

Prescription Drugs

What's the Big Deal?

WHAT IS PRESCRIPTION DRUG ABUSE?

Using prescription drugs for non-medical reasons or taking prescription drugs that have not been prescribed to you is prescription drug abuse.

The most commonly abused drugs are...

Opioids	Pain killers such as OxyCotin, Darvon, Vicodin, Demerol, Fentanyl and Methadone
Central nervous system depressants	Drugs such as Valium, Xanax, Mebaral, Ativan and ProSom. These drugs slow brain activity and are used to treat anxiety and sleep disorders.
Stimulants	Drugs such as Ritalin, Aderall, Dexedrine, and Concerta. These drugs increase brain activity and are used to treat ADHD and narcolepsy.

HOW DO I DISPOSE OF UNUSED OR EXPIRED MEDICATIONS?

- Crush or mix pills with an undesirable substance, such as coffee grounds or kitty litter, and put them in a waterproof, non-descript container, such as an empty can or in a sealed plastic bag and throw away.
- Scratch off or blacken out your name on the bottle and throw away.
- Flush prescription drugs down the toilet **only** if the label or accompanying patient information specifically instructs doing so.
- Visit this website for more info:
http://www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov/drugfact/factsht/proper_disposal.html

SAFETY PRECAUTIONS – WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- Lock up all medications
- Talk to your kids about the dangers of taking medications that aren't prescribed to them
- Learn the signs and symptoms of drug abuse

RESOURCES

- www.theantidrug.com
- www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov
- www.drugfree.org

