

E•QUAL | EMERGENCY QUALITY NETWORK

Opioid Initiative Wave I
Harm Reduction in the ED

Presenter



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Harm Reduction IN THE ED

Science > Stigma

Understanding > Judgement

Doing Better > Status Quo

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No Conflicts of interests to disclose

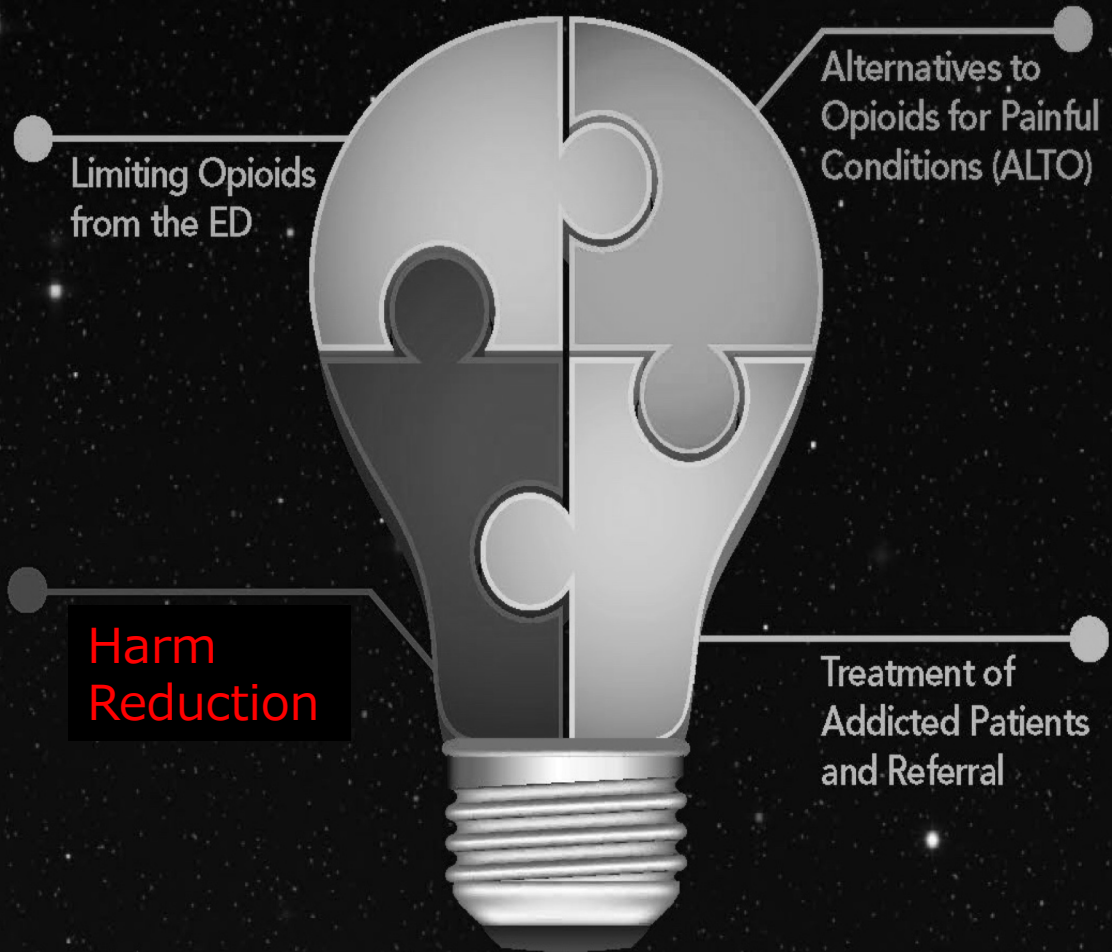
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COLORADO ACEP

