



VHS NEWS

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!

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Providing patient care should be priority number one for treatment centers. With such a complex field, additional work can pile up and patient care can suffer.



Imagine being able to outsource that additional work...



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NEWS



MISSION LISA ESTIMATES OPIOIDS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR 89% OF THE INCREASE IN DRUG DEATHS IN 2017

TAMPA, Fla., Oct. 30, 2018 /PRNewswire/ -- Roughly 135 people die every day from an opioid overdose in the U.S. However, more information regarding the current scope of the opioid epidemic – the total number of individuals affected by opioid misuse and the epidemic severity within each state – is needed for an impactful intervention. As a guidance to engage in this crisis and to effectively address the total patient population, Mission LISA implores the President's Commission on Combating Drug Addiction and the Opioid Crisis, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, as well as state and county departments of health, to consider the current magnitude of the epidemic and implement prevention, treatment, and intervention efforts based on state severity....

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OPIOID DEATHS MAY BE STARTING TO PLATEAU, HHS CHIEF SAYS

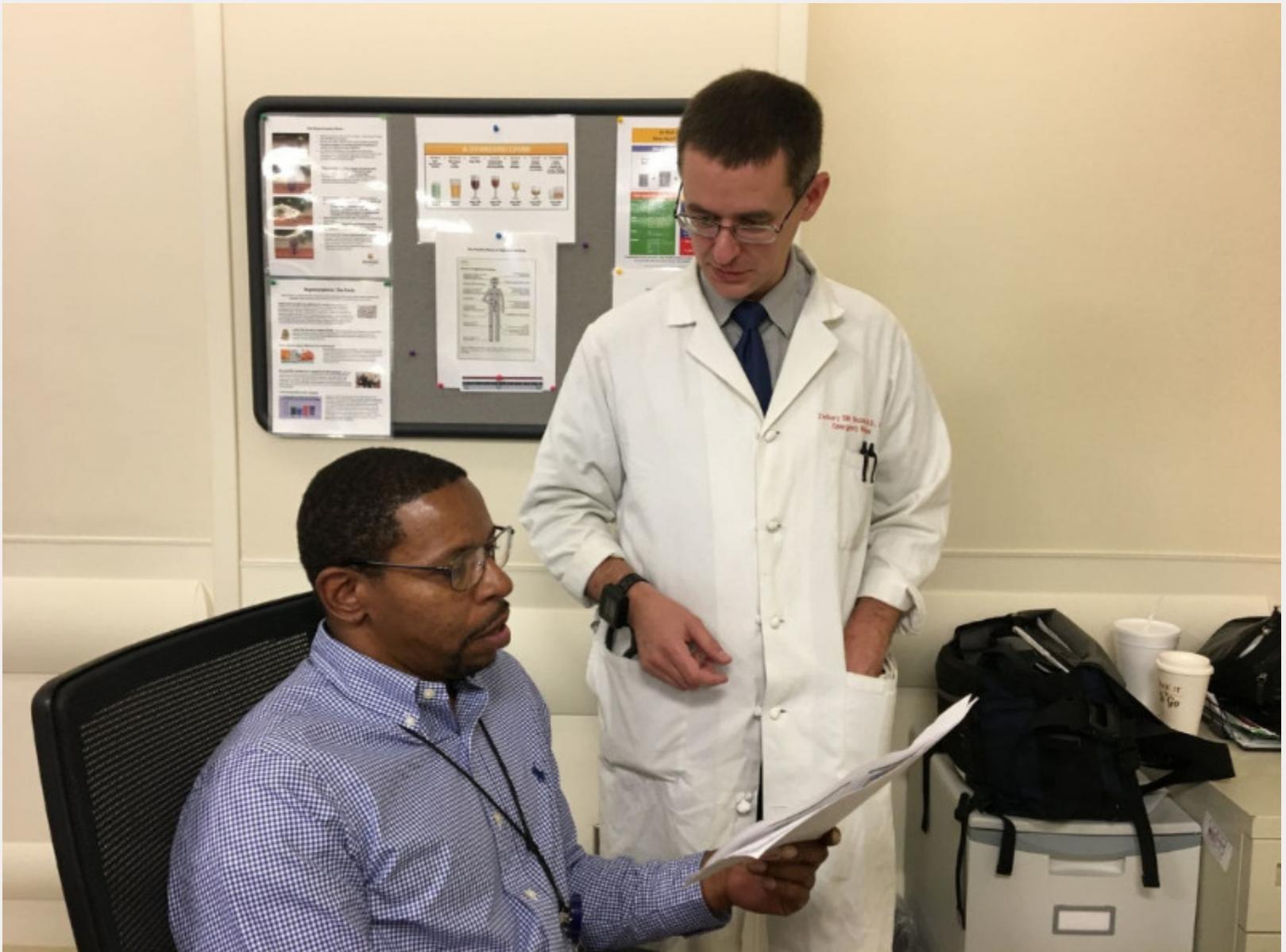
The American opioid crisis is far from over, but early data indicate the number of deaths are beginning to

level off, according to Alex Azar, secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, citing "encouraging" results in overdose trends.

In a speech on Tuesday at a Milken Institute health summit, Azar walked through statistics suggesting deaths were plateauing and he highlighted efforts he says may be turning the tide in the drug epidemic.

In 2017, the number of Americans dying from overdoses rose to 72,000 from 64,000 the previous year. However, according to new provisional data from the Centers for Disease Control, opioid overdose deaths went from 42,000 to 49,000 but stopped rising toward the end of 2017, a trend that has continued into the beginning of this year...

