

Drug-related deaths and mortality among drug users

Annual Expert meeting

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Preventing Drug-related deaths

(Session 5)

The Naloxone in Italy

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(on behalf of the Italian NFP)

NALOXONE

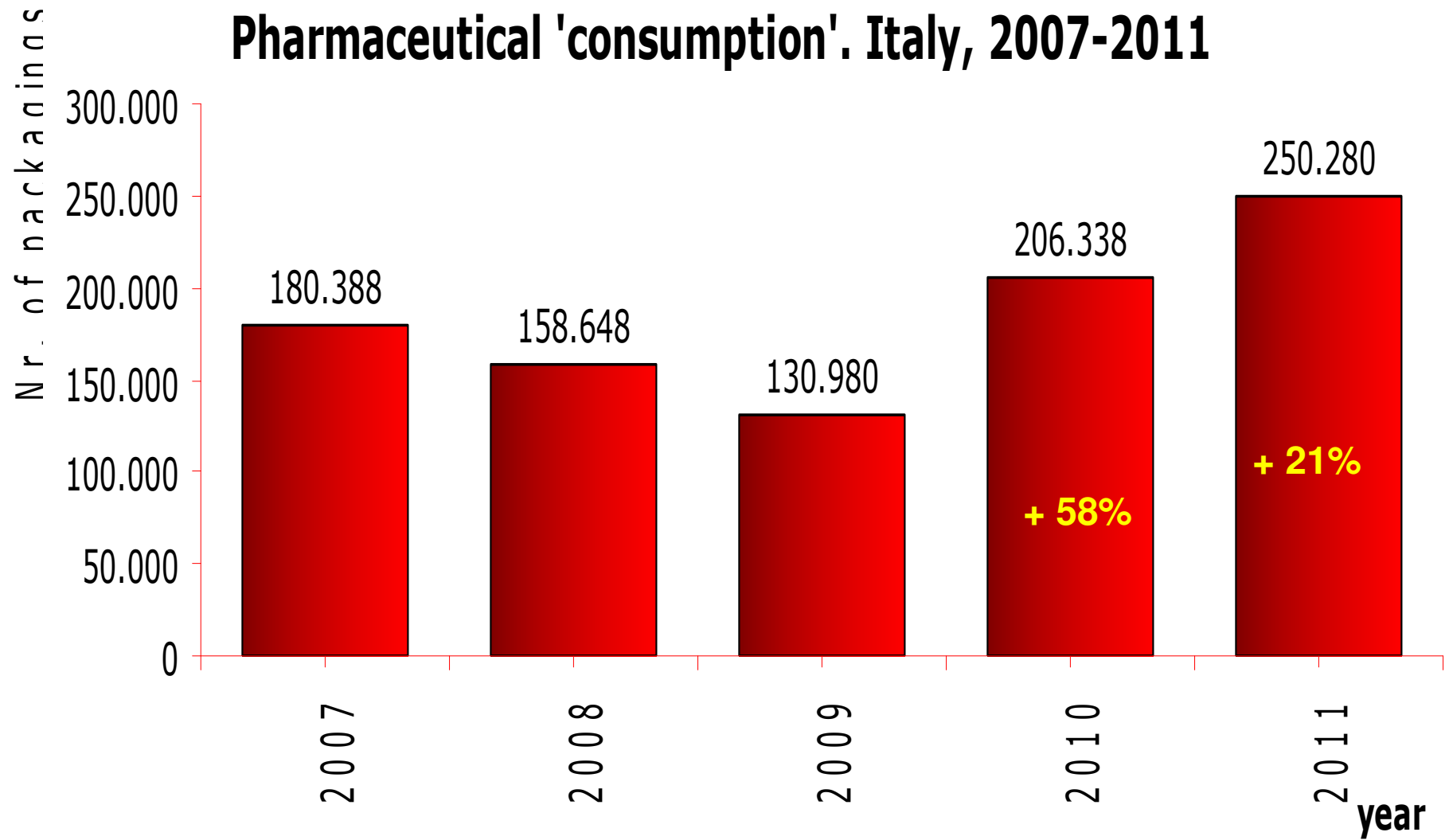
(not scheduled in Italy)

- Availability of this drug, a pure opioid antagonist, in the Chemist's shops by rule.
- As specific antidote only, as life-save, Naloxone in vial for injection is available over-the-counter from pharmacies (Official Pharmacopeia, Table II and IV), so available for peer administration.
- Non-medical personnel are also trained to safely administer Naloxone in opioid overdose situations to reverse the effects and reduce overdose-related deaths in pre-hospital settings.

Availability of Naloxone is increasing according to the data on pharmaceutical consumption.