2017 Opioid Prescribing & Treatment Guidelines



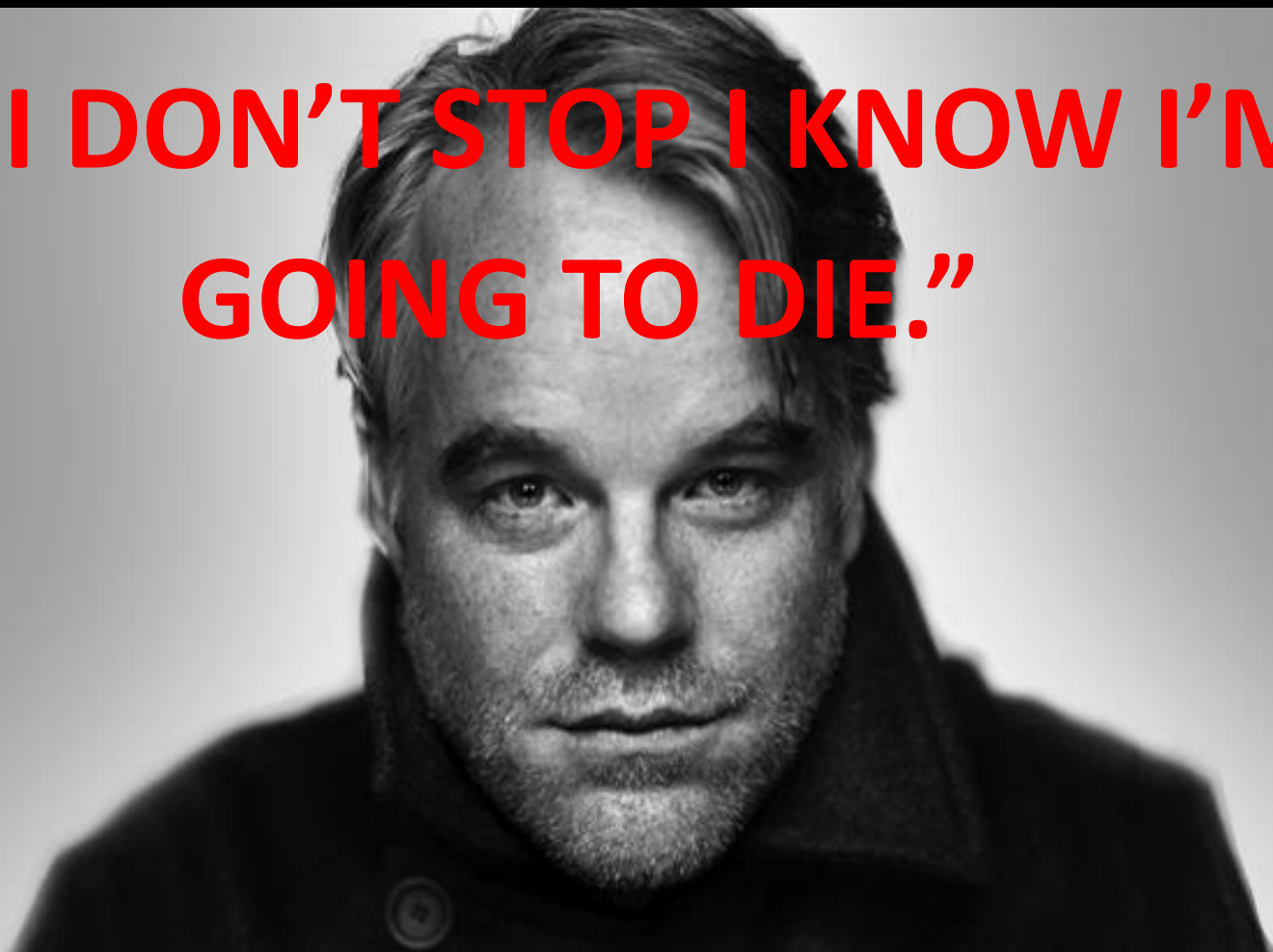
Confronting the Opioid Epidemic in Colorado's Emergency Departments



http://coacep.org/docs/COACEP_Opioid_Guidelines-Final.pdf

ADDICTION:

**“IF I DON’T STOP I KNOW I’M
GOING TO DIE.”**



**ADDICT. BAD PERSON. A CHOICE.
A MORAL FAILING. WASTE OF TIME**

HOW DO WE FEEL ABOUT DRUG USERS?

