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Colorado Medication for Opioid Use Disorder Program Implementation Outcomes

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Purpose

To present outcomes from a pilot Medication Substance Used Disorder (MOUD) Program in rural Colorado

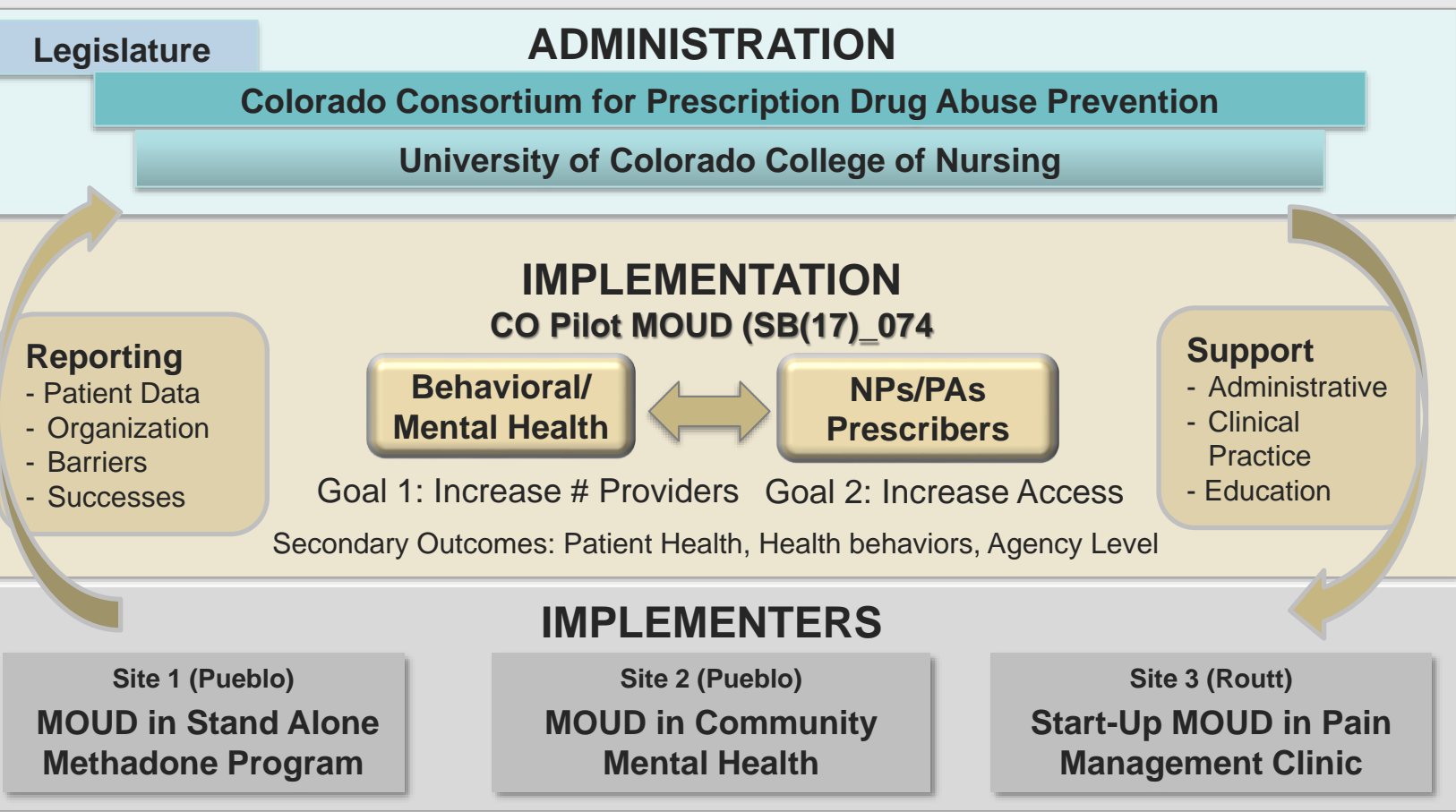
Background

- The US faces an opioid crisis. Opioid use is associated with high morbidity and mortality, legal problems, and health care utilization.
- Medication for opioid use disorder (MOUD, formerly Medication Assisted Treatment –MAT-) is an evidence-based approach to address OUD.
- The Colorado Legislature funded the implementation of a MOUD program in two rural counties with the highest OUD rates and access disparities, with the purpose of expanding the nurse practitioners (NPs) or physician assistants (PAs) workforce to treat OUD.
- The pilot MOUD program increased access and number of providers.

