encounter TELEHEALTH

anti-psychotic drug reduction

In skilled nursing facilities

Encounter Telehealth, Inc.
www.encounter.health
info@encounter.health
(844) 485-3041

encounter
TELEHEALTH

about us

Encounter Telehealth provides psychiatric and mental healthcare for skilled nursing facilities and long term care communities via telehealth.

A primary focus of Encounter is to reduce or eliminate the off-label prescribing of antipsychotics when possible.

In 2019, Encounter conducted a study of Skilled Nursing Facility partners in Iowa to measure the antipsychotic prescribing rates prior to partnering with Encounter to the most recent CMS data from 2018.

There was an average drop of 6.7%, down from 18.8% in 2015 to 12.1% in 2018; dropping from above the national average to significantly lower than the national average.

Recently, we revisited the antipsychotic prescribing rates with 2022 data from CMS. While nationally the prescription rates have increased since the 2020 COVID-19 pandemic, Encounter's partner facilities have continued to maintain rates below state and national averages.

encounter TELEHEALTH

antipsychotics
In long-term care

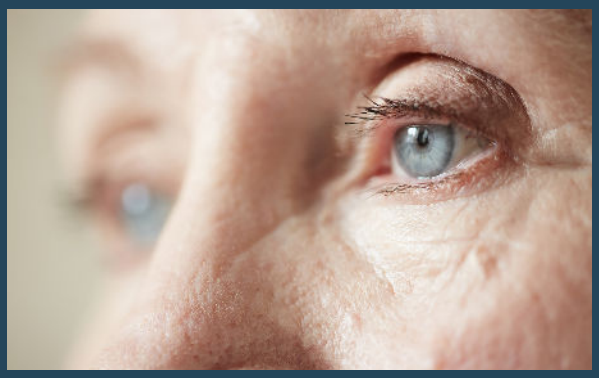
The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) estimates that a small fraction of long term care residents will ever have a condition warranting the use of antipsychotics. However, antipsychotics have been used for decades to treat individuals with dementia that have aggressive or violent behaviors.

Elderly patients with dementia who are treated with antipsychotics are at an increased risk of death. Moreover, antipsychotics do not improve the individual's functionality, care needs, or quality of life.

The trend in prescribing antipsychotics off-label to treat dementia prompted CMS to launch the National Partnership to Improve Dementia Care in Nursing Homes in 2012, with the primary goal of reducing the prescribing rates.

ETH top 4 Diagnoses:

Anxiety
Depression
Insomnia
Depression



encounter TELEHEALTH

Reduction of Off-Label Anti-Psychotic Prescribing

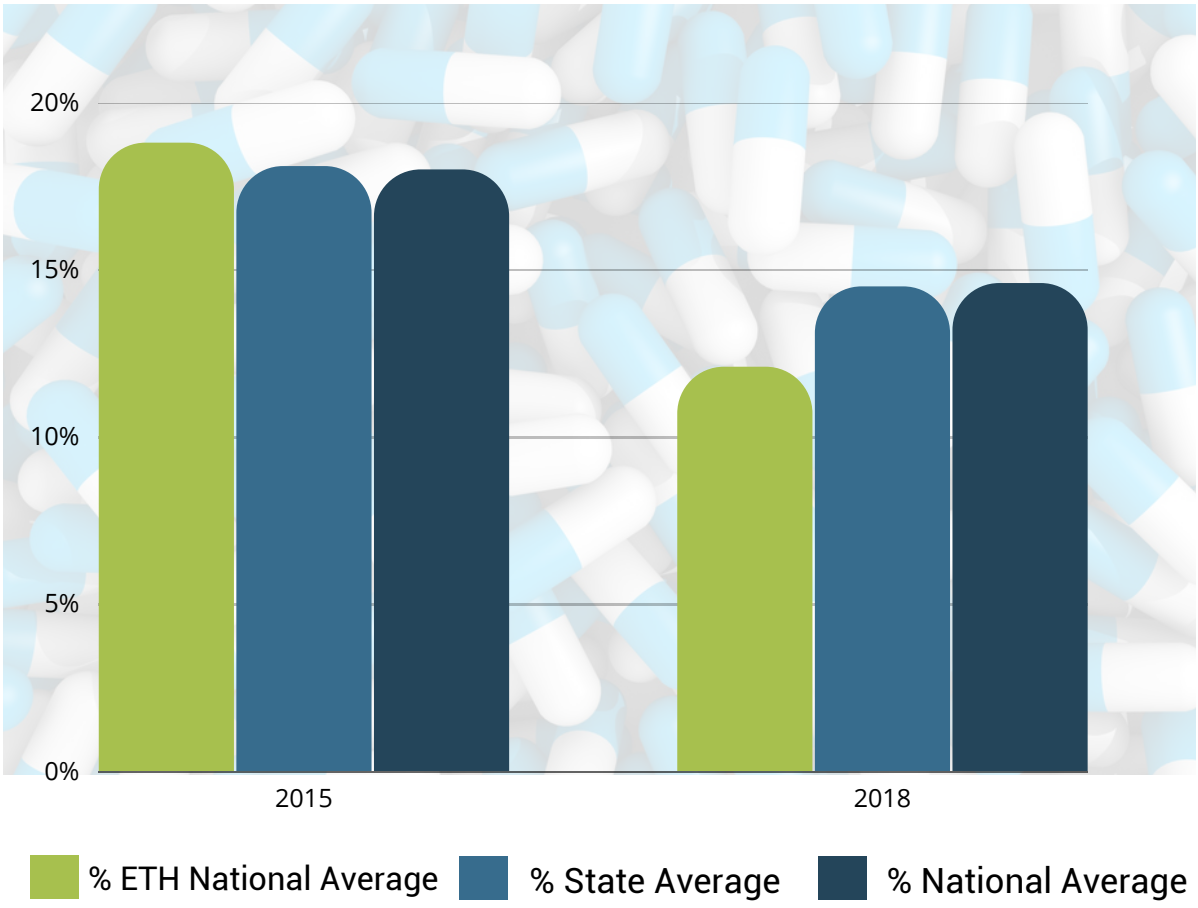
In Iowa Facilities 2015 – 2018

Encounter conducted a study of our Skilled Nursing Facility partners in Iowa to measure the antipsychotic prescribing rates and to determine if there had been a change from prior to partnering with Encounter to after utilizing our services for their residents.

The analysis shows the percentage of antipsychotic drug use among facilities in 2015, prior to working with Encounter, compared to CMS data from 2018. The facilities showed an average reduction of 6.7% in the use of antipsychotics during that period, from a high of 18.8% in 2015, (1% over the national average) to 12.1% in 2018, (2.7% below the national average).

.

Since the 2020 COVID-19 pandemic, national levels of antipsychotic prescription rates have increased according to CMS. Facilities working with Encounter Telehealth have consistently remained below state and national rates.

