# **Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) Perceptions and Stigma:**

# **An AmeriSpeak Omnibus General Population Survey**

# **JCOIN Omnibus Pilot Survey 1 Online Instrument**

# Field Period: February 27 – March 2, 2020

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| Use of survey items and acknowledgements: NORC is happy to share the use of the below set of survey items by others in JCOIN. However, we do note (with endnotes) where NORC used items from extant scales and JCOIN members should be careful to acknowledge the original sources for the noted survey items in any resulting presentations/publications.  Also, we ask that you kindly acknowledge NORC for the items where there is no prior reference (these were items developed by NORC) in any resulting presentations/publications. |

*The next set of question are about a class of drugs called opioids and your experience with them directly or through a family member or close friend. When we refer to opioids below, we are including both illegal drugs, such as heroin; and legal prescription opioids that might be misused or used differently than prescribed, such as synthetic opioids (fentanyl), and pain relievers or cough syrups available by prescription, such as oxycodone (OxyContin®), hydrocodone (Vicodin®), codeine (including Lean and Purple Drink), percocet, tramadol, morphine, and others.*

*As with all AmeriSpeak surveys we want to remind you of the confidential nature of this survey and that all survey questions below are voluntary. However, we encourage you to answer the below questions and have your voice heard on America’s current opioid problem.*

## **I. POLICY ATTITUDES TOWARDS OPIOID USE DISORDER**

## (Note: The subsection titles are not included in the administered survey but are provided here for clarification of the nature of the survey items)

Items were adapted from Kennedy-Hendricks et al., 2017[[1]](#endnote-1)

*Instructions: We would like to ask you some questions about policies related to the problem of opioid addiction/prescription pain medication* or cough syrup *misuse.*

**Do you disagree or agree with the following statements?**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Statement | Select one option | | | | | |
| 1=Strongly disagree | 2=Somewhat disagree | 3=Neither disagree or agree | 4=Somewhat agree | | 5=Strongly agree |
| 1. **I favor expanding Medicaid**[[2]](#footnote-1) **insurance benefits for low income families to provide coverage for treatment of opioid use disorders/addiction problems, including addiction to prescription pain medications.** | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | | 5 |
| 1. **I favor making naloxone (also known as “Narcan”), a medication that can quickly reverse the effects of a person experiencing an opioid overdose, widely available and affordable without a prescription.** | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | | 5 |
| 1. **I believe that making drug treatment mandatory is an effective way to help people with an opioid use disorder.** | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | | 5 |
| 1. **I favor increasing government spending to improve treatment of opioid use disorder/addiction.** | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | | 5 |
| 1. **High schools and colleges should be allowed to dismiss or expel a person with an opioid use disorder/addiction.** | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | | 5 |
| 1. **Physicians and other healthcare providers should be allowed to refuse to treat a person with an opioid use disorder/addiction.** | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | | 5 |
| 1. **Employers should be allowed to deny employment to a person with a current opioid use disorder/addiction.** | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | | 5 |
| 1. **Landlords should be allowed to deny housing to a person with a current opioid use disorder/addiction.** | 1 | 2 | 3 | | 4 | 5 |
| 1. **I favor passing laws to protect people from criminal charges for drug crimes if they seek medical help for experiencing an opioid/prescription pain medication problem.** | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | | 5 |
| 1. **I believe that incarceration/jail is an effective way to improve the health of people with an opioid use disorder.** | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | | 5 |
| 1. **I believe that incarceration/jail is an effective way to reduce the risk of overdosing for people with an opioid use disorder.** | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | | 5 |
| 1. **I believe that people in jail/prison with an opioid use disorder/addiction problem should get access to medication for opioid use disorder (e.g., methadone, buprenorphine, or naltrexone)** | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | | 5 |

## **II. SOCIAL STIGMA SCALE**

Items were adapted from Kennedy-Hendricks et al., 2017\*

**Do you disagree or agree with the following statements?**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Statement | Select one option | | | | |
| 1=Strongly disagree | 2=Somewhat disagree | 3=Neither disagree or agree | 4=Somewhat agree | 5=Strongly agree |
| 1. **I would be willing to have a person with a past history of opioid use disorder/addiction start working closely with me on a job.** | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. **I am comfortable having a person with a past history of opioid use disorder/addiction marry into my family.** | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. **I would be willing to have a person with a current opioid use disorder/addiction start working closely with me on a job.** | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. **I would be comfortable to have a person with a current opioid use disorder/addiction marry into my family.** | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. **People with a current addiction to opioids/prescription pain medications are more dangerous than the general population.** | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. **A person who is currently addicted to opioids/prescription pain medication cannot be trusted.** | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

## **III. PERCEPTIONS OF CRIMINALITY/APPROPRIATENESS OF TREATMENT**

Items adapted from Kennedy-Hendricks et al., 2017\*

*Instructions: We would like to ask you some questions about your feelings towards treatment and punishment for opioid misuse.*