Methods

- MOUD in 3 pilot clinics in rural Colorado
- De-identified patient-level data collected at baseline and after 6 months of treatment.
- Addiction Severity Index used to measure OUD’s impact across various life domains (health, substance use, social aspects, etc).
- Of 1005 patients seen during 2018-2019, 29% received ≥6 months of MOUD, with ~ 20 % missing data.
- Tested pre-post changes using McNemar and *t*-tests
- Anecdotal client’s feedback was collected by the agencies

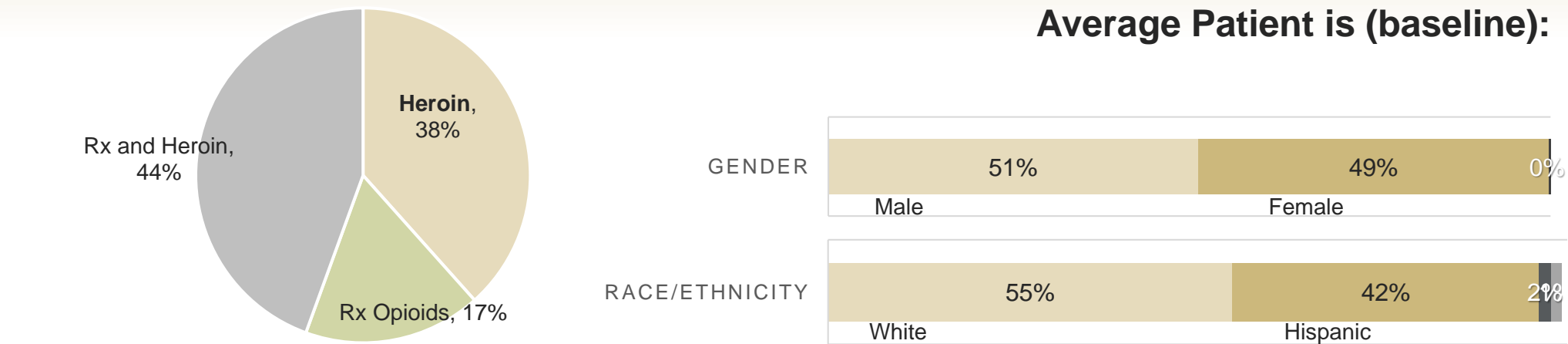
Model



Outcomes

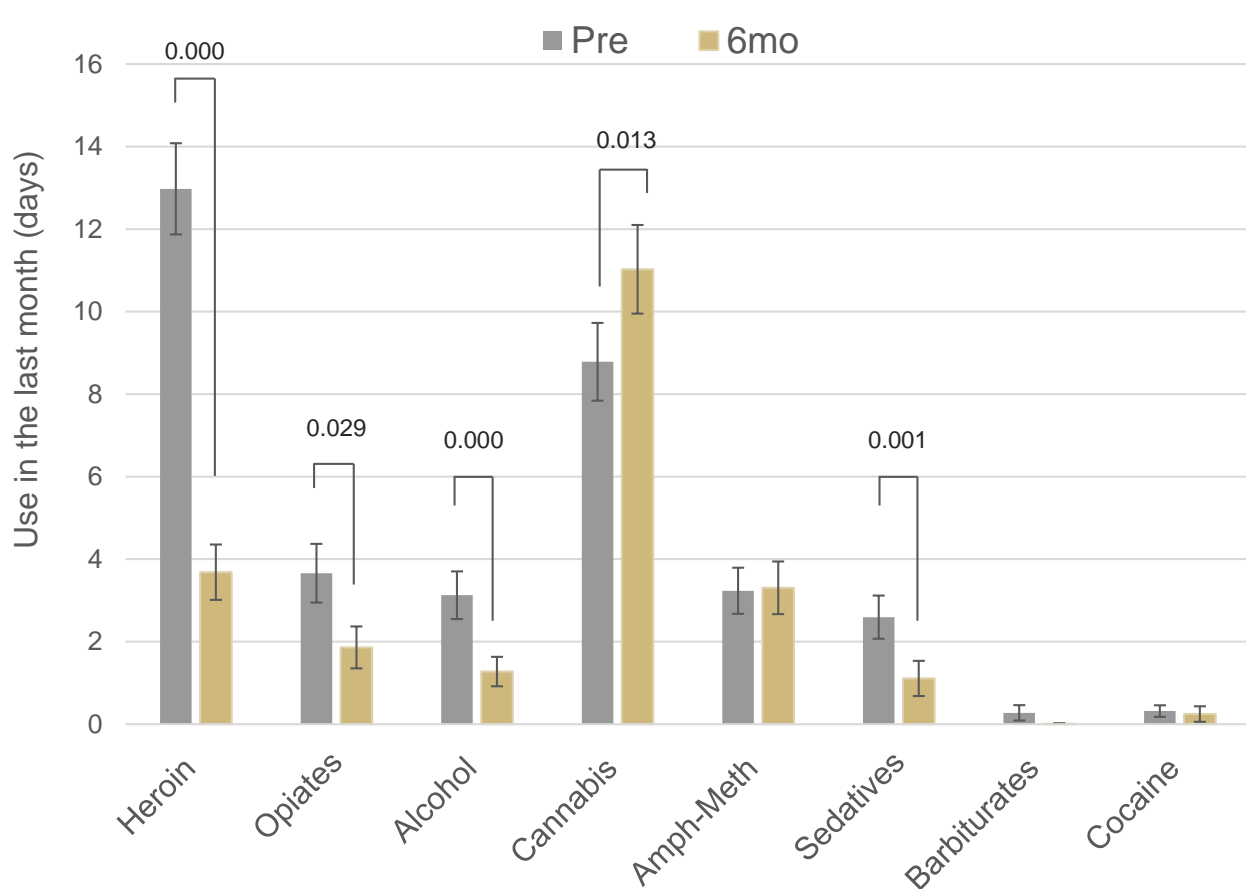
Patient Level

Average Patient is (baseline):

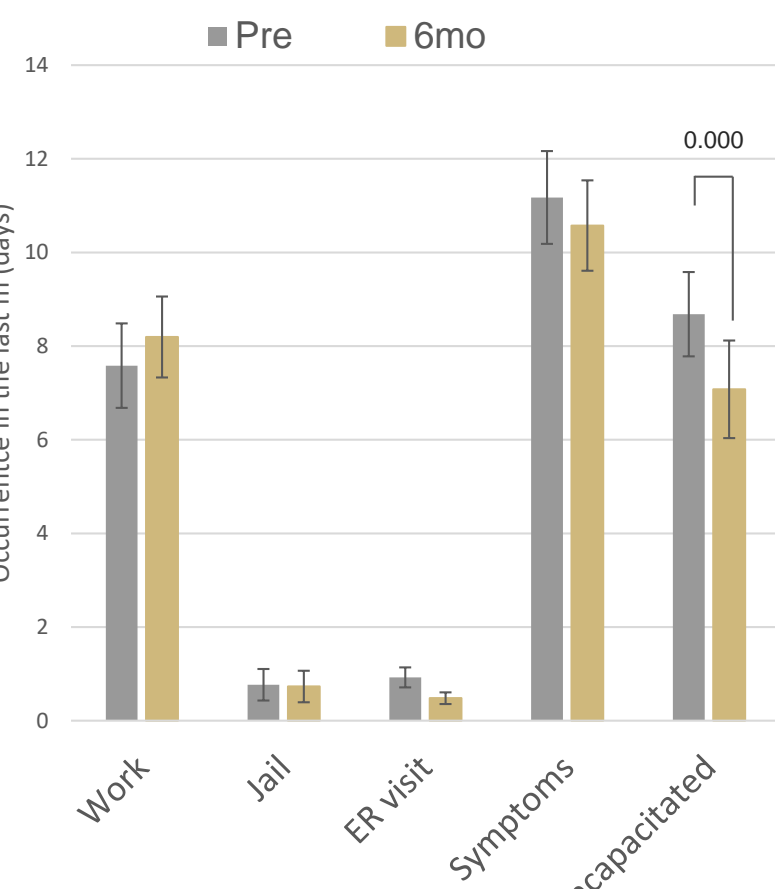


- 25-44 y.o. (66%)
- Not married (77%)
- Medicaid (91%)
- Drug problems (80%)
- Poor health (70%)
- Pain (65%)
- Unemployed (65%), part-time (26%)
- Legal concerns (30%)

