

Opioid misuse has risen significantly among adolescents, where unintentional overdose deaths have nearly tripled from 1999 to 2015 (Curtin, 2017).

A correlation exists between increased community violence and overall drug use (Yassa and Badea, 2019). Community violence may be a risk factor for opioid misuse among justice-involved adolescents.

Adolescents are more likely to report prescribed opioid misuse in "socially disorganized" neighborhoods (based on the amount of crime, drug solicitation, street fights, etc.) and less likely to report prescribed opioid misuse in "high capital" neighborhoods (people helping one another, etc.) (Ford, Sacra, and Yohros, 2017).

JIA are an understudied population that are at increased risk of using and relapsing from opioids (Vroom et. Al., 2019).

This study assessed the impact of community violence on rates of opioid misuse among JIAs.

Ø : JIAs exposed to community violence will report higher rates of opioid misuse.

This study analyzed data from 79,960 JIA collected by the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice. JIA were interviewed using the Residential Positive Achievement Change Tool (

- 78.1% male (n = 62,463)
- 38.3% White (n = 30,591); 45.6% Black (n=36,443); 15.7% Latinx (n = 12,536)

STATA 17 SE software used for data analyses

- Chi-square test of independence
- Logistic regression (Odds ratios estimated)

Variables

- IV: History of witnessing violence in the community (0 = No, 1 = Yes)
- DV: Opioid use (measured by urine analysis & self-report) (0 = No, 1 = Yes)
- Controls: Race, gender, and household income

Witnessing community violence is associated with higher rates of opioid misuse for JIA compared to those who have not witnessed community violence, emphasizing the impact of environmental risk factors on adolescent opioid use.

Previous research suggests that despair is associated