

PREVENT OPIOID ADDICTION

STAY INFORMED

WHAT ARE OPIOIDS?

Opioids are a class of drugs prescribed to relieve or moderate severe pain. They also include imitation versions like fentanyl and the illegal substance heroin.

COMMON OPIOIDS

- Codeine
- Fentanyl (Duragesic®)
- Hydrocodone/acetaminophen (Vicodin®, Norco®)
- Methadone
- Morphine (Kadian®, MS Contin®)
- Oxycodone (OxyContin®, Percocet®)

WHO CAN BECOME ADDICTED?

Anyone who takes prescription opioids can become addicted.



1 in 4 patients receiving long-term (more than 3 months) opioid therapy struggle with addiction.



In 2018, **more than 10.3 million Americans** reported misusing prescription opioids in the past year.

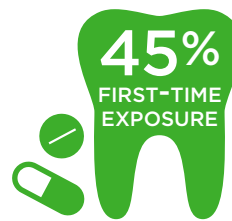
OPIOID & DENTAL FACTS



More than 131 million opioid prescriptions were dispensed to American patients in 2022.



On average, **45 Americans die every day** from an opioid overdose.



An estimated **45% of first-time opioid exposure** occurs immediately after a dental procedure.



More than **90% of dental pain is short**, post-surgical pain lasting only 1-3 days.

REDUCE YOUR RISK

KNOW YOUR OPTIONS

Consider ways to manage your pain that do not involve a prescription, such as over-the-counter medications and non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAID), which may actually be more effective.

MINIMIZE USAGE

Always take the prescribed dosage and minimize usage whenever possible. Unlike an antibiotic, you do not need to finish the entire prescription.

BE AWARE OF SIDE EFFECTS

Even when taken as directed, opioids can cause a wide range of side effects including nausea, sleepiness, and depression.

PREVENT HARMFUL DRUG INTERACTIONS

Let your care provider know all other medication(s) you're taking. Certain medications, such as those for sleep, anxiety, depression, and seizures, are particularly dangerous when mixed with opioids.

DON'T SAVE UNUSED PRESCRIPTION PAIN MEDICATIONS

Properly dispose of any unused prescriptions at pharmacy or law enforcement drop locations.