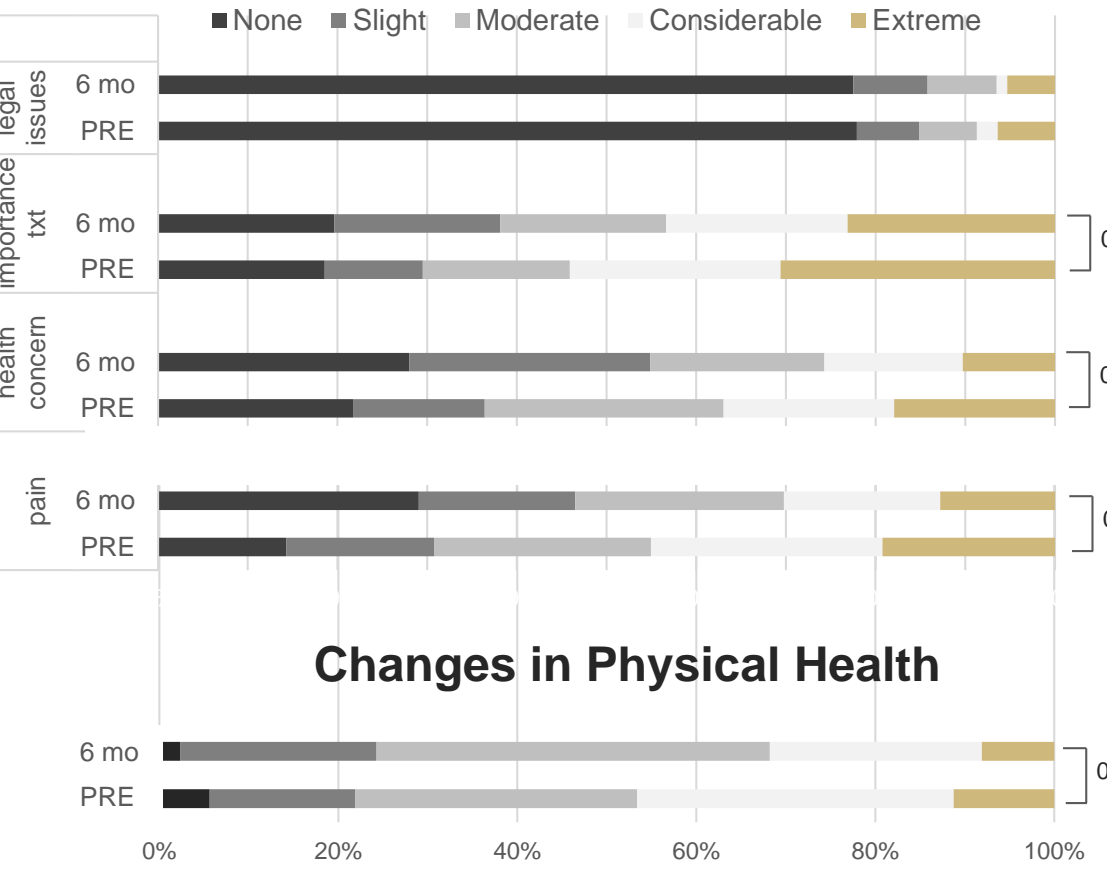
Changes in Substance Use



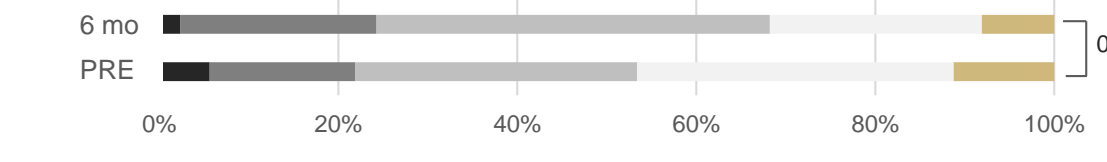
Social & Physical Changes



Changes in Perceptions



Changes in Physical Health



Conclusion

Promising results from a pilot program to address opioid epidemic

- Policy, legislation, and academic-community collaboration contributed to increased MOUD access in rural counties**
- Patient participation in 6 months of MOUD treatment led to:**
 - Significant decrease in substance use
 - Improvements in wellbeing, pain, overall health concerns
 - Satisfaction

Future Directions

- ✓ SB(19)-01 Expansion of MOUD Program to ~ 20 rural counties in 2020
- ✓ Continue MOUD provider education
- ✓ Ongoing advocacy and legislative support
- ✗ Lower health insurance barriers
- ✗ Lower stigma through community outreach and education
- ✓ Strengthen collaborations to ensure referrals
- ✓ Systematically assess needs and impact of these programs
- ✓ Address prevention at public health level

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Practice Level

