



## ▶ Prescription Drug Misuse

**TRENDING NOW:** A three-year analysis of more than 1.4 million drug test results shows majority of Americans continue to put health at risk through dangerous drug combinations and skipping doses.

**F**ive states that have implemented multi-faceted prescription drug abuse prevention programs in recent years showed the highest rate of decline in prescription drug misuse rates nationwide, according to a new study issued by Quest Diagnostics. The findings suggest that broad, collaborative measures that include prescription drug databases and physician and patient education may be effective at curbing the nation's epidemic of prescription drug abuse.

Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, New York, and Tennessee showed the highest rates of decline in misuse rates over the last three years, according to the study of more than 1.4 million drug test results between 2011 and 2013. The average decline for these states was 10.7%, nearly 2.5 times higher than the average decline of 4.4% for all other states combined, in the 46-state study.

The Quest Diagnostics Health Trends study also found that 55% of Americans potentially put their health at risk by

misusing their medications in 2013, a decrease of 8 percentage points compared with misuse rates of 63% in 2011. All age groups and both genders were at risk of misuse, based on test results.

A July 2014 study from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) noted a 23% decrease in drug overdose deaths in Florida between 2010 and 2012, with similar improvements in New York and Tennessee.

According to the Kentucky Office of Drug Control Policy, between August 2011 and July 2013 there was a 10% decrease in opioid doses dispensed following implementation of the state's comprehensive drug abuse legislation (HB 1) that integrated efforts of providers, public health officials, and law enforcement agencies.

"Prescription drug misuse remains at alarming levels, with more than one in two patients putting their health at risk through inappropriate and potentially dangerous misuse of drug therapies," says F. Leland McClure, Ph.D., a study investi-

gator and director, pain management, mass spectrometry operations, Quest Diagnostics. "But the multi-year analysis yielded some positive findings, including significant decreases in certain states with comprehensive prescription drug abuse programs. These findings indicate that, armed with the right strategies and tools, policymakers and health professionals are making headway against the prescription drug epidemic."

"Healthcare practitioners need to know that their patients are not following their instructions," says Michael Clark, M.D., associate professor and director, Chronic Pain Treatment Program, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, The Johns Hopkins Hospital. "While inconsistency rates have decreased over time, patients are still substituting, supplementing, and diverting their prescribed controlled substances. In fact, over recent years, patients are supplementing their prescribed medications with increasing amounts of non-prescribed substances."

### Survey Results Find That Most People With New Insurance Are

#### HAPPY WITH COVERAGE

A Commonwealth Fund survey finds the national uninsured rate among working-age adults dropped substantially between July and September 2013 to April to June 2014 as millions of people

gained coverage under the Affordable Care Act (ACA).

In addition, most people with new coverage said they were optimistic that it would improve their ability to get healthcare, and a majority of those who had used their new plan to get care or fill a prescription said they would not have been able to do so before.

The report, *Gaining Ground: Americans' Health Insurance Coverage and Access to Care After the Affordable Care Act's First Open Enrollment Period*, is a national survey of more than 4,400 adults exploring health insurance status over the past year, as well as people's experiences enrolling in and using their new health insurance. **PV**

**THERAPEUTIC TRAX...** ▶▶**ALS**

The amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) treatment market value will decline from \$64 million in 2013 to \$38 million by 2018, at a negative CAGR of 10.05%, according to GlobalData.

The company's latest report states that the largest factor in this decline, which will occur over seven major markets (the US, France, Germany, Italy, Spain, the UK, and Japan), will be the patent expiration of Rilutek (riluzole), the only approved therapy for ALS.

As a consequence, GlobalData forecasts that the ALS treatment market in the U.S. is set to suffer a substantial reduction in sales over the forecast period, from \$38 million in 2013 to \$16 million by 2020, at a negative CAGR of 16.10%.

▼ For more information, visit [globaldata.com](http://globaldata.com).

**DIABETES**

The global human insulin market was estimated at \$23 billion in 2013 and is poised to grow at a high double-digit CAGR from 2013 to 2018.

The market is segmented based on products, and types of insulin. Based on products, the global human insulin market is segmented into biologics and biobetters, and biosimilars/biogenics. The human insulin market is also segmented into traditional and modern human insulin. Of these, modern human insulin and biosimilars will be the fastest-growing market in the next five years. The major factors propelling this growth are cost-effective treatment offered while using modern human insulin and low price of biosimilars/biogenic drugs of human insulin thereby stimulating the demand for biosimilar human insulin products.

▼ For more information, visit [marketsandmarkets.com/Market-Reports/human-insulin-market-229295783.html](http://marketsandmarkets.com/Market-Reports/human-insulin-market-229295783.html).

**REGENERATIVE MEDICINE**

According to a new market research report by Allied Market Research titled, Global Regenerative Medicine Market — Industry Analysis, Trends, Opportunities and Forecast, 2013-2020," the global regenerative medicine market will reach \$ 67.6 billion by 2020 from \$16.4 billion in 2013, registering a CAGR of 23.2% during forecast period. Small molecules and biologics segment holds prominent market share in the overall regenerative medicine technology market and is anticipated to grow at a CAGR of 18.9% during the forecast period.

Regenerative medicines have the ability to restore the lost functionality of tissues or organs, unlike conventional medicines, which are palliative. The immense potential of these medicines in repairing or regenerating diseased organs is the major reason for intensive focus on research and development in this field. The technologies implemented for these medicines utilize various cell types, including stem cells. The advancements in nanotechnology and stem cells application would account for further progress of this novel field of medicine.

▼ For more information, visit [alliedmarketresearch.com/regenerative-medicines-market](http://alliedmarketresearch.com/regenerative-medicines-market).

▼ For more information, visit [alliedmarketresearch.com/regenerative-medicines-market](http://alliedmarketresearch.com/regenerative-medicines-market).

# Hard-copy and PDF Reprints

## Reprints are a great way to showcase your press.

**Hard-copy Reprints**

Customized printed reproductions of your article. You can add your company logo or advertisement to increase its marketing value.

**Eprints**

Electronic version of a Reprint. Great for posting on your website or for e-mailing. Formatted as a pdf.

Call 215-321-8656 or e-mail [mwalsh@pharmavoices.com](mailto:mwalsh@pharmavoices.com) to discuss your reprint needs with Marah Walsh.

Pharma**VOICE**

