

# WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

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## Commonly abused prescription medications<sup>1</sup>

Opioids – commonly prescribed to treat pain, work to diminish the perception of pain, can cause euphoria and relaxation, dependency can occur within three days of use. (ex. Morphine, Codeine, Oxycodone, Fentanyl, Tramadol)

Central Nervous System (CNS) Depressants – slow brain activity and can cause drowsiness and calming effects. (ex. Xanax, Valium, Ambien, Gabapentin, Phenobarbital, Luminal)

Stimulants— increases or “stimulates” the body’s processes and activities. (Adderall, Ritalin)

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## Why is it important to store & dispose of opioids safely?

Prescription opioids can lead to other substance use and addiction. Approximately 75 to 80% of heroin users began using prescription pain meds before using heroin.<sup>2</sup>

Taking medications that aren’t prescribed to you can be dangerous for many reasons including<sup>3</sup>  
Having an allergic reaction | Forming an addiction | Negative interactions with other

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## Where do people get prescription medications from?<sup>4</sup>

Prescribed by doctor | From friends/family | Steal them | Buy them illegally

## WARNING

Using prescription pills that do NOT come from a pharmacy can be fatal. Only take medications prescribed to you and filled by a legitimate pharmacy.

