

## Statewide Opioid Reporting Directive Newsletter

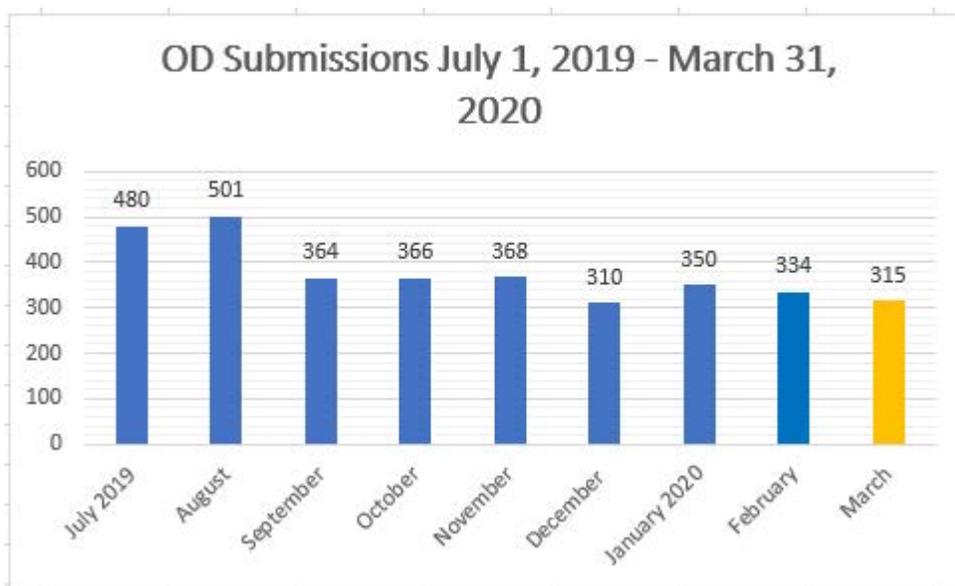
April 2020, Issue XI

### SWORD Statewide Reporting March 2020

In the month of March 2020, there were 315 calls into the CT Poison Control Center (CPCC). Of these calls, 287 were non-fatal and 27 resulted in fatalities. There were 243 total naloxone administrations: 157 non-fatal multiple doses of naloxone administered, 77 non-fatal single dose naloxone, and 51 non-fatal with no naloxone administered. Three (3) non-fatal with “unknown” naloxone administered. Of the 27 fatalities, eight (8) received multiple doses of naloxone, one (1) was given a single dose, and eighteen (18) with no naloxone administered. The gender breakdown for the state is: Male (218); Female (95) and (2) unknown.

The 314 cases involved suspected overdoses from all of our counties: Fairfield (54), Hartford (119), Litchfield (20), Middlesex (19), New Haven (61), New London (33), Tolland and Windham (9). The age breakdown of the patients is as follows: 0 to 24 years of age (27); 25 to 34 years of age (100); 35 to 44 years of age (75); 45 to 54 years of age (47); 55 to 64 years of age (45); 65 years of age and older (16); age unknown (5).

\*Numbers subject to change



This graph shows the total suspected overdoses called into CPCC by month since July 1, 2019

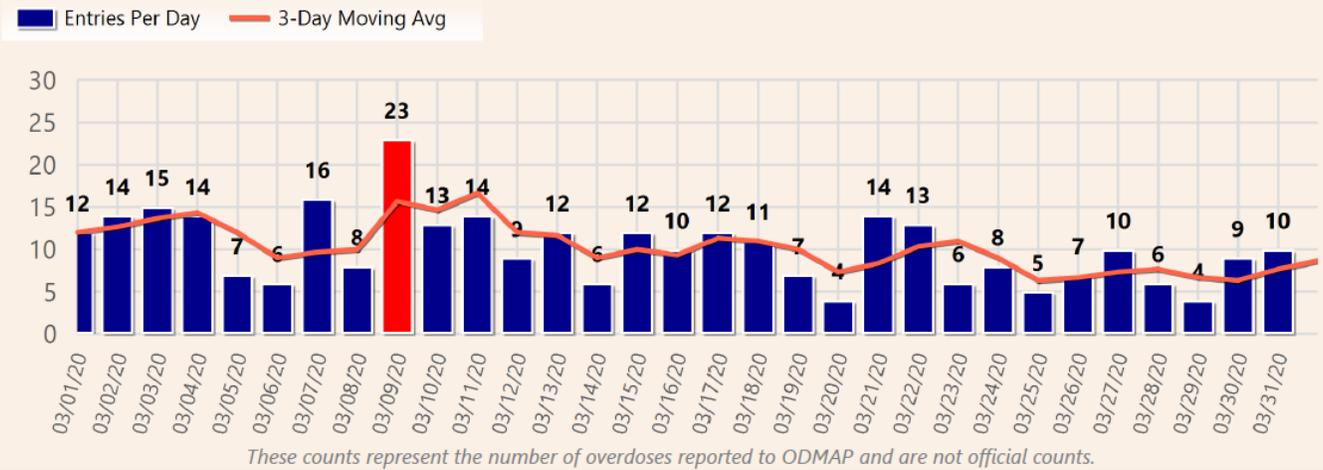
**KUDOS:**

[Redacted Name]

[Redacted Name]

[Redacted Name], and all who have called in SWORD cases to the CPCC. Keep up the great work!

