulant amines.

Highlights from Table 1 and Figures 1 and 2

- In the April-May 2021 partial quarter, benzodiazepines (9%) were near their 6-year low of 8% (T-1).
- Stimulant amines (20%) were the most prevalent drug in the April-May 2021 partial quarter (F-1).
- Benzodiazepines and barbiturates are near/at the bottom of their 6-year ranges (F-2).

Figures 3, 4, and 5 analyze combined data from January 2016-May 2021

- Patients positive for benzodiazepines and opiates had the highest median ages (37 and 37, respectively, F-3).
- Cocaine and opiate positive specimens contained the largest number of drugs (mean=2.01 and 1.78 respectively, F-4).
- 43% of cocaine positive specimens also contained stimulant amines and 43% contained opiates. 42% of opiate positive specimens also tested positive for stimulant amines (F-5).

COVID-19 Tests

- Covid-19 test results were included in the dataset for 325 patients tested from March 2020 to May 2021. Of these, 318 (98%) tested negative for Covid-19.

¹Only includes visits with initial encounter ICD-10-CM diagnosis codes of T36–T50 with a sixth character of 1, 2, or 4 (exceptions for T36.9, T37.9, T39.9, T41.4, T42.7, T43.9, T45.9, T47.9, and T49.9, which were included if the code had a fifth character of 1, 2, or 4) and a seventh character of “A” (initial encounter).