

UPMC

LIFE
CHANGING
MEDICINE



Uniquely Connected. For life.™
HERITAGE VALLEY
HEALTH SYSTEM

Emergency Department Warm Handoff and Engagement Programs

Michael Lynch, MD

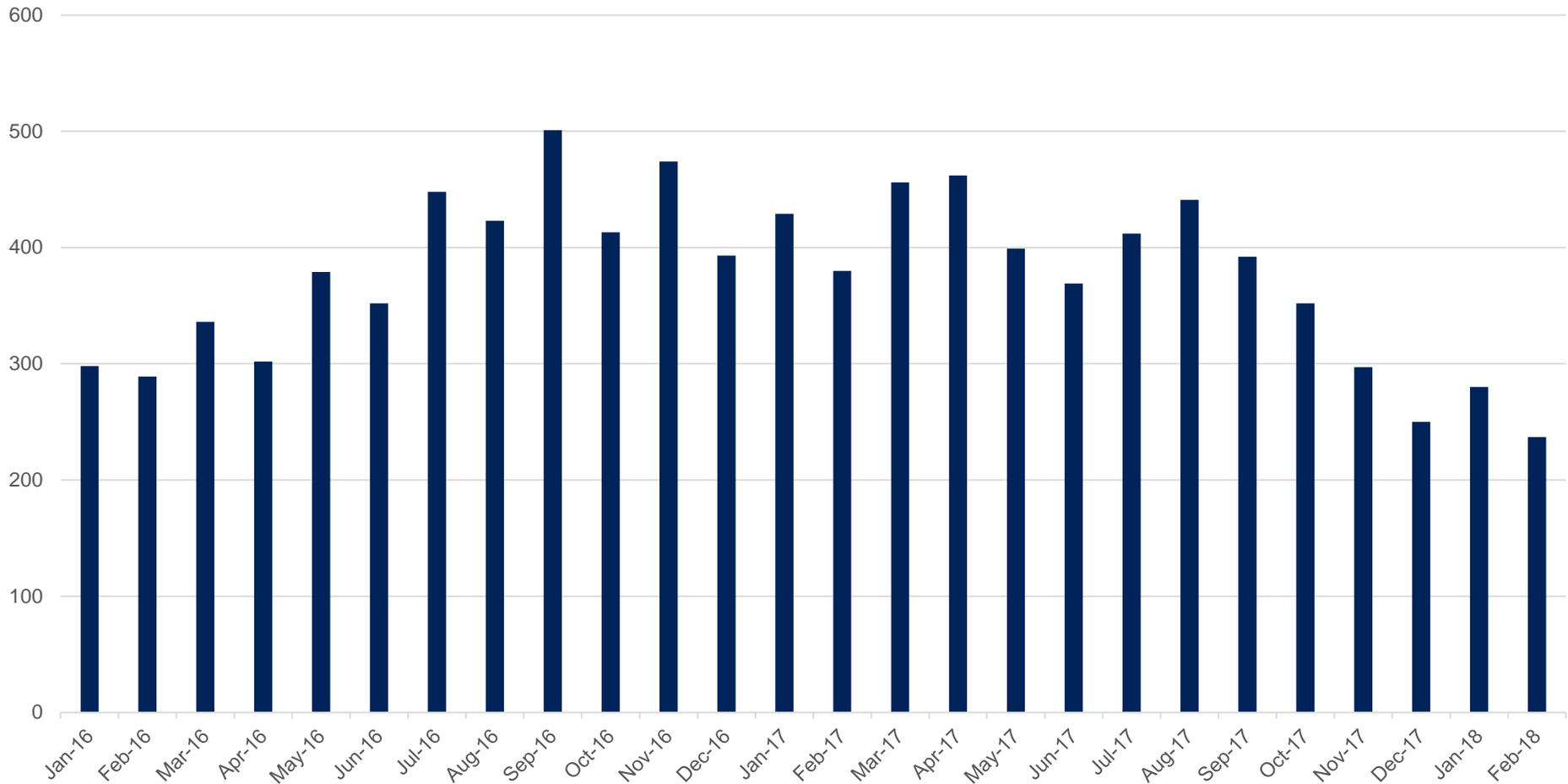
Assistant Professor of Emergency Medicine and Toxicology
Medical Director, Pittsburgh Poison Center

Michael Boyd, MD

Heritage Valley Health System



Opioid and Overdose Related Visits to UPMC EDs: 1/2016-2/2018





UPMC Mercy Hospital Substance Use Evaluations

- 239 patients were evaluated for a variety of substance Use Disorders in January, 2018:
 - 85 were admitted to level 4A inpatient detox
 - 23 required hospital admission
 - 27 referred to ambulatory detox
 - 91 connected or referred to treatment next business day
 - 4 required Psychiatric admission
 - Only 2 refused treatment



UPMC ED Naloxone Distribution Program

- Beginning 12/19/2017, 17 UPMC EDs made take home naloxone available to high risk patients at no cost to the individual
- In the first month of the program, 64 Narcan nasal spray kits were distributed
- Starting 2/21/2018, a prompt in the EMR triggered by specific chief complaints will notify physicians in all UPMC EDs to order/prescribe naloxone to high risk individuals





UPMC Mercy Buprenorphine Induction and Referral

- As of 11/1/2017, UPMC Mercy ED has been providing buprenorphine to patients in active opioid withdrawal
 - Treatment is linked with referral and active handoff to a Center of Excellence or other treatment facility
 - Coordination with UPMC Health Plan follow up and connection program
 - 27 Patients treated with buprenorphine in the ED in January and February, 2018
- Ongoing collaboration with local MAT providers to streamline referral process
- Opportunity for expanded services and improved connection to next day evaluation by a prescriber
- Guidelines and experience have been shared with EM providers, Single County Authorities, and public health throughout the Commonwealth



Pittsburgh Poison Center Warm Handoff Program

- Went live 11/3/2016
- The program, including 24/7 coverage by nurses specially trained in drug use, toxicity, and withdrawal, provides:
 - Immediate medical assessment of acute toxicity, withdrawal, or potential for complicated withdrawal
 - Treatment recommendations
 - Patient education materials
 - Precompleted prescriptions for medications to alleviate symptomatic withdrawal
 - Prescription for naloxone
 - County specific referral information including SCA and providers
 - Immediate connection to PA Get Help Now helpline, 1-800-662-HELP (4357) when appropriate
 - Follow up calls from specialists to assess barriers and needs

Heritage Valley Health System Beaver County

- Initiated Warm Handoff in December 2017
- Expanded to Inpatient Units
 - Synergy with Psychiatric Unit
- Demand for Treatment Still Exceeds Supply
 - 1 Warm Handoff Case Manager for Beaver County
 - Treatment Beds often unavailable
- Patient Alliance with the Single County Authority



Summary and Opportunities

- Investment in Centers of Excellence and warm handoff programs have improved treatment engagement locally and throughout the Commonwealth
- Opportunities exist to further expand programs to allow 24/7 handoffs in all counties
- Enhance access to next day prescribing physician for MAT
- ED naloxone distribution can be accomplished and should be expanded
- Buprenorphine administration in the ED has been shown to improve engagement and implementation of this process should be developed
- Enlisting community paramedics, law enforcement, and other partners is another potential resource to meet individuals where they are and improve engagement
- Integration of Poison Center expertise in real time evaluation and management may reduce burden on county and emergency providers, improve care and surveillance