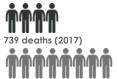


# Prescription Opioids for Surgical Pain

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Between the years 1999 to 2016, over 200,000 people in the United States died from a prescription opioid related overdose (CDC, 2017). A Washington State law passed in 2017 requiring opioid prescribing rules be written in response to the statewide opioid crisis.



Washington State Opioid Related Statistics

,615 overdose hospitalizations (2017)

**APPAPAPAPA** 

14,389 opioid use disorder admissions (2015)

324,000 individuals 12+ years who misused opioids in the last year (2016)

Opioid medications can be addictive and anyone is at risk for developing an opioid use disorder. Keep yourself and others safe by limiting usage, disposing of all unused medications, and knowing how to recognize the signs of opioid use disorder.



# What do you need to know as a patient

Prior to prescribing opioids, your health care provider may:

- Ask you to complete a risk assessment.
- Ask more questions for your patient record.
- Check the Prescription Monitoring Program to identify other medications or drugs of concern.

Individual health care providers, practices, systems, pharmacies, and insurance companies may have more strict policies regarding opioids.

Ask your health care provider questions about alternative treatment options for pain.

Know your prescription, always follow Instructions, and never take more than Prescribed.

You can refuse an opioid medication at any time. Your provider must honor this request unless you revoke it.

Common types of opioids are oxycodone, hydrocodone, codeine, tramadol, fentanyl, morphine, and methadone. Opioid medications may be prescribed by health care providers to treat moderate to severe pain, but can have side effects and serious health risks, such as tolerance, physical dependence, opioid use disorder, and overdose.

It is important to follow medication instructions when taking opioids and always be honest with your health care provider regarding other medications you may be taking. You should avoid consuming alcohol or operating heavy machinery when taking opioid medications.

# Be informed. Be aware. Never share.



### What are the risks?



### Possible side effects

Nausea, vomiting, and dry

Sleepiness and dizziness

- Opioid use disorder
- Physical dependence
- Falls and accidents
- Increased sensitivity to pain
- Overdose



### Risks may be greater with:

- Pregnancy
- History of substance use
- Over the age of 65
- Mental health conditions
- Combining with other medications (example: sleep or anxiety)

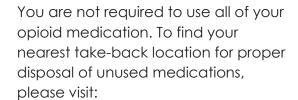
## Proper disposal

mouth

Constipation

Confusion

Withdrawal



- med-project.org
- doh.wa.gov/safemedreturn



### Safe storage

- Never share or sell your prescription opioids
- Keep opioid medications locked or in a safe location
- Keep out of reach of children and out of sight from others
- Leave in the original bottle with the label attached



### **Naloxone**

Naloxone is a prescription medicine that briefly helps a person wake up and start breathing again after an opioid overdose. Your healthcare provider may choose to give you a prescription for this drug. For more information see <u>stopoverdose.org</u>