Changing Trends in Opioid Overdose Deaths and Prescription Opioid Receipt among Veterans

Heroin and synthetic opioids drive a 65% increase in opioid overdose death, though only a quarter of those who died received prescription opioids in recent months.

- **2010 to 2016 VHA Veteran Opioid Overdose Deaths**: 6,485 (Increasing trend)
- **Fewer Veterans who died from Overdose had recently received Prescription Opioids**
- **Increase in Opioid Overdose Death driven by Illicit Opioids**
  - Heroin & Synthetic (non-methadone) Opioids