

Prescription Opioids

Prescription opioids are a type of medicine most often prescribed for pain relief. Prescription opioids are different from illicit opioids being sold as street drugs because illicit opioids often have additional "cuts" or adulterants added - making them more unpredictable. There are still risks with prescription opioids as they can cause dependence, withdrawal, and overdose.

Medication Disposal

How to Get Rid of Unused or Expired Prescription Medications:

- Add medications to a Detera® bag
- Add the pills to cat litter in a bag, seal, and throw away
- Take the medications to a designated drop off or take back day

Do not dispose of prescription opioids in the toilet or sink - it can contaminate drinking water.

Commonly Prescribed Opioids and Brand Names

- Fentanyl (Duragesic®)
- Hydromorphone (Dilaudid®, Exalgo®)
- Methadone (Methadose®, Dolophine®)
- Oxycodone (Percocet®, Oxycontin®)
- Morphine (MS Contin®, Kadian®)
- Hydrocodone (Vicodin®, Norco®)
- Codeine (Tylenol #3, Cough syrups)
- Tramadol (Ultram®, ConZip®)

Harm Reduction Tips

- 1** Always take all prescriptions as directed by your doctor.
- 2** Keep medicines locked away from children and pets.
- 3** Do not share prescription medications with others.
- 4** Don't mix opioids with alcohol or other depressants.
- 5** Have naloxone nearby and know how to use it in case of overdose.
- 6** Know the signs of overdose and how to rescue breathe if naloxone is not available.

For more information on overdose prevention visit:
NMHarmReduction.org