**Do you disagree or agree with the following statements?**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Statement | Select one option | | | | |
| 1=Strongly disagree | 2=Somewhat disagree | 3=Neither disagree or agree | 4=Somewhat agree | 5=Strongly agree |
| 1. **I favor arresting and prosecuting people who obtain opioids/pain medication from sources other than a medical provider.** | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. **I favor arresting and prosecuting people who or use opioids in a way not as prescribed by a doctor.** | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. **People found guilty of misuse of opioids/prescription pain medication need to be sentenced to jail or prison.** | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. **Individuals who are incarcerated with an opioid use disorder/addiction should get access to evidence-based treatment while incarcerated.** | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. **Individuals who are on parole or probation with an opioid use disorder/addiction should get access to evidence-based treatment.** | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

## **IV. BELIEFS ABOUT OPIOID USE DISORDER (OUD) AND OUD TREATMENT**

These items were not adapted from an existing scale, but rather are new items developed from literature that were pilot tested with this survey.

*Below we ask about your beliefs and knowledge of opioids and treatments for opioid use disorder (addiction to opioids). Answer whether you agree or disagree with the following statements about opioid use disorder/addiction.*

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Statement | Select one option | | | | |
| 1=Strongly disagree | 2=Somewhat disagree | 3=Neither disagree or agree | 4=Somewhat agree | 5=Strongly agree |
| 1. **Opioid addiction is defined by a person continuing to use opioids despite negative consequences.** | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. **Anyone who uses opioids long-term for pain has an opioid addiction.** | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. **Most people who develop and/or struggle with opioid use disorder/addiction lack self-control.** | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. **Misuse of opioids is a moral failing.** | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. **A person struggling with opioid use disorder/addiction can quit using anytime if they choose.** | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. **When misused, opioids can slow your breathing or even cause you to stop breathing entirely and lead to an overdose or death.** | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. **Evidence-based treatments for opioid use disorder can recover people from opioid addiction.** | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. **Opioid use disorder is a medical condition like other chronic health conditions.** | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. **A person struggling with opioid use disorder/addiction must hit rock bottom before they are ready to accept treatment.** | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. **It is easy to find good opioid use disorder treatment.** | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. **The FDA has approved medications that are effective in treating opioid use disorder/addiction.** | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. **Jailing someone with an opioid use disorder for at least a few days will help them by reducing their risk for an overdose.** | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| **Medication for opioid use disorder (e.g., methadone, buprenorphine, or naltrexone) is a hoax.** | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| **Medication for opioid use disorder (e.g., methadone, buprenorphine/suboxone, or naltrexone/vivitrol) is just substituting one form of drug abuse for another type of drug abuse.** | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| **People with an opioid use disorder/addiction need long-term treatment with medications.** | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| **People who misuse opioids can function as responsible members of society.** | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

## **V.PERSONAL EXPERIENCE WITH OPIOIDS**

*The next set of questions are about your own personal experiences or the experiences of any family members or close friends.* ***We recognize these are sensitive items but like all the items on this survey your responses will be kept private and treated confidentially.***

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Statement** | **Please select one option** | |
| 1. **Have you ever used opioids/prescription pain medication illicitly obtained or used in a way not prescribed by a doctor?** | Yes | No |
| 1. **Have you ever overdosed from opioids/prescription pain medication?** | Yes | No |
| 1. **Have you ever been convicted of any misdemeanor or felony crime?** | Yes | No |
| 1. **Have you ever been incarcerated in jail or prison?** | Yes | No |
| 1. **Have any family members or close friends you know ever used opioids/prescription pain medication illicitly obtained or used in a way not prescribed by a doctor?** | Yes | No |
| 1. **Have any of your family members or close friends ever overdosed from opioids/prescription pain medication?** | Yes | No |
| 1. **Have any of your family members or close friends ever been convicted of any misdemeanor or felony crime?** | Yes | No |
| 1. **Have any of your family members or close friends ever been incarcerated in jail or prison?** | Yes | No |

# AmeriSpeak Core Adult Profile Variables

# (These are items that JCOIN/MAARC received from the AmeriSpeak database and did not have to ask the participants again)

