

4 out of 5 people who use heroin first misused prescription opioids



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More than 13% of Dorchester
County high school students
have tried heroin at least once



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Using a prescription drug not prescribed to you or differently than prescribed is misuse



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65% of people misusing
prescription pain meds get
them from friends or family



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Talk with your kids about misusing prescription painkillers: Your voice matters to your children



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Lock up your prescription meds: Secure storage helps prevent misuse and abuse



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Got old or unused meds?

Take them to a 24-hour drop box at any law enforcement agency

No questions asked



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If your child gets painkillers after an injury or dental procedure, control and monitor the pills



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Every day, 1,725 teens
abuse a prescription painkiller
for the first time



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91 people die
every day from an
opioid overdose



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Nearly half of all opioid overdose deaths involve a prescription painkiller



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Some signs of an overdose include difficulty breathing, clammy skin, blue lips and fingers, limp body, and vomiting



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Anyone can learn how to respond to an opioid overdose using naloxone (Narcan) a life-saving medicine:

Call 410-228-7714 for information on free training



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The Good Samaritan Law protects people who help with an overdose from arrest and prosecution of certain crimes



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Sharing prescription painkillers is illegal and just like selling heroin!



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You can become dependent on prescription pain meds at recommended doses



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17.5% of Dorchester County high school and 7.3% of middle school students have misused prescription opioids



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Some signs of opioid abuse include pinpoint pupils, slurred speech, difficulty breathing, confusion, nausea, itching or flushed skin, and nodding off



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In 2017, 88% of all intoxication deaths in Maryland were opioid-related



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Feeling connected to family,
school, and community protect
young people from risky behaviors



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NO ONE wants to be an addict
NO ONE wants to lose everything they
have worked for or
the people they love



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Overdoses are the leading cause of accidental death in people younger than 50



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You don't have to do it alone, help is
available: Call 410-228-7714
After-hours and Weekends
Call 1-888-407-8018



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Prescription painkillers are killing more people than car accidents and homicides combined



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Secure your prescriptions the same way you would other valuables in your home, like jewelry or cash



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75% of Teens say they can easily
get prescription pain killers from
their parent's medicine cabinet



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If your physician suggest opioids,
discuss the risks and ask if there is
non-addictive alternative



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The signs and symptoms of abuse
are basically the same for
prescription painkillers and heroin



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Prescription painkillers are in the same class of drugs as heroin



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12-step help groups like

Narcotics Anonymous & Alcoholics

Anonymous are free and they work



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