

## CMT CLINICAL NEWS BRIEF

### *A Population Health Approach to Improving Opioid Prescribing*

The epidemic of prescription opioid misuse and overdose in the United States is now widely recognized by physicians and other prescribers, government officials and health care systems. Opioid overdose is now responsible for over two thirds of emergency department visits in the U.S. (Yokell et al., 2014). In 2010 a total of 16,651 deaths resulted from overdoses with prescription opioids (Dart et al., 2015). Primary care physicians recognize these alarming trends: A recent national survey showed that 90% “reported prescription drug abuse to be a ‘big’ or ‘moderate’ problem in their communities, and more than four-fifths (85%) reported that opioids are overused in clinical practice” (Hwang et al., 2014). The National Association of State Medicaid Directors, in conjunction with Mercer Government Human Services Consulting, recently issued a report citing prescription drug abuse as a serious public health concern, urging states to address prescription drug abuse through a coordinated, multifaceted approach (Mercer, 2014) and the CDC has issued grants to 16 states to address this ever growing epidemic.

CMT’s population health analytic solution supports PDMP activation and enhancements by offering clinically driven patient specific reporting and prescriber peer comparative data to improve community standards of care. The opioid specific solution (OPI) is available to the entire care team — physicians, clinicians, pharmacists, and other care givers — all who have a role in the improvement of opioid use and misuse. One recent study, with CMT’s partner, MO HealthNet, yielded the following results:

<b>Pre/Post Case Study of CMT’s OPI Analytics</b>	
<b>RESULTS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ <b>36.8% reduction in hospital admissions.</b></li><li>✓ <b>13% - 37% fewer opioid pharmacies used.</b></li><li>✓ <b>Average adult monthly (in morphine equivalents) dispensed fell by 15% – 19%.</b></li></ul>

### *How CMT’s Opioid Intervention Analytics (OPI) Can Help*

- Helps physicians optimize appropriate use and reduce variability and misuse in the application and administration of pain drugs;
- Helps care coordinators identify patients at risk for misuse or in need of psychiatric or substance-abuse screening or intervention;
- Helps QI staff in tracking and measuring performance;
- Helps Clinical and Medical Directors targeting opportunities for program and clinical development;
- Helps payers in assessing opportunities for financial savings.

***For more information on CMT’s OPI Analytics program, contact:***

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