ANGRY

BURNED OUT

FRUSTRATED

ANNOYED



ADDICTION:



ENDORPHINS
DYNORPHINS
DOPAMINE
REWARD SYSTEM
MALFUNCTION

USE TO:

GET HIGH



FEEL NORMAL



NOT FEEL SICK

A MEDICAL DISEASE.

DRUG SEEKING IS COMPULSIVE. DIFFICULT TO CONTROL. ADDICTION >
CONSEQUENCE.

PHYSIOLOGIC BRAIN CHANGES
RELAPSING & REMITTING.

WHAT WE KNOW ABOUT IVD USE:

OVERDOSE

HEPATITIS C&B

HIV / AIDS

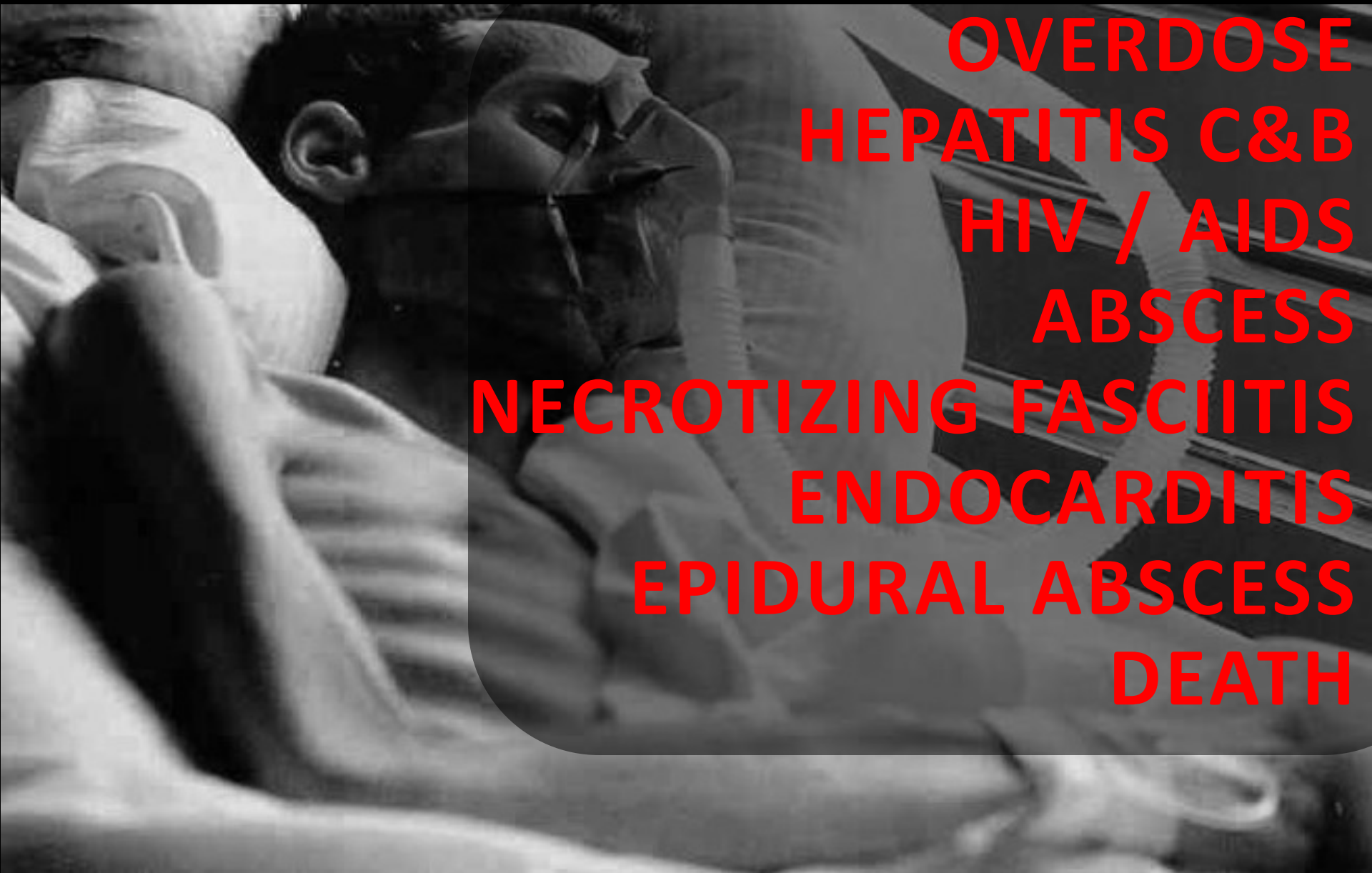
ABSCESS

NECROTIZING FASCIITIS

ENDOCARDITIS

EPIDURAL ABSCESS

DEATH



Harm reduction is -

PRACTICAL.

