



CM107 Discussion Board Sample Post

Unit 8 Discussion Board
INITIAL POST

Hi all,

I have pasted my draft below and reviewed the Unit 8 Assignment Rubric. Overall, I think I have a pretty strong topic which fits with the requirements. I identified a recent change (the opioid crisis) and the issues which have caused this. I also think my body paragraphs are well-developed. However, I still think I need to work on my thesis. My current thesis talks about what could happen and I know we need to address existing causes or effects. Any suggestions on how I could fix this?

Opiate Painkiller Epidemic in Healthcare

What was once deemed as the future in safe effective pain care management has now become an out of control issue pertaining to the prescription pain medication addiction and abuse epidemic caused by the excessive over prescription of these medications. The big question is how did America's health care system allow itself to be led astray and how did the opiate painkiller epidemic become so large? The prescription pain medication addiction issue has gotten so large that new regulations and laws are being put into effect that limit the amount of opiate prescription pills that can be written by a healthcare provider in an attempt to dramatically cut back on the amount of new patient addiction cases that arise each year. The new face of the war on drugs looks dramatically different than it did several decades ago during the Reagan years when the war was only on illegal street drugs. Prescription pain pill addiction has become a serious public health issue and is one that must be effectively dealt with or it will only continue to escalate.

One issue that has helped contribute to this epidemic is the aggressive marketing of prescription painkillers by pharmaceutical manufacturers, especially medications such as OxyContin, oxycodone, and fentanyl. Pharmaceutical companies are spending millions of dollars on promotional activities and materials that falsely deny or trivialize the risks of opioids while overstating the benefits of using them for chronic pain (Perez-Pina, 2017). Perez-Pena states, as the healthcare industry was attempting to more effectively and efficiently treat patients with chronic pain concerns the pharmaceutical companies were providing funding to prominent doctors, medical societies and patient advocacy groups to win their support for the drugs' use (2017). According to Perez-Pena (2017), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention states more than 25,000 people in the United States died in 2015 from overdosing on opioids like fentanyl, oxycodone and hydrocodone, more than twice as many as a decade earlier.

Patients in America have become so accustomed to taking a pill for everything and they believe that medications can solve all their problem and this kind of thinking has helped contribute to the over prescribing and abuse of opiate pain medications. Of the 20.5 million Americans 12 or older that had a substance use disorder in 2015, 2 million had a substance use disorder involving prescription pain relievers; a number which has surely increased over the last two years. Over the past two decades, rates of opioid overdose deaths have quadrupled, fueled by over prescription of painkillers (Park, 2016).

Patient addiction to opiate pain pills is at a crisis level in the United States and continues to grow larger in numbers every day. Patients desperate to feed their addiction are attempting to jump from provider to provider in order to obtain pain medication from multiple sources at the same time. A large contributing factor in the over prescription of pain medication has been the lack of effective electronic prescription drug monitoring programs (PDMP) that can help

alleviate diversion, over prescription, and fraudulently prescribed medications (Islam & McRae, 2014). New medications being prescribed such as Suboxone are aimed at helping to treat opiate addictions in patients but are only marginally effective and many times the patients continue to use while on the medication or sell the Suboxone for prescription pain medication obtained from illegal sources.

Prescription pain medication addiction in the United States continues to grow daily and is one dilemma that must be aggressively handled before it is unstoppable. Every day in the United States the number of overdoses from opiate prescription pain pills is skyrocketing and shows no signs of slowing down. The facts and figures definitely tell a story and offer an in-depth insight on how the health care industry got into this situation, but the big question is can they implement solutions to help derail the issue before it picks up steam.

Resources

1. Perez-Pina, R. (2017, May 31). *Ohio sues drug makers, saying they aided opioid epidemic*. Retrieved from The New Times Times:
https://www.nytimes.com/2017/05/31/us/ohio-sues-pharmaceutical-drug-opioid-epidemic-mike-dewine.html?_r=1
2. Islam, Mofizul and Ian McRae. (2014). *An inevitable wave of prescription drug monitoring programs in the context of prescription opioids: pros, cons and tensions*. England: BMC Pharmacology and Toxicology.
3. (2016). *Opioid Addiction 2016 Facts and Figures*. Retrieved from American Society of Addiction Medicine: <https://www.asam.org/docs/default-source/advocacy/opioid-addiction-disease-facts-figures.pdf>
4. Park, A. (2016, November 24). *A new paradigm for opioid addiction: more drugs*. *Time*, pp. 48-53.

Thanks

Kellen

RESPONSE TO INITIAL POST

Hi Kellen,

It looks like you put a lot of work into this paper. I hope my feedback helps!

Help the writer see what he or she did well	Find one quality in the draft that is particularly effective. Explain why it's a strong quality and why the writer should keep doing this information. You did a great job located reliable sources and sparingly integrating information. Using paraphrased research rather than direct quotes really helped the overall flow of your writing.
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<p>Evaluate the main point</p>	<p>If you were the intended academic audience for the paper, what do you think the writer could do differently to strengthen the thesis so that the writer's point is clear and immediately understood?</p> <p>I agree with you, your current thesis addresses what could happen rather than the specific causes your body paragraphs identify. I think you can fix this pretty easily but keeping the first part of your thesis and just adding the specific causes to the end. For example: "Prescription pain pill addiction has become a serious public health issue caused by..."</p>
<p>Look over the information, details, and research the writer chose to include</p>	<p>What could the writer do to strengthen the information used and the development of ideas in the paper? Do the details, information, or research consistently support the main point? What needs to be taken out because it isn't relevant to the main point? What other or more relevant information, detail, or research evidence could the writer include to more effectively support the main point? How can the writer improve the summaries of source information and APA citations for sources?</p>
<p>Plan for revising</p>	<p>What parts of the paper are either unclear or confusing and what could the writer do to improve these sections of the paper? What do you suggest the writer plan to do during revision to make the paper stronger and more effective?</p> <p>I think you may also be over relying on the Park-Pena source a bit and I wonder if the information in paragraph 3 on how much this addiction has increased is really where it should be. You are also doing well with citations, but double check your citations using the information in our course. I think you need to change the word Resources to References and I know that the References list should be in alphabetical order, not numbered. I also don't see any in text citations for your 3rd source. Where in the paper do you use that source? Should you have in text citations for that source? Also, it is a good idea to review our information regarding where to place the year of publication in some of your citations.</p>