**Fact Sheet:** Opioid Crisis & Addiction Management – Focus on New York Updated 2019

**Opioid Crisis: By The Numbers**

**U.S. --** Drug overdose is the leading cause of accidental death in the United States.1

* In the U.S. there were more than 70,000 drug overdose deaths in 2017 and Opioids killed 47,000+ Americans; about 130 people per day; 6 times more than in 1999.2
* Americans are now likelier to die of an opioid overdose than in a motor vehicle crash**3**

**Northeast** --More than half of Northeast states experienced statistically significant increases in drug overdose death rates from 2016 to 2017, including New York (7.8 percent).2

**New York State --** InNew York from 2010 to 2015 the opioid overdose death rate doubled and the heroin death rate increased by over five times.4

* In 2016, the death rate in New York was 15.1 per 100,000 persons (national rate was 13.3).5
* In one year, from 2015 to 2016, drug deaths in New York State increased 29 percent — from 3,009 total deaths to 3,894.6
* In 2015, New York was in the top 10 states with the highest total health care costs from opioid abuse -- with $1,256 million in costs.7

**New York City --** In NYC, every six hours, someone dies of a drug overdose.

* More New Yorkers die of drug overdoses than homicides, suicides, and motor vehicle crashes combined.
* Overdose deaths in New York City (NYC) have increased for seven consecutive years.
* Fentanyl, a highly potent opioid, is involved in approximately half of all overdose deaths.
* Opioids are involved in more than 80% of all overdose deaths.8

**Stemming the Crisis Through Medication Assisted Treatment**

The consensus best-practice approach for opioid addiction treatment is Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT), which combines drug therapy (methadone, buprenorphine, or extended-release, injectable naltrexone) counseling and behavioral therapies.9

* MAT = Medication + Psychological Services + Medical Services + Social Services9
* In MAT, medication helps to mediate physiological impacts of addictive substances; counseling and behavioral therapies address psychosocial factors related to addiction, as well as practical challenges many people struggling with addiction have to face along the path to whole life recovery.9
* MAT has been shown to deliver a 75% reduction in risk of addiction-related death among individuals who received MAT vs. those who did not.1
* MAT is also associated with increased treatment retention, patient survival and employment rates; improved birth outcomes; and decreased opioid use, criminal activity, and risk of HIV and Hep C.9
* According to NIH leaders, “the safety and efficacy of MAT has been unequivocally established. ...[M]ethadone  maintenance coupled with relevant social, medical and psychological services has the highest probability of being the most effective of all treatments for opioid addiction.” 1