

To support countries in addressing the ongoing synthetic opioids crisis affecting mainly North America, with fentanyl and its analogues, and parts of Africa, Asia, and the Middle East with tramadol, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) launched an integrated strategy in June 2018.

The UNODC Opioid Strategy is a five-pillar, integrated, inter-agency response to the global opioid crisis. Led by UNODC, the Strategy integrates the unique expertise housed within the Office with complimentary specialized knowledge across the UN system.



Pillar 3 - Prevention and Treatment Programmes

The third pillar of the UNODC Opioid Strategy focuses on strengthening and supporting prevention and treatment programmes related to opioids.

Investment in prevention, along with education, can help to reconnect youth and communities, give opportunities for personal and socio-economic development, and reduce inequalities. Evidence-based treatment of opioid use disorders is the basis for effective prevention. Its

coverage should, therefore, be increased so that pharmacological and psychosocial therapies are available and immediately accessible. This can be achieved through continuous collaboration between UNODC and the World Health Organization (WHO).

UNODC and WHO are enhancing collaboration to promote effective interventions in opioid overdoses, as well as the effective management and treatment of opioid use disorders.

