



## Significant increase in emergency room visits due to children accidentally consuming melatonin supplements.

### Description

According to recent data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), deaths in the United States related to drug overdose have reached an all-time high. In 2020, over 93,000 people died due to drug overdose, a staggering 29% rise compared to 2019. This surge in fatal drug overdoses has been largely attributed to synthetic opioids, especially fentanyl, which alone accounted for more than 60% of overdose deaths. A significant proportion of deaths also occurred among Black Americans and city dwellers due to a recent and disturbing upward trend in cocaine and methamphetamine-related fatalities.

The deadliest year in drug overdose history has health officials deeply concerned. Dr. Nora Volkow, director of National Institute on Drug Abuse, expressed her worries, describing the escalating drug overdose death rate as "devastating," exacerbating the already difficult public health challenges faced amid a global pandemic.

Dr. Volkow emphasized the need for an urgent and comprehensive response, mainly by expanding availability and accessibility to evidence-based treatments for substance use disorders, considered as the most effective tool to combat overdose deaths. U.S. Health Secretary Xavier Becerra also urged for better substance use prevention services, timely provision of medical-assisted treatment and harm reduction efforts, in the hopes of reversing the escalating opioid crisis Wednesday.

The Biden administration has committed over \$10 billion in funding to address the substance use and mental health crises as immediate action is needed to curb this deadly trend.

**\*\*Vocabulary Words:\*\***

1. **\*\*Staggering\*\*** - Surprising or shocking, often because of being unusually large.
2. **\*\*Devastating\*\*** - To cause harm or damage, and often severely.
3. **\*\*Substance Use Disorders\*\*** - Medical condition affecting an individual's ability to control or cease consumption of a drug or other substance.
4. **\*\*Combating\*\*** - To fight against something or someone, usually an issue or condition causing harm or danger.
5. **\*\*Reversing\*\*** - To change something to an opposite direction, trend, pattern or state.

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## Vocabulary List:

1. **Staggering** // (adjective): Surprising or shocking often because of being unusually large.
2. **Devastating** // (adjective): To cause harm or damage and often severely.
3. **Substance Use Disorders** // (noun): Medical condition affecting an individual ability to control or cease consumption of a drug or other substance.
4. **Combating** // (verb): To fight against something or someone usually an issue or condition causing harm or danger.
5. **Reversing** // (verb): To change something to an opposite direction trend pattern or state.
6. **Opioid Crisis** // (noun): A critical situation involving the misuse and overuse of opioid drugs.

## Vocabulary quizzes

### Multiple Choice ( Select the Correct answer for each question. )

1. Which word means elevated or increased?

- Option: A) Rigorously
- Option: B) Astoundingly
- Option: C) Heightened
- Option: D) Mitigate

2. What term is used to describe a specific instruction or order?

- Option: A) Susceptible



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- Option: B) Inoculated  
Option: C) Stave off  
Option: D) Directive
3. Which word means causing great harm or damage?
- Option: A) Boosting  
Option: B) Mitigating  
Option: C) Devastating  
Option: D) Staggering
4. Which term is commonly used for addiction or dependency on substances?
- Option: A) Therapy  
Option: B) Positive therapeutic change  
Option: C) Substance Use Disorders  
Option: D) Absenteeism
5. What is the term for a significant increase in opioid-related problems in a particular area?
- Option: A) Coping Skills  
Option: B) Cancellation  
Option: C) Opioid Crisis  
Option: D) Staggering
6. Which term refers to increasing or improving something?
- Option: A) Boosting  
Option: B) Mitigating  
Option: C) Community  
Option: D) Therapy
7. What term describes a systematic investigation or analysis of a subject?
- Option: A) Urgency  
Option: B) Boosting  
Option: C) Study  
Option: D) Mitigating
8. Which term is related to mental processes like thinking learning and memory?
- Option: A) Intelligence  
Option: B) Cognitive  
Option: C) Scientists  
Option: D) Participants
9. Who are the individuals involved in a research study or program?
- Option: A) Implications  
Option: B) Participants



- Option: C) Urgency
- Option: D) Boosting

10. Which term signifies the need for immediate action or attention?

- Option: A) Positive therapeutic change
- Option: B) Urgency
- Option: C) Substance Use Disorders
- Option: D) Combating

**Gap-Fill ( Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list. )**

- 11. Effective planning \_\_\_\_\_ the risks associated with the project.
- 12. Regular exercise can help \_\_\_\_\_ many health problems.
- 13. Taking vitamin C supplements can assist in \_\_\_\_\_ the immune system.
- 14. Education plays a vital role in \_\_\_\_\_ ignorance and promoting understanding.
- 15. Early detection of the disease is crucial for \_\_\_\_\_ its effects.
- 16. Problem-solving skills are central to demonstrating high levels of \_\_\_\_\_.
- 17. Mark's frequent \_\_\_\_\_ from work raised concerns about his commitment.
- 18. Therapists often teach clients various \_\_\_\_\_ to manage stress effectively.
- 19. The sudden \_\_\_\_\_ of the flight left passengers stranded at the airport.
- 20. The research team conducted a detailed \_\_\_\_\_ to analyze the impact of social media on youth.

**Matching Sentences ( Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list. )**

21. The magician performed tricks that left the audience amazed and shocked.
22. Children are more vulnerable to catching colds due to their weaker immune systems.
23. The entire population was given the vaccine to protect them from the virus.



24. The local residents came together to organize a charity event for the homeless.
25. Individuals with anxiety disorders often benefit from cognitive behavioral therapy.
26. The counseling sessions helped the patient make significant improvements in their mental health.
27. The company implemented a policy to reduce the number of employee absences.
28. The research project involved a team of experts in the field working together to find a solution.
29. The implications of climate change are far-reaching and require immediate action.
30. The amount of support received for the charity event was beyond what anyone had expected.

## Answer

**Multiple Choice:** 1. C) Heightened 2. D) Directive 3. C) Devastating 4. C) Substance Use Disorders 5. C) Opioid Crisis 6. A) Boosting 7. C) Study 8. B) Cognitive 9. B) Participants 10. B) Urgency

**Gap-Fill:** 11. Mitigated 12. Stave off 13. Boosting 14. Combating 15. Reversing 16. Intelligence 17. Absence 18. Coping Skills 19. Cancellation 20. Study

**Matching sentence:** 1. Astoundingly 2. Susceptible 3. Inoculated 4. Community 5. Therapy 6. Positive therapeutic change 7. Absenteeism 8. Scientists 9. Implications 10. Staggering

## CATEGORY

1. Health - LEVEL4

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