[Insert Ambulance Audio]

[Audio fades into speaking]

The opioid crisis has claimed the lives of millions of Americans since 1991. Decades after its first wave hit, the opioid crisis still kills an average of 130 people per day. With drugs like fentanyl, heroin, and other prescription medications consistently circling the nation, this opioid crisis is an issue that needs immediate attention.

[Play video clip. Clip should fade into the end of the above paragraph]

[Video clip plays]

Physicians were prescribing opioids, like painkillers, in hopes to help patients cope with chronic pain. Instead, we were given turmoil that we were unable to shake.

According to the Assistant Security of Public Affairs (ASPA) there were more than 42,000 deaths in 2016 alone.

[Enter flat-line audio]

One of the main problems we face is the misuse of prescription drugs. So the real question is what increased all of the mishap?

A lot of opioid crisis was thrusted forward when people were given opioids to relieve pain, sleep, and stress.

Physicians have been feeling a lot of the pressure from the emergence of the epidemic. Alene Kennedy-Hendricks and others explained that the aspects of the crisis is largely related to individual oriented factors and certain physician oriented factors. People were abusing the pills and doctors were prescribing them.

[Insert another small opioid interview]

According to the National Institute on Drug Abuse, pharmaceutical companies constantly reassured patients that they would not become addicted to the opioids. Opioid usage sky rocketed because people no longer feared the risk of addiction. Now, physicians are slowing down their pencils [insert pencil scratching] and taking a closer look at how they treat their patients

[Insert Physician Clip]

Krystina Murray, a clinical writer at Rehab Spot emphasizes that most of the drugs are received from a medical professional, making it easy to obtain. Physicians are working to change that.

[Somber music plays]

Unfortunately, this has its own advantages and disadvantages. Even though the cut back may have reduced the supply from medical professionals, people were now looking to get their hands on opioids, illegally. This spike in illegal activities lands millions in jail every year

[Insert jail door closing audio]

Addiction is not the only important characteristic of the opioid overdose crisis. People are profiting off the disease—creating an increase in trade related jobs and manufacturing.

Stress and injury from the increase in the United States workload made the demand for opioids even higher.

According to Adam Dean and Simeon Kimmel in “Free trade and opioid overdose death in the United States”, there are many reasons why free trade contributes to the problem.

More work means more accidents, labor pain, and health benefits. Increased doctor visits means an increase written prescriptions.

[Pill audio]

Many believe that the economy would take a major blow if opioids were ever removed from the market, both legal and illegal. Hence the reluctance to directly attack the crisis.

[Money sounds]

Big pharma brings big business.

But at what cost?

[Flat line audio repeats]