

# Knowing the Risks of Opioid Prescription Pain Medications

Common names include: Percocet®, OxyContin®, and Vicodin®.

## These medications:

- ▶ Cause your brain to block the feeling of pain; they *do not* treat the underlying cause of pain.
- ▶ Are very addictive and increase your chances of accidental overdose, coma, and death.

## Proper Dosage:

- ▶ Never share your prescription with anyone.
- ▶ Do not increase dosage or take more often than directed.

## Dispose of Medicines Safely:

- ▶ The FDA recommends flushing opioid prescription pain medications down the toilet when they are no longer needed. Unused medications can also be brought to a drug disposal site.

[PreventOverdoseRI.org](https://PreventOverdoseRI.org)

[health.ri.gov/healthrisks/painmeds](https://health.ri.gov/healthrisks/painmeds)

