

Cough Syrup? How does someone die from cough syrup?

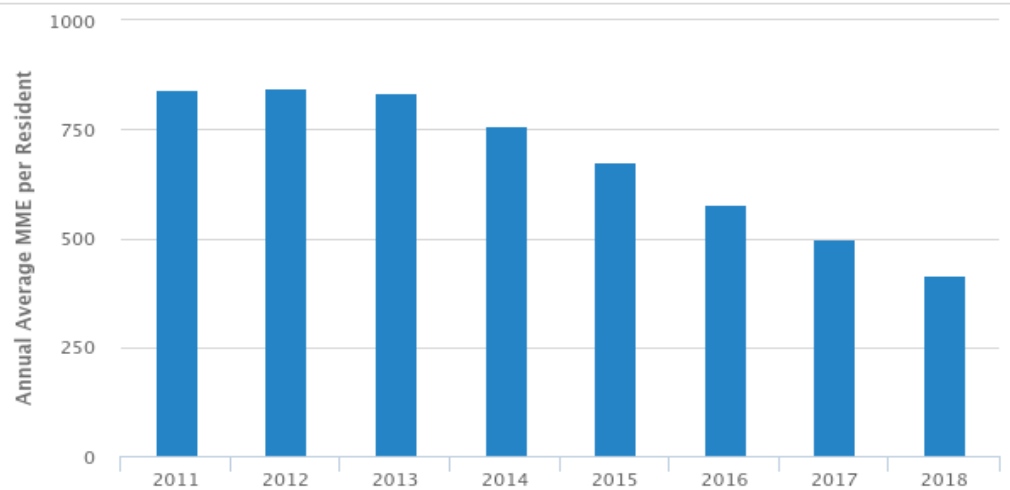
“I received a call from one of his friends saying that Trey couldn’t be found and did I know where he was. So, I went to his house, looked thru his room and by the time I back to the car, the same friend was calling to say, *Trey didn’t make it.* And that’s how I found out Trey died.”

Susan Kim lost her son to a prescription drug overdose in 2013. Trey was using cough syrup in a concoction made popular by rappers called, *Sizzurp, Purple Dank, or the Lean.* Trey was 23 years old.

The amount of narcotic prescriptions in a community correlates directly to misuse, diversion, and overdose. Some opioid medications are more potent than others. Over the past 4 years, the work done by RxSafe Marin and their community partners has significantly decreased the amount of narcotic prescriptions in Marin County.

Opioid Prescriptions, as Measured by Morphine Milligram Equivalents (MME), Marin County, 2011-2018

Source: California Controlled Substance Utilization Review and Evaluation System (CURES), California Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP)





“I began working with RxSafe Marin because not only was I dealing with the horror of losing my child, I was left with so many questions. ‘Cough syrup...how does someone die from cough syrup?’”

Susan didn’t know anything about prescription drug abuse and sought answers with the community coalition RxSafe Marin. With support and resources from RxSafe Marin, she found some of the answers she was looking for and became a soldier in the fight against the opioid crisis that is killing our friends, neighbors and young people.

RxSafe Marin provides community presentations to increase awareness about the opioid epidemic, of the dangers of opioid misuse through classroom presentations, PTA/other parent-education events, collaborations with community service organizations in the community, and tabling at health fairs.

To schedule a community presentation or a Narcan training and distribution, email your request to RxSafe Marin at RxSafeMarin@gmail.com



Emergency Department Visits Due to Opioid Overdose, Marin County

Source: California Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development (OSHPD)

