



ALWAYS FOLLOW SAFE MEDICATION USE TIPS

It is important to get your “Dose of Reality” about the risks and dangers of using prescription painkillers, as well as the signs of misuse, before it becomes a problem for you or your loved ones.

- Understand the purpose of your prescription and don't be afraid to ask your prescribing physician follow-up questions, including if a non-narcotic is available
- Do not share your prescription painkillers or other medications with anyone
- Do not take someone else's prescription medication
- When picking up your prescription, read and examine the label
- Take medications only for as long as they're needed, and never more than directed

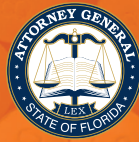
For even more of a Dose of Reality with regard to prescription painkillers, talk with your doctor, dentist, pharmacist or prescribing medical professional, or visit DoseOfRealityFL.com. In case of emergency, call 9-1-1.



DOSE OF REALITY
PREVENT PRESCRIPTION PAINKILLER ABUSE IN FLORIDA.

Learn more at: DoseOfRealityFL.com

A message from the Office of the Florida Attorney General.



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WHAT PATIENTS SHOULD KNOW ABOUT PRESCRIPTION PAINKILLERS



MYTH: PRESCRIPTION PAINKILLERS ARE COMPLETELY SAFE BECAUSE THEY ARE PRESCRIBED BY A DOCTOR.

DOSE OF REALITY: PRESCRIPTION OPIOID MISUSE IS AMONG THE TOP PUBLIC HEALTH THREATS, BOTH NATIONALLY AND IN FLORIDA.

Doctors, physicians, dentists and prescribing medical professionals prescribe opioid (or narcotic) painkillers like hydrocodone and oxycodone to help treat severe or chronic pain, but the truth is that the risk of addiction for these types of painkillers is high. However, there are effective painkillers available that are non-narcotic. Talk with your prescribing medical professional about whether you should consider alternatives available to you and your family.



Common Opioids/Narcotics

Codeine

Various Brand Names

Hydrocodone

Brand Names: Vicodin®, Lortab®, Lorcet®

Oxycodone

Brand Names: OxyContin®, Percodan®, Percocet®

Fentanyl

Brand Names: Actiq®, Duragesic®, Sublimaze®

Morphine

Brand Names: Kadian®, Avinza®, MS Contin®

MYTH: Misusing prescription painkillers is most common among older adults.

DOSE OF REALITY: Young people ages 18-25 misuse prescription opioids the most.

You may be surprised to learn that young people are the most at risk for misuse of prescription painkillers. It can be commonly accepted to believe that opioid painkillers are safe because they are prescribed by a doctor. However, it's important that everyone, especially teens and young adults, become aware of their risks and dangers.

MYTH: Most people who are misusing prescription painkillers get them from their doctor, dentist or pharmacist.

DOSE OF REALITY: More than half of people misusing prescription painkillers get them through friends or relatives.

Many people don't realize the risks and dangers of prescription painkillers, especially prescription opioids/narcotics. It may seem harmless to share a pill with someone or to take one being offered, but remember that you may be harming yourself or others.