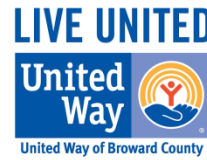


Broward Briefings

Substance Abuse

Information for Action

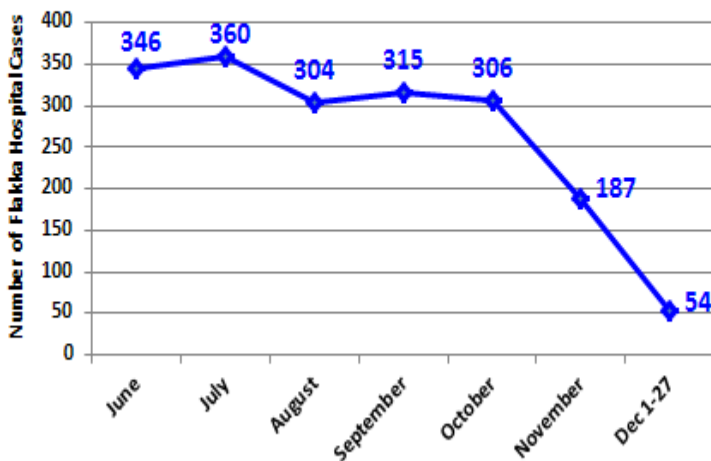


December 2015

Fort Lauderdale, Florida

Flakka's First Signs of Decline

Flakka Hospital Cases Broward Health Medical Centers: June 1 – December 27, 2015
n = 1,872 Flakka Cases

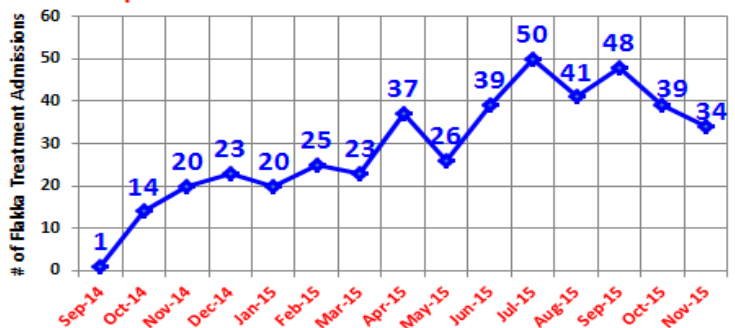


Source: Broward Health Medical Centers

Broward County's epidemic of Flakka abuse was first identified in September 2014. Since that time there have been steadily increasing consequences of the powerful synthetic stimulant's abuse including deaths, excited delirium medical emergencies, hospital cases, addiction treatment admissions, and arrests. *Alpha*-PVP the active drug in Flakka was banned in Florida and nationwide in the early months of 2014 but was not controlled in its source country, China from where it was sold online and shipped via world wide delivery services. Then in part due to the global media accounts of Flakka abuse in Broward County, the Chinese government made it and 115 other synthetic drugs illegal effective October 1, 2015. Two measures of the local Flakka epidemic have started to decline since that date.

Broward Addiction Recovery Center Flakka Treatment Admissions

September 2014 – November 2015 n = 440



Source: Broward Addiction Recovery Center (BARC)

Hospital emergency department cases related to Flakka abuse have decreased from 11.61 per day in July 2015 (n=360) to 2 per day during December 1-27 (n=54) in the four Broward Health Medical Centers. Addiction treatment admissions for Flakka at the Broward Addiction Recovery Center (BARC) escalated from 1 in September 2014 to 50 in July 2015. The number of cases then declined to 39 in October and 34 in November 2015. While far too soon to constitute a trend, these data reflect the first positive signs of Flakka's decline.

