

FIGHTING BACK AGAINST DISEASES OF DEVASTATION

INSTRUCTOR

KB Burnside-Oxendine

COURSE DESCRIPTION

What are diseases of devastation? How did the current opioid epidemic begin and why has it grown so aggressively? What role do pharmaceutical companies and market-based medicine play in the proliferation of opioid prescriptions? Of concern to registered nurses is that drug overdose is now the leading cause of injury and death in the United States, claiming hundreds of thousands of lives over the last two decades. Dozens of states have sued the pharmaceutical companies behind the opioid explosion. Yet, people who are in dire need of healthcare and treatment are targeted and penalized for opioid use. As opioids claim lives from nearly every gender, race, ethnicity, and community in the United States, disparate treatment and police responses to the epidemic expose deep-seated, race-based fault lines in the U.S. healthcare and criminal justice systems.

Opioid use disorder should be treated as a public health issue. By comparing the opioid crisis with similar diseases of devastation, nurses will analyze the opioid epidemic as a symptom of the outsized influence of Big Pharma in our broken, for-profit healthcare system. The class will conclude with discussion of systemic interventions nurses can take to heal diseases of devastation and protect nurses' professional judgment.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this program, participants will be able to:

1. Describe diseases of devastation, specifically the opioid epidemic.
2. Discuss the role of rising drug prices, "me too" drugs, and race in opioid treatment policy.
3. Explain how nurses can advocate for systemic public health interventions.

REGISTRATION & FEE INFORMATION

Register early as space may be limited and preregistration is required. Venue information will be provided upon registration. Please register no later than one week before the class. Registrants should arrive 15 minutes prior to class and sign-in.

CE courses are free to California Nurses Association, National Nurses Organizing Committee, and National Nurses United members and student nurses. For direct-care and staff RNs. Participants will be notified by U.S. mail and by email if a course is cancelled.

For DIRECT-CARE AND STAFF RNS - Provided by California Nurses Association. Provider approved by the California Board of Registered Nursing, Provider number CEP754 for 2 contact hours.

DATE, TIME, & LOCATION

Saturday, March 14 ▶
Tucson, AZ

2 CEH Class
9:30 am - 11:30 am

Venue information will be provided upon registration.

ONLINE REGISTRATION

nationalnursesunited.org/ce

FOR QUESTIONS

Contact CE Coordinator
Valerie Gonzalez
vgonzalez@calnurses.org
(510) 433-2793



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