

Prescription Opioids

You can help prevent
opioid misuse.

Availability and Accessibility

Over **80.2%** of Kansas youth who have misused a prescription medication got them from a friend or relative in 2022.

Encourage safe use, storage and disposal of medications to prevent access and misuse. To safely dispose of unused medications: visit deaddiversion.usdoj.gov/pubdispsearch/ to locate a medication disposal site near you or request free in home medication disposal resources from DCCCA at www.dccca.org/prevention-services.

What is Prescription Opioid Misuse?

- 1 Taking more medication than prescribed
- 2 Taking medication for a reason other than prescribed
- 3 Taking someone else's medication

Commonly Prescribed Opioids

Commonly prescribed opioids include Hydrocodone, Oxycodone, Vicodin, Oxycontin, Roxicodone, Percocet, Codine, Morphine, and Fentanyl.

What's the Big Deal?

Prescription opioid misuse and abuse is **RISKY**, can lead to **ADDICTION**, and can be just as dangerous and fatal as using illegal drugs.

Our brains do not fully develop until around the age of 25. Opioid abuse in youth or young adulthood can impair healthy brain development.

If you or someone you know needs help with addiction, call:

DCCCA Outpatient Substance Use Treatment 785-830-8238
Kansas Substance Use Treatment Referral Line 1-866-645-8216
SAMHSA's National Helpline 1-800-662-HELP

Parents can prevent opioid misuse by:

- ✓ Preventing access to prescription drugs, especially opioids, stimulants, and depressants.
- ✓ Educating your child about the dangers of prescription drug misuse.
- ✓ Practice and teach the safe use of all medications.
- ✓ Safely store and monitor all prescription medications in the home.
- ✓ Safely dispose of all unused/expired medications.
- ✓ Know the signs of opioid misuse and abuse such as drowsiness, nausea, constipation, slowed breathing, slurred speech, flushing of the face, pinpoint pupils, academic decline, loss of interest, skipping class, and behavioral changes.

Know the signs and how to respond to a potential opioid overdose:

SIGNS

- Unresponsive, unconscious
- Not breathing or slow breathing
- Snoring, gurgling, choking sounds
- Pale face, blue lips and/or finger nails
- Slow or no pulse
- Pinpoint pupils
- Clammy skin

HOW TO RESPOND

- Call 911 Immediately.
- Be prepared with Narcan (Naloxone) the opioid overdose reversal medication.
- Administer Naloxone and follow appropriate protocol.
- Support the person's breathing, make sure the airway is clear and administer CPR as needed.
- Monitor their response. They should be monitored for at least 4 hours. It is essential to get the person to the ER ASAP. If breathing resumes, move them into the recovery position.

