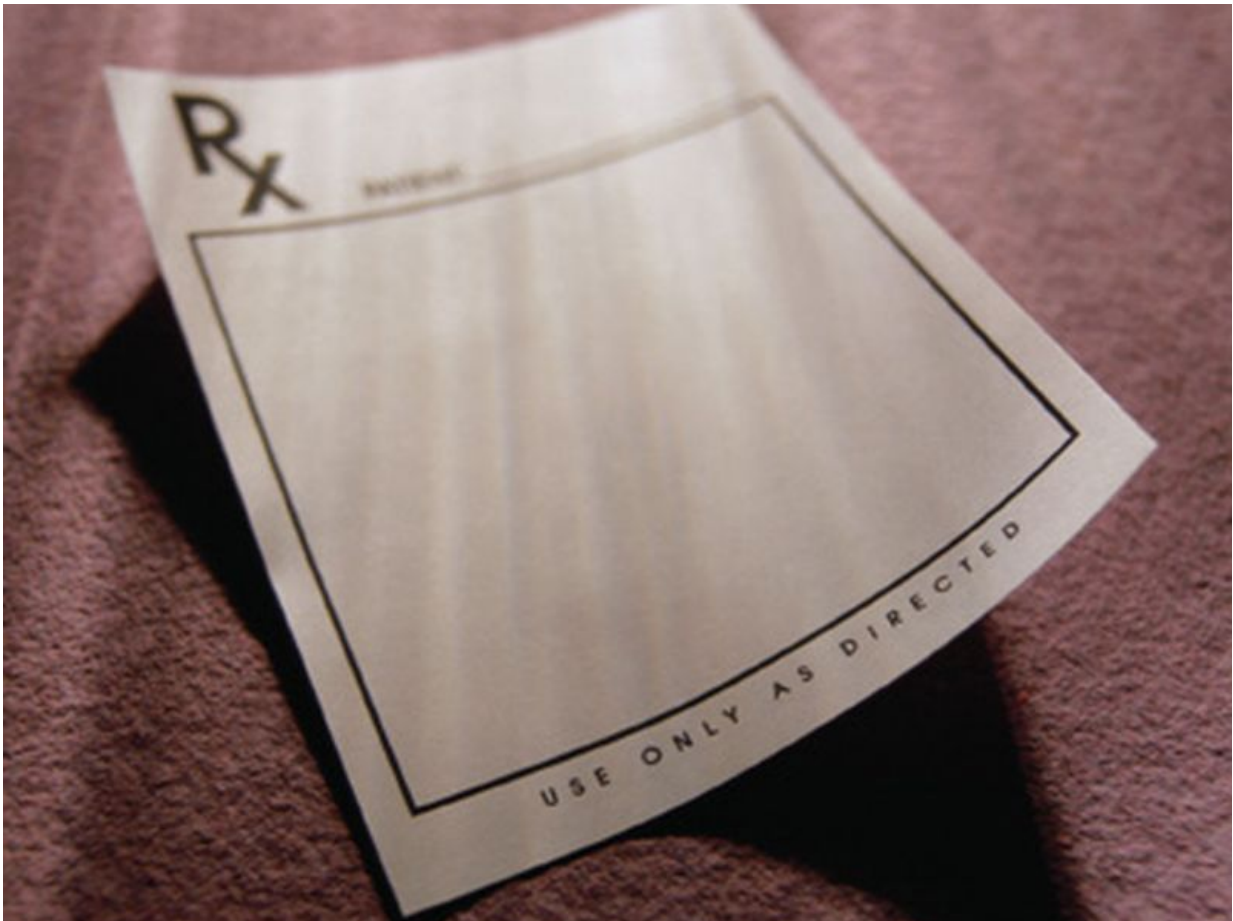


Twelve percent of women fill opioid rx after vaginal delivery

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(HealthDay)—Twelve percent of women fill an outpatient opioid

prescription within five days of vaginal delivery, according to a study published in the March issue of *Obstetrics & Gynecology*.

Marian Jarlenski, Ph.D., M.P.H., from the University of Pittsburgh, and colleagues conducted a [retrospective cohort study](#) involving 164,720 Medicaid-enrolled women who delivered a liveborn neonate vaginally from 2008 to 2013. The authors examined the prevalence of filled opioid prescriptions after delivery and the correlation between patient characteristics and odds of a filled opioid prescription.

The researchers found that 12 percent of women filled an outpatient opioid prescription five days or less after vaginal delivery; 14 percent of these women filled a second opioid prescription at six to 60 days after delivery (1.6 percent of total). Of the [women](#) who filled a prescription within five days of delivery, 28.2 percent had one or more pain-inducing conditions. Tobacco use and a mental health condition were predictors of filled opioid [prescriptions](#) with no observed pain-inducing condition at delivery (adjusted odds ratios, 1.3 and 1.3). Having a diagnosis of substance use disorder other than opioid use disorder correlated with having a second opioid prescription six to 60 days after delivery (adjusted odds ratio, 1.4).

"National opioid-prescribing recommendations for common obstetrics procedures such as [vaginal delivery](#) are warranted," the authors write.

More information: [Full Text \(subscription or payment may be required\)](#)

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