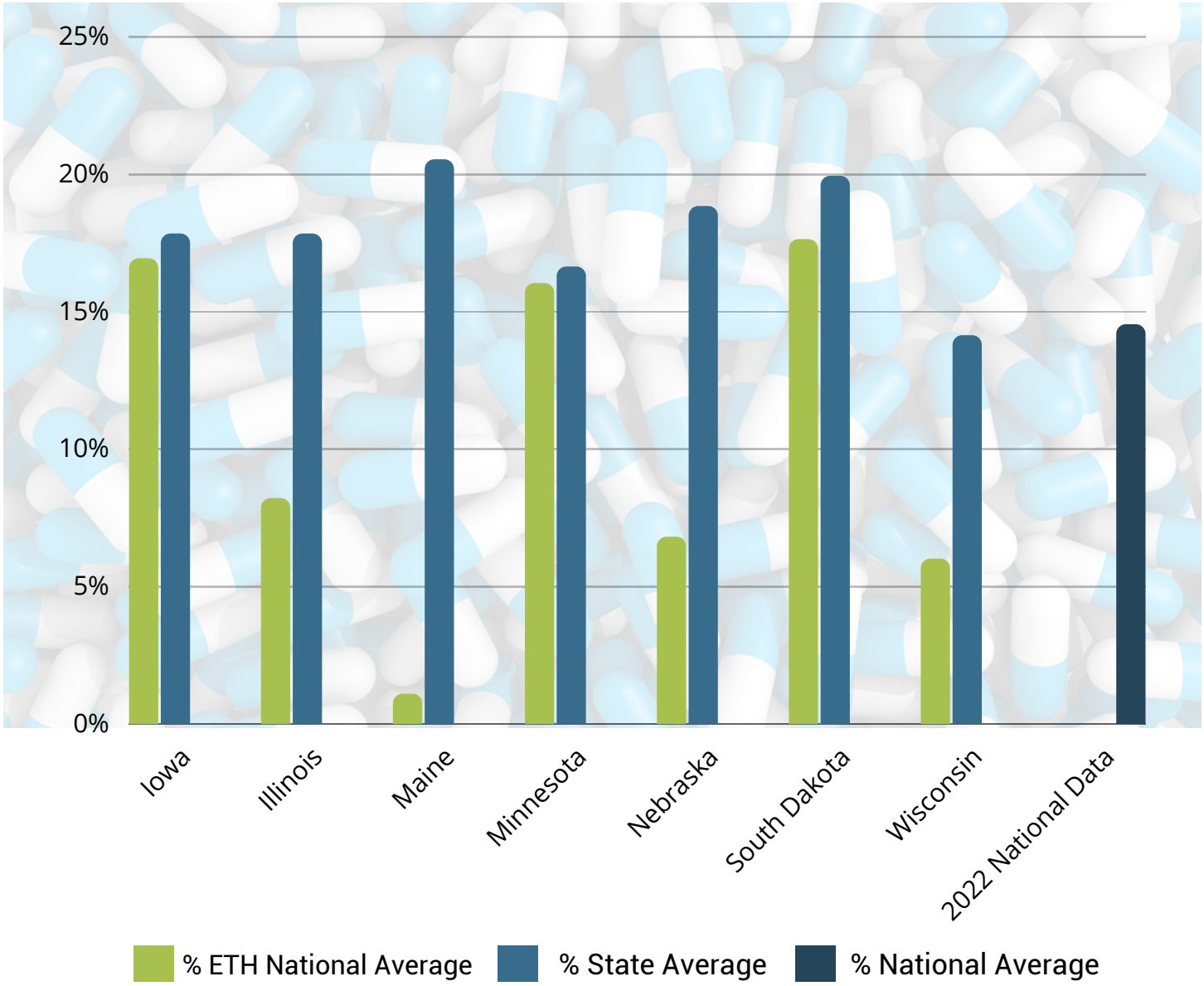


encounter TELEHEALTH

Reduction of Off-Label Anti-Psychotic Prescribing

Partner Facilities by State 2022

Encounter Telehealth analyzed the antipsychotic prescribing rates of our skilled nursing facility partners in states where we have a large presence. Those facilities averaged rates 7.5% below the state averages, and 4.1% below the national average, as published by CMS.



encounter TELEHEALTH

penalties

In 2011, CMS reported that 83% of atypical antipsychotic drug claims were for elderly nursing home residents diagnosed with conditions for which the drugs' use was not approved by FDA. A full 88% of those drug claims were for residents with dementia.

The following year, CMS partnered with federal and state agencies, nursing homes, other providers, advocacy groups, and caregivers to improve comprehensive dementia care. The National Partnership to Improve Dementia Care in Nursing Homes was established, and facilities were notified that there would be penalties for care deficiencies. Penalties vary based upon risk to patients and the scope of deficiencies. Facilities can be penalized up to $10,000 per day for instances of immediate jeopardy.

Most recently, on January 18, 2023, CMS issued a memorandum advising of audits of schizophrenia coding in the MDS data and consequent quality measure rating adjustments for erroneous schizophrenia coding. This was in response to the concern that "some nursing homes have erroneously coded residents as having schizophrenia, masking their true rate of antipsychotic medication use."

encounter TELEHEALTH

resources:

https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Provider-Enrollment-and-Certification/ SurveyCertificationGenlnfo/ National-Partnership-to-lmprove-Dementia-Care-in- Nursing-Homes.html

https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/fact-sheets/data-show-national-partnership-improve-dementia- care-achieves-goals-reduce-unnecessary-antipsychotic

https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2761533/

https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7992115/

https://oig.hhs.gov/oei/reports/oei-07-08-00150.pdf

https://waysandmeans.house.gov/sites/democrats.waysandmeans.house.gov/files/documents/WMD%20Nursing%20Home%20Report_Final.pdf

contact us:

www.encounter.health
info@encounter.health
(844) 485-3041