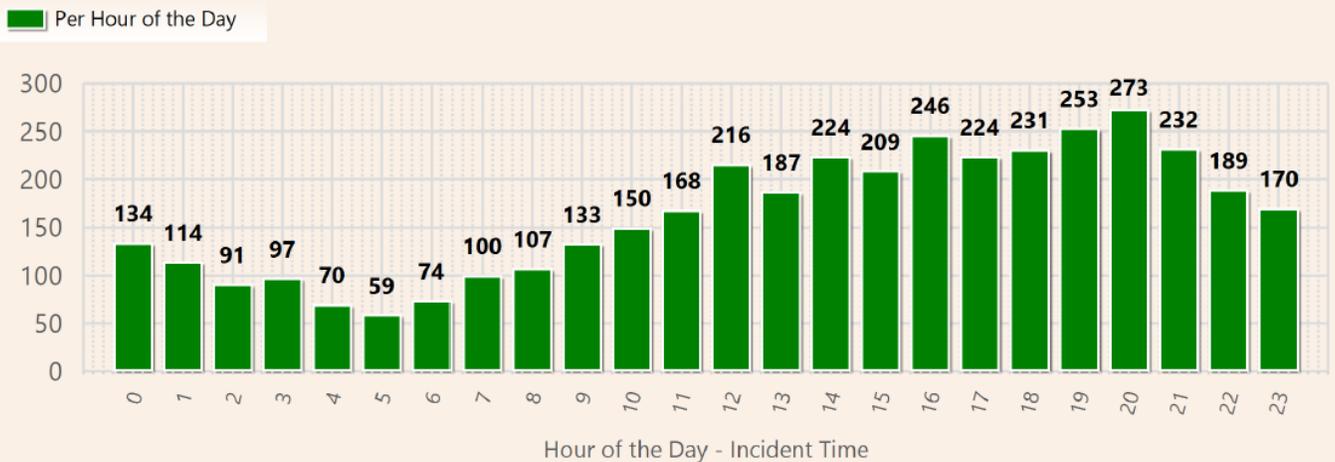
**ODMAP Suspected Overdose Submissions - In the Last Month**



**March, 2020 ODMAP Suspected OD Submissions by day.**

This graph shows total suspected overdoses called in each day during the time period. The red line running horizontally shows a 3-day moving average of call-ins.

**ODMAP Suspected Overdose Submissions - All Data Submitted**



**Cumulative (June—March 31, 2020) Overdoses by the Hour of the Day**

This graph shows the hour of the day suspected overdose incidents have occurred statewide since the SWORD program began on June 1, 2019.

\*Note: All data in this newsletter comes from reports made by CT EMS and can be viewed in ODMAP Level 2\*

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## During COVID-19, EMS Contribution to Public Health Surveillance of Opioid Overdoses Remains Vitally Important!

The Covid-19 Pandemic is expected to have wide-ranging effects on the opioid use disorder (OUD) population in Connecticut. The possible disruption of established drug supplies may force people with OUD to buy from unfamiliar sources, increasing potential chances of overdosing. Many training and outreach programs may be closed. People may not have access to the help they need, and, or, limited access to naloxone and clean syringes. The isolation of people with existing mental health issues may cause people in recovery (with lowered tolerance) to return to substance use. There may be an increase in release of prisoners with history of OUD who may also be at risk for overdose due to lowered tolerance. All of this means the EMS contribution to public health surveillance of opioid overdoses during this unprecedented time remains critical!

Per the Statewide Opioid Reporting Directive, please remember to report all suspected opioid overdoses to the Connecticut Poison Control Center (CPCC) at 800-222-1222\* as soon as possible after each call is concluded. The data submitted is monitored in real-time and alerts are shared with local public health, public safety, and community agencies. **\*TIP: Store the CPCC number in your cell for ease of use!**

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The following are some of the bag stamps encountered in March: Nite Nite, No Bullshit, CHOPS, Decoy, Back Off, VIP, Vamp, Atomic, and Just for You. This information is shared with public health and safety officials and harm reduction groups, enabling them to better target resources. If present, and safe to do so, responders are urged to take a photo of the identified heroin bag at the scene and email to [poisoncontrol@uchc.edu](mailto:poisoncontrol@uchc.edu) with the CPCC case number given when the reported overdose is called in.

\* "ATOMIC" bag pictured

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**Do you need help accessing ODMAP Level 1 (Spike Alert Level) or Level 2 (Map Level)?**

[Click here to contact the ODMAP Helpdesk](#), or call (301) 489-1744

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Office of Emergency Medical Services

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[Click here](#) to contact OEMS regarding the SWORD program, ODMAP, or feedback

[Click here](#) to check out the SWORD page on our website

***Thank you for your participation!***

