AND OTHER **OPIATES**

Opioids are drugs that relieve pain and provide users with feelings of intense euphoria. They can be obtained legally through prescriptions or illegally on the street. Regardless of how opioids are acquired, opioid abuse leads to addiction and death.

Types of Opioids

Signs of Abuse

• Excessive sleeping

Difficulty moving

Weight gain/loss

Poor hygiene

people

given

Prescription

- Morphine
- Codeine
- Oxycodone
- Hydrocodone
- Fentanyl
- Methadone

Illegal

- Heroin
- Desomorphine (krokodil)
- Acetyl Fentanyl

Every year, about 150,000 people in the U.S. try heroin for the first time.

Opioid Facts

About 2,200,000 people in the U.S. are addicted to opioids.

Addicts will spend \$150 to \$200 per day on their habit.





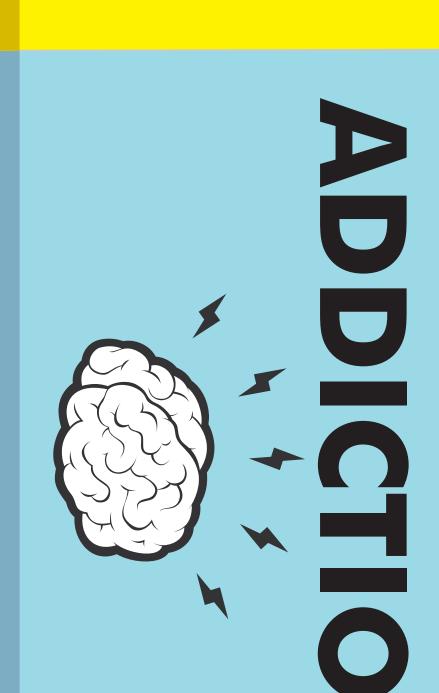
Long-Term Effects:



- Slowed breathing
- Lowered heart rate
- Coma



- Endorphin deficit
- Hormonal imbalance
- Emotional difficulties
- Osteoporosis



Addiction & Dependency

Hanging out with new groups of

Track/needle marks and wearing

Borrowing money with no reason

long sleeves to hide them

Opioids are highly addictive drugs. When prescribed by a doctor for pain, they are safe and effective. Abusing opioids can quickly lead to addiction.



Addiction can happen after just one use. Addicts will:

Crave the drug.

Be compelled to use the drug, even if they know there will be negative consequences.

Not be able to control their drug use.

Build up a tolerance to the drug.

Overdose & Withdrawal

Overdose is a real danger. Take too much and the body literally shuts down:

- Breathing and heart rate slow, maybe even stop.
- Lips and nails will turn blue because of insufficient oxygen in the blood.
- · Seizure or muscle spasms may occur.
- Vomiting and choking may also happen.



Every 18 minutes in the U.S. someone dies from an accidental overdose.

Withdrawal & Detox

Opioid withdrawal is painful and can last for up to two weeks. Symptoms include:

- Insomnia
- Nausea
- Muscle and bone pain
- Excessive sweating
- Anxiety and agitation
- Diarrhea
- Stomach cramps
- Vomiting

90% of opioid addicts will relapse in the first year.



Getting Help

Overcoming opioid addiction is difficult – but it's not impossible! Residential, inpatient, and outpatient services and support groups can provide the reinforcement you need in order to quit.

Avoid Addiction - Avoid Opioids