Since 2000, opioid overdose deaths in Michigan have tripled. Teens say prescription pain medication is easy to get from their parents’ medicine cabinet.

Michigan OPEN is collaborating with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services to add Painless to MDHHS’s Michigan Model for Health™ curriculum as a supplemental tool in the Opioid Misuse Prevention unit. With the help of MDHHS, Painless will be performed at high schools across Michigan followed by critical discussion and education beginning in the spring of 2022.

We envision a future for Painless: The Opioid Musical that entails:

- Hosting workshops
- Widening our reach
- Creating a cast album

Painless was developed by University of Michigan students Jacob Ryan Smith, Noah Kieserman and Peter Scattini under the direction of Vincent J. Cardinal, chair of the U-M Department of Musical Theatre. Painless was inspired by stories of individuals from Families Against Narcotics (FAN) who have been impacted by opioid use disorder. To learn more about Painless, please visit michigan-open.org/painless or email us at michiganOPEN@umich.edu.