What are the risks of misusing prescription pain relievers (opioids)?

Talk with your health care provider about all the prescription drugs you take.

- Mental confusion
- Drowsiness
- Changes in brain that build tolerance, leading to dependence

Withdrawal symptoms:
- Restlessness, muscle and bone pain, insomnia, diarrhea, vomiting, cold flashes with goose bumps, kicking movements, severe craving that can lead to relapse

Total body effects:
- Euphoria, warm flushing, poor nutrition, fatal overdose

Pregnancy and infants:
- Miscarriage, low birth weight, developmental delays, addiction in infants

Quick facts
- Prescription opioids are medications that relieve pain.
- They can be addictive if not used as directed by your doctor.
- More people die from opioid overdoses than from any other drug.

Nearly 17 thousand

75%

75 percent of ALL prescription drug overdoses are from opioids.

Lock up your meds and safely discard them. Visit: www.TakeBackYourMeds.org

Need help?
For free referrals and emotional support:
Washington Recovery Help Line
1-866-789-1511
Teen Link
1-866-833-6546

Nearly 17,000 people die each year from prescription pain reliever overdoses.