

Prescription Drugs?


What Are Prescription Drugs?

Drugs or medicines that are prescribed by a medical professional. There are 3 types of prescribed drugs: depressants, opioids and stimulants.

Addiction

Prescription Drugs Are Still Drugs

Prescription drugs can be very addictive. Users can actually become dependent after just a few doses. Many people think that trying them once won't be a big deal, but some of those users end up sick, addicted or in the hospital. Users usually have painful withdrawal symptoms when they stop using. Prescription drugs can even be as deadly as "hard" drugs like heroin and cocaine, if abused.




Depressants

Prescribed to Reduce Stress and Anxiety
Commonly Abused Depressants:

- Pentobarbital (Nembutal, Nembutal)
- Diazepam (Valium)
- Alprazolam (Xanax)

Effects of Abuse:

- Slurred speech
- Poor concentration
- Dizziness
- Impaired coordination
- Lowered blood pressure
- Addiction
- Slowed breathing
- Possible death



Opioids

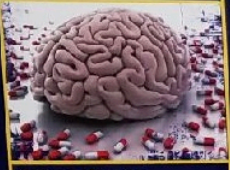
Prescribed to Relieve Pain

Commonly Abused Opioids:

- Fentanyl (Duragesic)
- Hydrocodone (Vicodin)
- Oxycodone (OxyContin)
- Oxycodone (OxyContin)
- Propoxyphene (Darvon)
- Hydromorphone (Dilaudid)
- Meperidine (Demerol)
- Diphenoxylate (Lomotil)

Effects of Abuse:

- Drowsiness
- Disorientation
- Impaired coordination
- Slowed breathing
- Lowered blood pressure
- Weakness
- Nausea
- Constipation
- Addiction
- Possible death



Stimulants


Prescribed to Increase Alertness

Commonly Abused Stimulants:

- Dextroamphetamine (Dexedrine)
- Methylphenidate (Ritalin and Concerta)
- Amphetamine (Adderall)

Effects of Abuse:

- Increased heart rate and blood pressure
- Reduced appetite
- Insomnia
- Seizures
- Heart attack
- Stroke
- Addiction



Disposal Tips

In order to help prevent abuse, you should dispose your prescription drugs safely. Here are a few tips to help you:

- Follow directions for disposal on the prescription bottle.
- Many communities have medicine take-back programs. Use this resource if available.
- Do not flush prescription drugs down the toilet or sink.

Prescription Drugs & Alcohol

Dangerous Mixture

Drinking alcohol when taking medication is never a good idea. It could have the following effects:


- It could make the prescribed medication less effective.
- It could cause harmful side effects, such as nausea, vomiting, serious risk of internal bleeding, heart problems and difficulty breathing.
- It could be a toxic combination and could result in death.

Do you or does someone you know have a problem with Prescription Drugs?

How to help or get help:


- Consult your personal health care provider
- Contact National Drug and Alcohol Treatment Helpline: 1-800-369-HELP

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GARFIELD PREVENTION COALITION





GARFIELD PD

Prescription Drug Drop Off Box

Safely dispose of your unused, unwanted or expired prescription medications here.

24 hours per day, seven days a week, 365 days a year.

PHARMACEUTICAL DISPOSAL ONLY

YES	NO
• PILLS	• NAILS
• TABLETS	• LIQUIDS
• Patches	• Syringes
• Pet Medications	• Liquids



PROJECT MEDICINE DROP X

Help Prevent Abuse & Diversion of PRESCRIPTION DRUGS.

MEDICATION DROP OFF BOX

Garfield Police Station
160 Belmont Avenue
24 Hours 7 Days a Week

The Garfield Police Department now has a secure 24 hour a day 7 days a week drop box where any unused, unwanted, or expired medication can be anonymously dropped off. Medication should not be flushed down the toilet as this action taints our water supply. Please remove any labels prior to dropping off medication. For more information click on the following links:

[http://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drug_disposal/take back/](http://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drug_disposal/take%20back/)
<http://www.njconsumeraffairs.gov/meddrop>