



OPIOID ANALGESICS

Opioid analgesics are powerful painkillers, given by prescription. People take different opioid painkillers in different strengths, depending on what's hurting them. Without these drugs, millions of people would suffer needlessly.

Along with heroin and morphine, prescription opioid painkillers are made from a poppy plant. All opioids are extremely addictive. When used under a doctor's care, the drugs are safe. Used abusively, they wreck lives.

DRUG ID

Looks: Tablets; sometimes syrup

Common Brand Names: Vicodin[®] (hydrocodone), OxyContin[®] (oxycodone), Percocet[®] (oxycodone), Demerol[®] (meperidine); also, codeine under many brand names

Street Names: Percs, Oxy, dope

Methods of Use: Swallowed; sometimes ground up and sniffed

Actions: Opioid analgesics are depressants. They slow the central nervous system (brain and spinal cord). Users feel a pleasant sleepiness and numbness.

Warning Signs: Drowsiness, itching, slow thinking, laziness

THE NUMBERS

9.9% of 12th graders have used non-heroin narcotics without a prescription at least once; 3.0% abuse them regularly.

infotogo

MAKE HEALTHY DECISIONS
BE DRUG FREE!





- Flushed skin
- Itching
- Dry mouth
- Heavy arms and legs
- Loss of energy
- Constipation
- Poor thinking

USING OVER TIME

- Addiction
- Liver disease
- Pancreas disease
- Overdose and death

WAY TO GO

Taking opioid analgesics without a prescription is a foolish choice. It is harmful to the health and leaves the user feeling empty. It's also illegal. Respect these powerful medicines. Respect yourself. Never abuse opioid painkillers.

GO
OPY