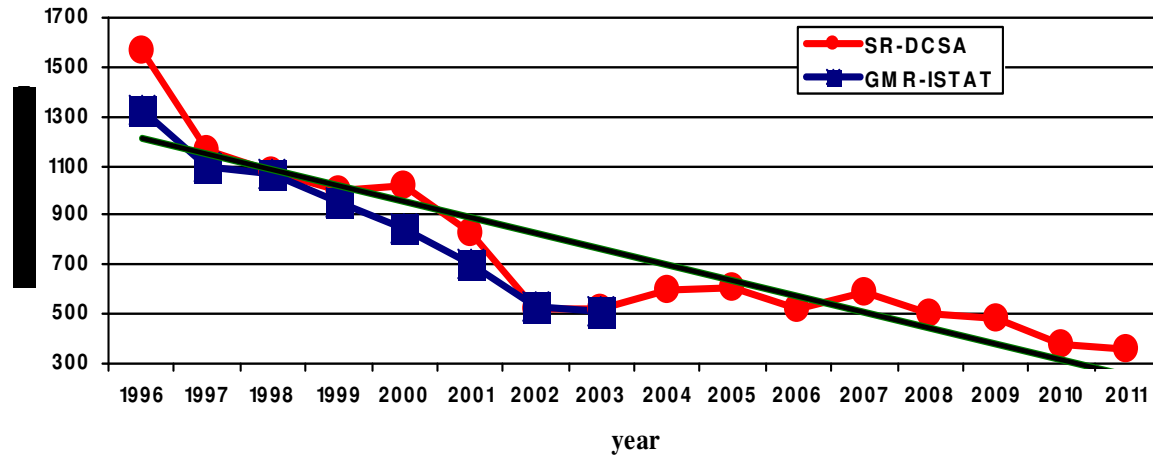
NALOXONE

Pharmaceutical 'consumption'. Italy, 2007-2011

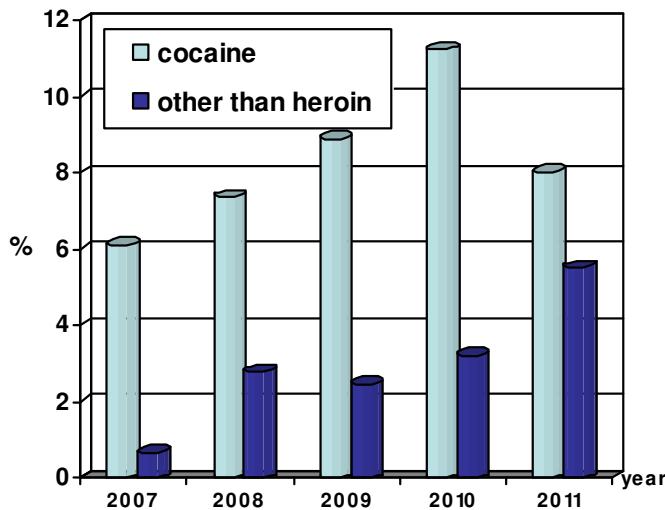


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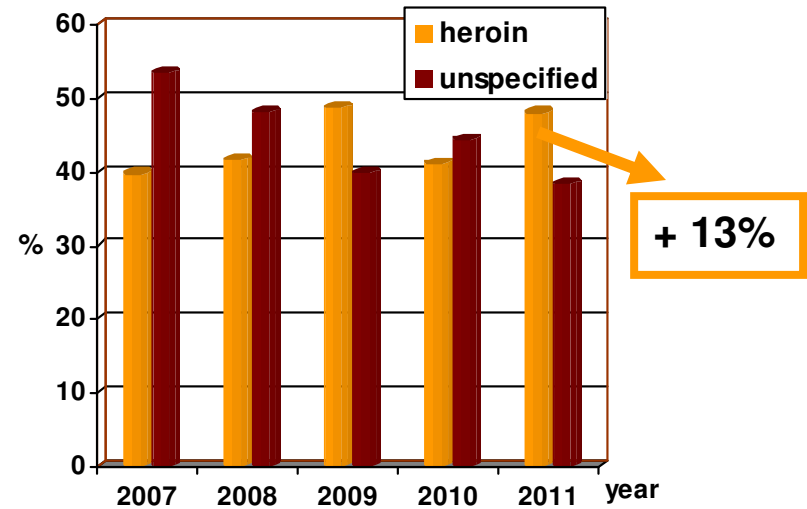
In 2011, 362 direct drug-related deaths vs the 374 in 2010 (- 3.2 %)
The DRD trend keeps in decrease



Deaths by cocaine and substances other than heroin: percentage by year. Italy, 2007-2011