Reducing negative consequences.

Respect patients & their choices.

NO Stigma.

Keep Safe and Reduce Risk.

Until ready for RECOVERY.

HARM REDUCTION EXAMPLES



WHAT WE SHOULD KNOW?



EVERY EMERGENCY CLINICIAN SHOULD KNOW HOW TO INJECT
HEROIN & IV DRUGS.
STERILE TECHNIQUE. SOUND ADVICE

PATIENT 1: DRUG OVERDOSE

WHY PEOPLE OVERDOSE:

- QUALITY
- TOLERANCE / LOW TOLERANCE
- MIXING

PREVENTING OVERDOSE:

- NEVER USE ALONE
- NEW PRODUCT (TESTER SHOT)
- NARCAN 4 ALL
- DOES YOUR ED DISPENSE NARCAN?



CONSEQUENCE OF STANDARD CARE...



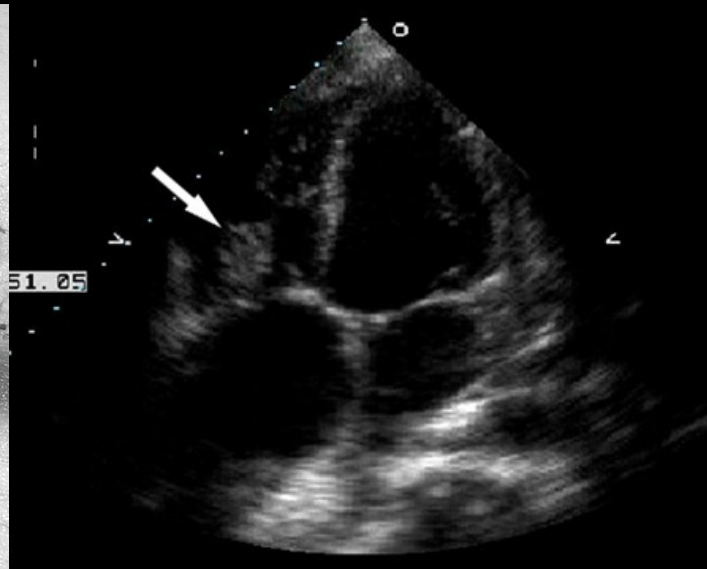
PATIENT 2: "I WAS BIT BY A SPIDER"

PREVENTING BACTERIAL INFXNS:

- HOW DO YOU SHOOT? LICKING?
WATER SUPPLY?
- NEW MATERIALS EACH INJECTION?
- ALCOHOL PADS?
- COOKING YOUR PRODUCT
- WHERE ARE YOU INJECTING



CONSEQUENCE OF STANDARD CARE...



PATIENT 3: YOUR FAVORITE NURSE. PANICKED. NEEDLE STICK INJURY.
KNOWN IVDU. MULT VISITS.

PREVENTING VIRAL INFECTION:

