

Saving Lives

BWC battles the opioid crisis

In 2011, BWC determined **8,029** injured workers in its system were **dependent on opioids**.*

By the end of **2016**, we cut that number nearly **50%** to **4,101**

*Addiction experts say physical dependence arises for anyone taking the equivalent of 60mg Vicodin per day for 60 days or more.



Agency reduces use and dependence

Date	BWC Action
2011	Creates Pharmacy & Therapeutics Committee (P&T) Implements formulary (a list of BWC-approved drugs) Stops coverage of any new opioid formulation until reviewed by P&T Committee
2012	Stops coverage of Oxycontin as first-choice sustained-release opioid Pharmacy staff joins Governor's Cabinet Opioid Action Team
2014	Requires physician review of all opioid usage after 60 days in medical-only claims
2015	Becomes first state agency to cover naloxone products for opioid overdose reversal
2016	Establishes opioid rule requiring best prescribing practices for continued coverage Rule covers opioid dependence treatment for up to 18 months

2011



47,680

Injured workers receiving opioid Rx



51%



23,583



73%

Percentage of injured worker population receiving opioid Rx



11%



62%



39.9 million

Number opioid doses prescribed



49%



20.3 million