



VHS NEWS

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Valley Hope Solutions has been providing billing and administrative services for behavioral health issues for more than 50 years, we are even more focused today on keeping our stakeholders informed of leading stories and issues pertaining to our ever-changing industry. We hope this serves to be an informative resource, while providing helpful tips, networking events and educational opportunities. Thank you for your continued support of Valley Hope Solutions - enjoy the journey with us!

UPCOMING  EVENTS



[Register For Colorado](#)

[Register For Arizona](#)

American Telemedicine Association

Annual Conference and Expo
April 29th - May 1, 2018 Chicago, IL

[Learn More on their website](#)



Biller's Corner:

FYI: Know your age limitations for dependents: At age 26 dependents are no longer allowed coverage under a parents health plan unless they are disabled or special needs qualified.

-Iris M.

VHS Billing Specialist





WE MOBILIZED AGAINST FLU, CANCER, AND HEART ATTACKS. WHERE IS THE URGENCY ON OPIOIDS?

Our nation is not yet succeeding in addressing the opioid crisis, as exemplified by the latest drug overdose numbers just released by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). In 2016, we lost more than 63,000 Americans to drug overdoses broadly, an increase of 21% over the previous year.

The relentless devastation is being felt by far too many families and communities. The country's response to this problem has been hampered by our failure to recognize addiction as a disease that requires comprehensive health solutions.

When the H1N1 flu pandemic broke out in this country just over eight years ago, the nation mobilized to contain the outbreak and treat the sick. We developed new vaccinations, public health protocols, physician education and raised awareness of the disease and how to prevent it. Congress even put partisan politics aside and passed emergency legislation to incentivize the manufacturing of pandemic countermeasures.

Our country deserves the same medical urgency today in addressing addiction as we had for ...

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DRUGS LACED WITH BUG SPRAY PRODUCE ZOMBIE-LIKE EFFECTS

The drug, known as KD, is highly addictive and even a small dose can be dangerous.

AUTHORITIES IN Indianapolis are concerned over an increase in overdoses of a street drug commonly known as KD that is laced with bug spray and produces zombie-like effects in users.

"We describe it as being like a zombie. They cannot talk to us," Indianapolis Fire Department Captain Chris Major told Indianapolis' FOX59 (WXIN-TV).

To create the drug, people are spraying heavy-duty bug sprays such as Raid that have high concentrations of pyrethroids – pesticides – in them, on substances like marijuana and tobacco and smoking it. This leads to a severe reaction, including the inability to walk, breathe or speak. Users also appear to be in a catatonic state, according to WRTV-TV.

"We find people passed out with it still in their hand. That is how fast it has an effect on them," Major told FOX59. "Their movements are slow and lethargic..."

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OXYCONTIN MAKERS CULTURE CHANGE STARTS TODAY: NO MORE PROMOTING OPIOIDS

The decision by OxyContin maker Purdue Pharma to stop encouraging physicians to write the painkiller's scripts is drawing positive reviews from opioid experts who caution that far more work must be done to crush the killer epidemic.

Purdue said it is slashing its sales staff and will halt, effective Monday, promoting the drug to health care professionals. The decision comes as the industry battles an avalanche of lawsuits across the nation related to an epidemic of opioid abuse.

Indra Cidambi, medical director at the Center for Network Therapy detox program in New Jersey and a nationally recognized authority on opioid abuse, said she was encouraged by Purdue's announcement. But she warned that tightening the prescription supply already has illegal drug dealers turning out more pills that look like branded prescription meds but can be even more dangerous.

"The decision by a manufacturer to stop pushing opioid pain medications is late, but better late than never," Cidambi told USA TODAY. "Even if we save one life due to this decision, it is worth it." ...

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Valley Hope Solutions

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Valley Hope Solutions' mission is to help with the quality of care for patients seeking mental and behavioral health treatment, by providing billing and support services led by industry experts, so healthcare providers can focus on the most important element of recovery: the patients.

Valley Hope Solutions Services include:

- Experts in Electronic Insurance Claim Submission
- Stringent Collection follow-up process
- Eligibility and Benefit Verification Services
- Insurance Contract Negotiations and SCA
- Administrative/Operational Consulting Services
- Boutique Billing (Specialty Services)
- Specialized Consulting For All Your Business And Accreditation Needs