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FACING AN OVERDOSE EPIDEMIC, SOME ER'S NOW OFFER ADDICTION TREATMENT

For Zachary Dezman, an emergency physician in heroin-plagued Baltimore, there is no question that offering addiction medicine to emergency room patients is the right thing to do.

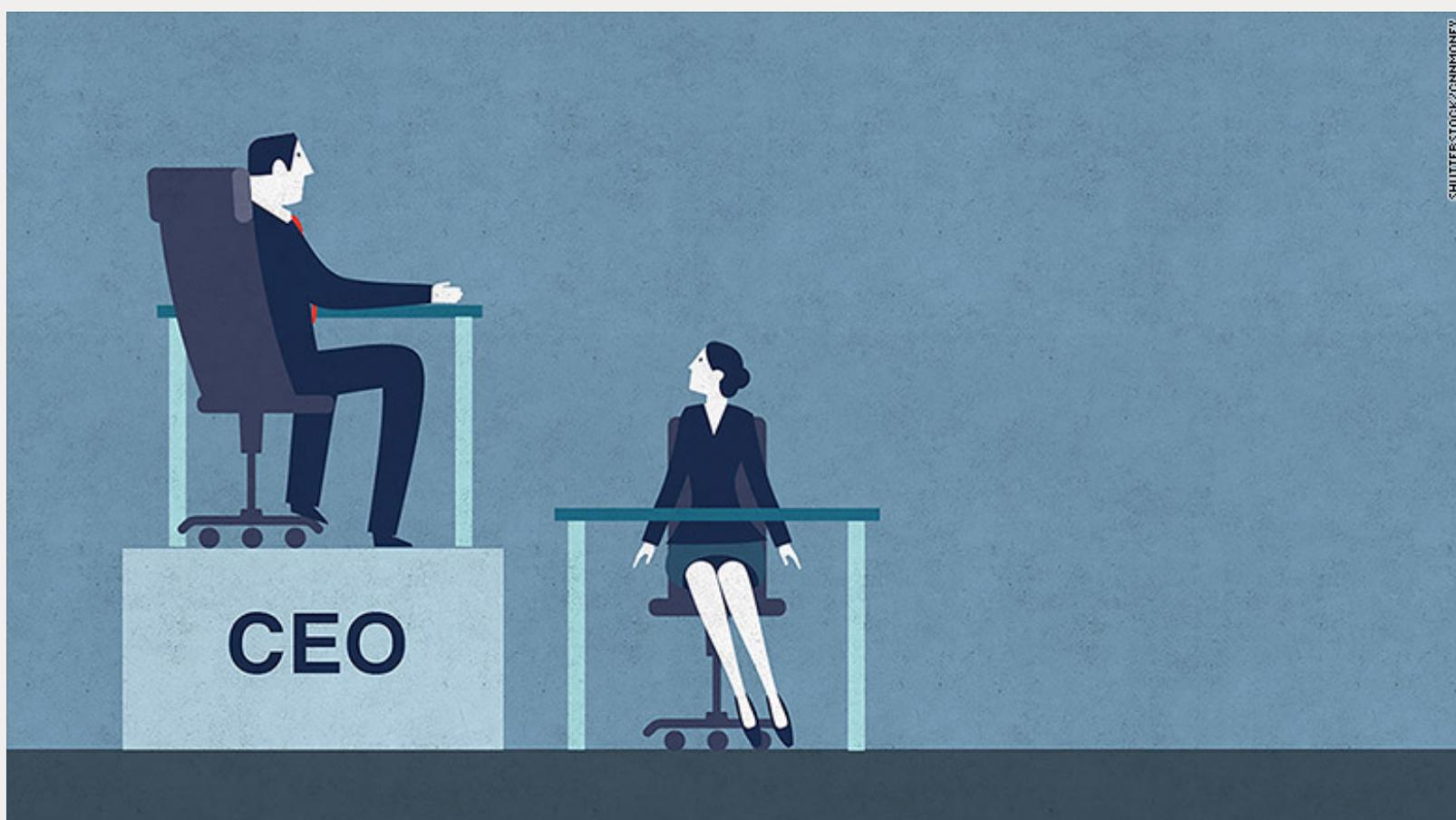
People with a drug addiction are generally in poorer health than the rest of the population, he said. "These

patients are marginalized from the health-care system. We see people every day who have nowhere else to go.

“If they need addiction medicine — and many do — why wouldn’t we give it to them in the ER? We give them medicine for every other life-threatening disease.”

But elsewhere in the country, all but a few emergency doctors and hospital administrators see things differently. They worry that offering addiction services could attract more drug-seeking patients than they already see, taking up valuable staff time and beds, said Andrew Kolodny, co-director of the Opioid Policy Research Collaborative at Brandeis University...

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ADDICTION IN THE C-SUITE

Addiction is an equal-opportunity nightmare.

Even CEOs and others at the pinnacle of their careers aren't exempt from the price an addictive dependence can exact on one's career and personal life.

"Addiction does not discriminate, whether you're a high-powered executive in the C-suite or a bricklayer in Detroit," said William Moyers, the vice president of community relations at Hazelden Betty Ford, a nonprofit addiction treatment provider.

But C-suite executives who develop a problem with drinking, drugs, gambling, porn, sex or other compulsive behaviors often have more options to hide their addictions...

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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.

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