

Opioids

What are Opioids?

Opioids are a group of drugs that include illegal drugs like heroin and pain relievers such as morphine, codeine, OxyContin, Vicodin, and fentanyl. Opioids are used for pain management and must be prescribed by a doctor.¹



Are Opioids safe to take?

Opioids are only safe if you get them from a doctor or pharmacy, take them exactly as the doctor ordered, and stop taking them when the doctor says to stop.²

Dangers of Opioids

Opioids are dangerous and highly addictive when you take more pills than the doctor ordered or take them more often than directed. People become addicted to opioids easily if they take more than prescribed; keep using the pills after the doctor directs them to stop; or get the pills from someone other than a pharmacy.²

Opioids may cause people to become depressed or anxious. They may cause breathing to stop or slow to a dangerous level, or could make your heart stop. They may also cause nausea, vomiting, dry mouth, dizziness, confusion, itching and sweating.¹

What if I become addicted?

If you or someone you know becomes addicted to opioids, there is treatment available. For more options. To find treatment providers in Montgomery County, Ohio, visit:

https://www.mcadamhs.org/treatment_support/opioid_treatment_programs.php