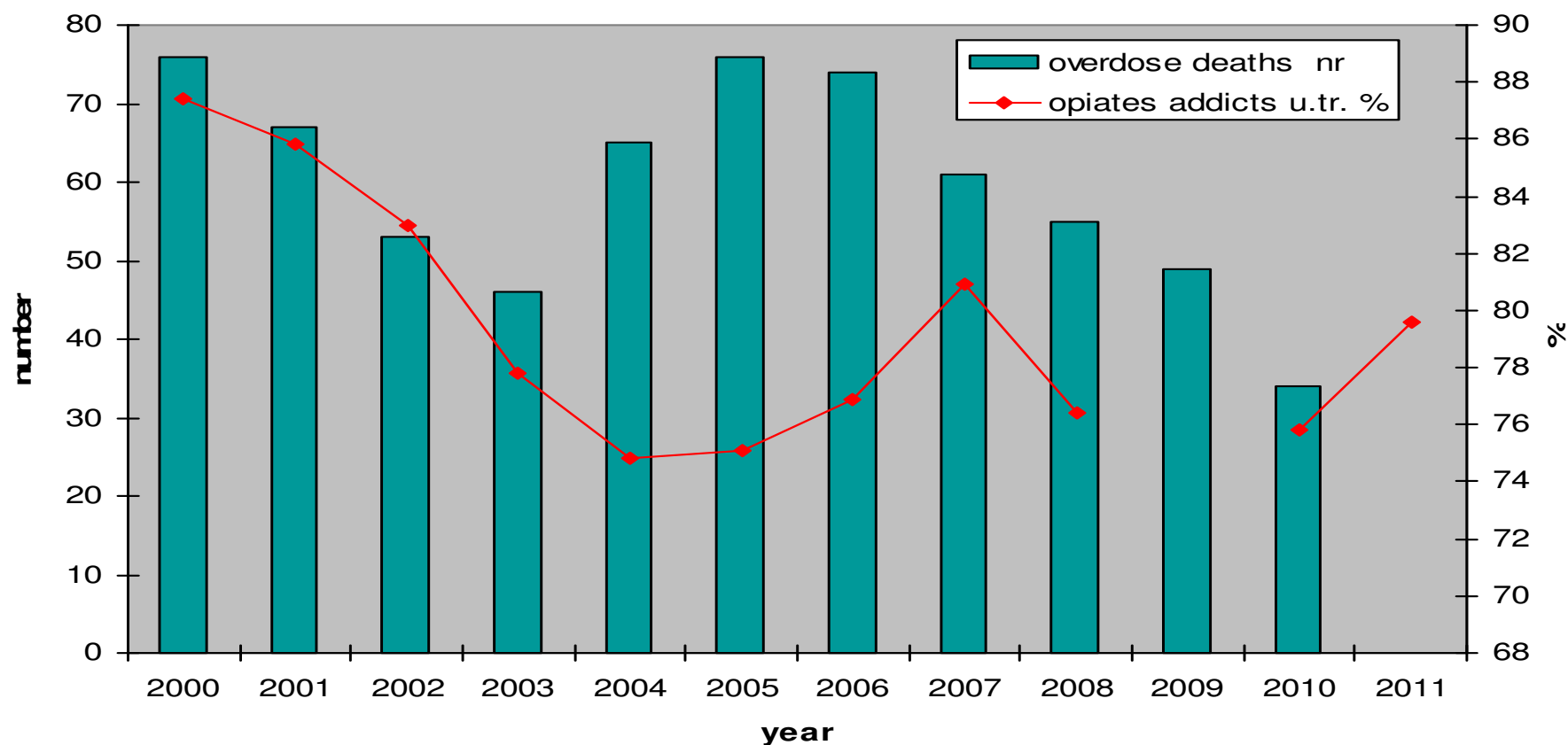
Deaths by heroin and "unspecified" drug by year. Italy, 2007-2011



A high increase of heroin fatal accidents is noticed

Summary of the situation in the Lazio region

(Coverage: the whole of Region)



Source: Epidemiology Department of the Health Regional Service-ASL RME- Latium

Summary of the situation in the Lazio

(1 April 2008 - 30 September 2012; **47 months**)

(Coverage: **the whole of Region**)

- **Street Units**

(10)

nr. contacts with addicts	336,432
% of heroin addicts	53.7%
nr. vials Naloxone HCl distr.	4601
nr. Interventions in overdoses	766

- **First reception Centres** (8)

nr. received subjects	3305
% of heroin addicts	50.4%
nr. vials Naloxone HCl distr.	3284
nr. Interventions in overdoses	---

- **Emergency Mobile Unit** (1)

nr. vials Naloxone HCl deliv.	7885
nr. Interventions in overdoses	1194

Source: Epidemiology Department of the Health Regional Service-ASL RME- Latium

Situation on the whole

(1 April 2008 - 30 September 2012; **47 months**)

(Coverage: **the whole of Region**)

- **Street Units**

(10)

- **First reception Centres** (8)

- **Emergency Mobile Unit** (1)

Delivered Naloxone (nr vials)

7885

Intervention on overdoses (nr)

1194

CONCLUSION₁

Naloxone has been available over-the-counter from pharmacies in Italy since 1995; its distribution has occurred for more than 15 years without any known reported problems.

- Campana, M, **Overdose mortality and Naloxone distribution in Italy**. Seattle, 13-14 Jun 2000.
- Simini B. **BOLOGNA: Naloxone supplied to Italian heroin addicts**. The Lancet, vol. 352, Issue 9132. 1998, pag. 967.

Availability of Naloxone, until now, does not intensify heroin use in opioids addicts; on the contrary, it increased probability of addiction treatment

CONCLUSION₂

Unfortunately, data on actual use of **Naloxone**, on availability of Naloxone programmes (hospital, ambulance, peer use), on evidence of its effective use and so on, are not collected at national level in Italy.

Thanks for your attention