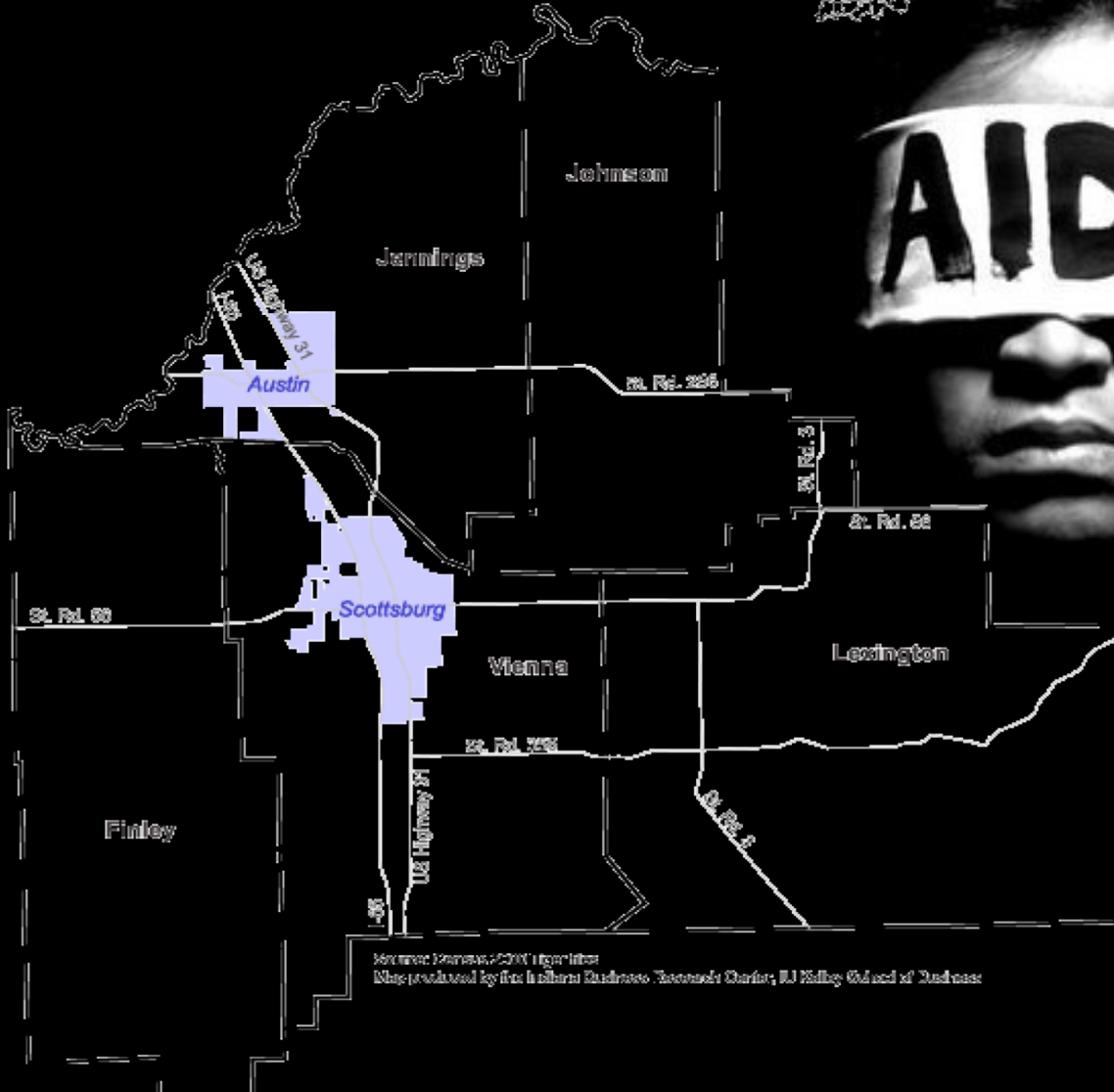
- Don't share needles is insufficient
- Hep C Danger >>>> HIV
- **DON'T SHARE ANYTHING!**
- Referral to Syringe exchange!
- No Syringe Exchange - Advocate for one
- Supervised Injection facilities –
(AMA, ACEP Support pilots)

CONSEQUENCE OF STANDARD CARE...