1. What is your date of birth? 🡪 numerical entry, 4 category, and 7 category age variables
2. What kind of internet access do you have? Please select all that apply? 🡪 Internet or non-internet household variable
   1. High-speed, broadband internet at home (such as cable or DSL)
   2. Dial-up internet at home
   3. Internet on a cell connection on a mobile phone
   4. Internet at work, or office, or other location that you can use for taking surveys on a computer or tablet
   5. No internet access at all
3. What best describes your telephone service for your household?
   1. Landline telephone only
   2. Have a landline, but mostly use cell phone
   3. Have cellphone, but mostly use landlines
   4. Cellphone only
   5. No telephone service
4. Are you taking this survey on a…
   1. Laptop, netbook or personal computer
   2. Smartphone or mobile phone
   3. Tablet
   4. Something else (Please specify \_\_\_\_\_\_ )
5. What is the highest level of school you have completed?
   1. No formal education
   2. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, or 4th grade
   3. 5th or 6th grade
   4. 7th or 8th grade
   5. 9th grade
   6. 10th grade
   7. 11th grade
   8. 12th grade NO DIPLOMA
   9. HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE - high school DIPLOMA or the equivalent (GED)
   10. Some college, no degree
   11. Associate degree
   12. Bachelor's degree
   13. Master's degree
   14. Professional or Doctorate degree
6. Which statement best describes your current employment status?
   1. Working - as a paid employee
   2. Working - self-employed
   3. Not working - on temporary layoff from a job
   4. Not working - looking for work
   5. Not working - retired
   6. Not working - disabled
   7. Not working – other
7. We ask questions about race and ethnicity now so that we will not have to ask you these questions on this topic after each survey. This is about Hispanic ethnicity. Are you of Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino descent? 🡪 Rolled into 6 categories race/ethnicity variable
   1. No I am not
   2. If Yes, is that Mexican, Mexican-American, Chicano or
   3. Puerto Rican or
   4. Cuban
   5. Central American or
   6. South American or
   7. Caribbean or
   8. Other Spanish/Hispanic/Latino
8. Please tell me which of the following categories indicates which race or races you consider yourself to be. 🡪 6 Categories of race/ethnicity
   1. White
   2. Black or African American
   3. American Indian or Alaskan Native - Type in name of enrolled or principal type
   4. Asian Indian
   5. Chinese
   6. Filipino
   7. Japanese
   8. Korean
   9. Vietnamese
   10. Other Asian - Type in race
   11. Native Hawaiian
   12. Guamanian or Chamorro
   13. Samoan
   14. Other Pacific Islander - Type in race
   15. Some other race - Type in race
9. What sex were you assigned at birth, on your original birth certificate?
   1. Male
   2. Female
10. Are you…
    1. Married
    2. Widowed
    3. Divorced
    4. Separated
    5. Never married
    6. Living with a partner
11. You said six or more persons live in your household. How many live in your household? Please enter the total number of adult and children living in your household at least 3 months in any given year below. [Number entry]
12. Share with us a little about where you live. Are your living quarters…?
    1. Owned or being bought by you or someone in your household
    2. Rented for cash
    3. Occupied without payment of cash rent
13. Which best describes the building where you live?
    1. A one-family house detached from any other house
    2. A one-family house attached to one or more houses
    3. A building with 2 or more apartments
    4. A mobile home or trailer
    5. Boat, RV, van, etc.
14. Please tell us the age and gender of other persons living in your household, including both children and adults: Age in year [Number entry] 🡪 five variables for number of household members ages 0-1, 2-5, 6-12, 13-17, and 18+
15. Income
    1. Every household is different when it comes to managing personal finances. So that we can give you can give you appropriate surveys, let us know how familiar or not familiar you are about the finances in your household…we mean things like the total income of your household, the costs of renting or purchasing a home, about health insurance, and major bills...Error message reads: Please answer this question if you are comfortable doing so.
       1. Not very familiar
       2. Slightly familiar
       3. Somewhat familiar
       4. Moderately familiar
       5. Extremely familiar
    2. Was your total HOUSEHOLD income in <insert last year eg: 2014 if today is 2015> …
       * 1. Below $40,000
         2. $40,000 or more
       1. And was your total HOUSEHOLD income in <insert last year eg: 2014 if today is 2015> …
          * 1. Below $20,000
            2. $20,000 or more
          1. Which one of the following includes your total HOUSEHOLD income in <insert last year eg: 2014 if today is 2015> before taxes?
             1. Less than $5,000
             2. $5,000 to $9,999
             3. $10,000 to $14,999
             4. $15,000 to $19,999
          2. Which one of the following includes your total HOUSEHOLD income in <insert last year eg: 2014 if today is 2015> before taxes?
             1. $20,000 to $24,999
             2. $25,000 to $29,999
             3. $30,000 to $34,999
             4. $35,000 to $49,999
       2. Was your total HOUSEHOLD income in <insert last year eg: 2014 if today is 2015> …
          * 1. Below $85,000
            2. $85,000 or more
          1. Which one of the following includes your total HOUSEHOLD income in <insert last year eg: 2014 if today is 2015> before taxes?
             1. $40,000 to $44,999
             2. $50,000 to $59,999
             3. $60,000 to $79,999
             4. $75,000 to $84,999
          2. Which one of the following includes your total HOUSEHOLD income in <insert last year eg: 2014 if today is 2015> before taxes?
             1. $85,000 to $99,999
             2. $100,000 to $124,999
             3. $125,000 to $149,999
             4. $150,000 to $174,999
             5. $175,000 to $199,999
             6. $200,000 or more
16. State of participant
17. Metropolitan Area Flag

1. Kennedy-Hendricks, A., Barry, C. L., Gollust, S. E., Ensminger, M. E., Chisolm, M. S., & McGinty, E. E. (2017). Social stigma toward persons with prescription opioid use disorder: associations with public support for punitive and public health–oriented policies. *Psychiatric services*, *68*(5), 462-469. [↑](#endnote-ref-1)
2. The respondent will see/hear a hover definition (in blue font) for this term: Please note that Medicaid provides health coverage to eligible low-income adults, children, pregnant women, elderly adults, and people with disabilities. Medicaid is funded and administered by states, according to federal requirements. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)