Scott County Townships



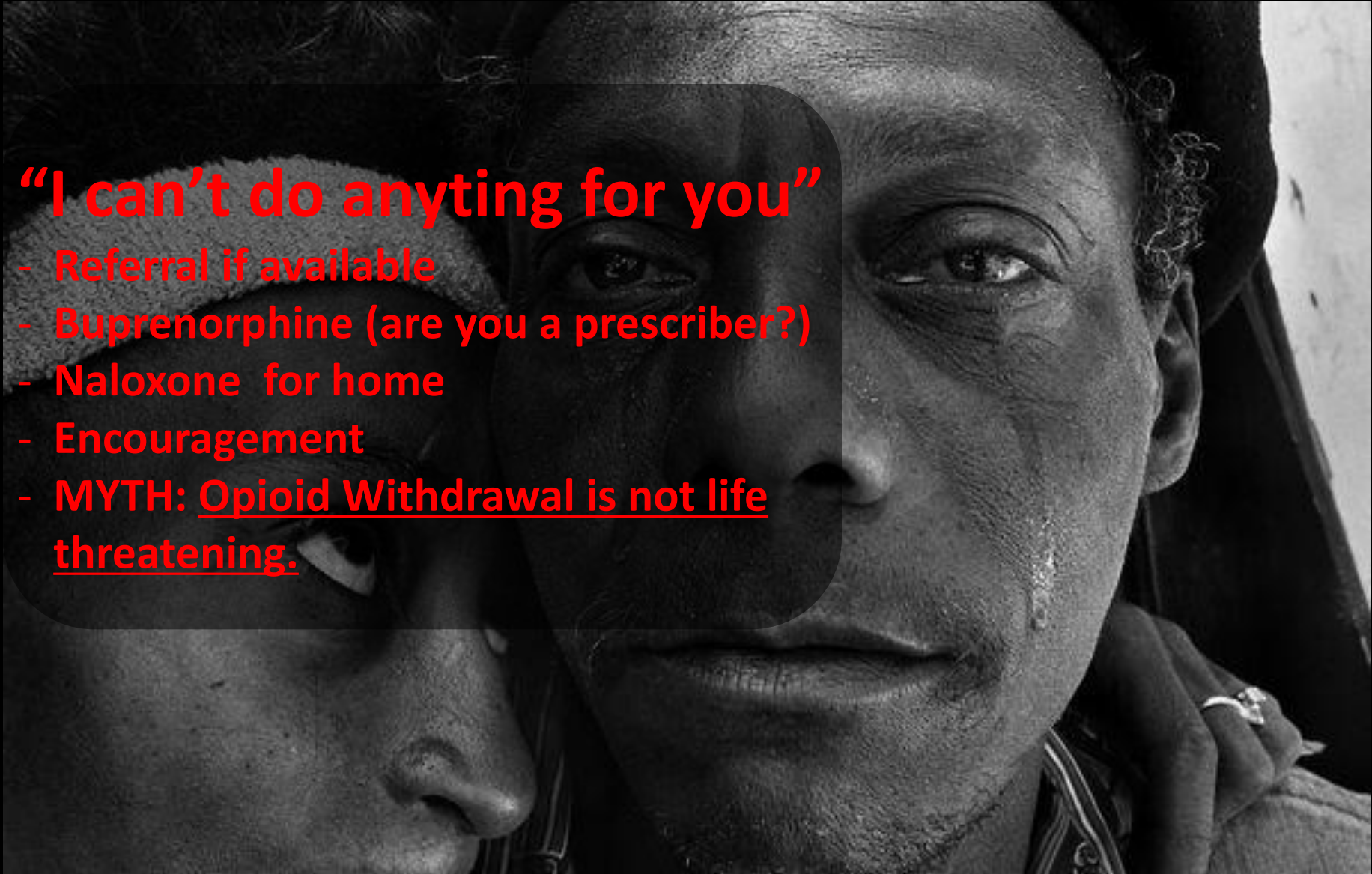
Scott County, Indiana



Pt 4. LONG TERM OPIOID USER. WITHDRAWING. WANTS TO QUIT. BROUGHT BY FAMILY.

“I can’t do anything for you”

- Referral if available
- Buprenorphine (are you a prescriber?)
- Naloxone for home
- Encouragement
- **MYTH: Opioid Withdrawal is not life threatening.**



SUCCESS



**WHAT PEOPLE THINK
IT LOOKS LIKE**

SUCCESS



**WHAT IT REALLY
LOOKS LIKE**

**HARM REDUCTION & ED ETHOS –
ARE THE SAME – PUT THE PATIENT FIRST.
WHAT DO YOU SEE?**



For More Information

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