

Proper Disposal of Prescription Drugs

Drop unused or expired prescription drugs at your local police station.

Visit RXdrugdropbox.org for locations.

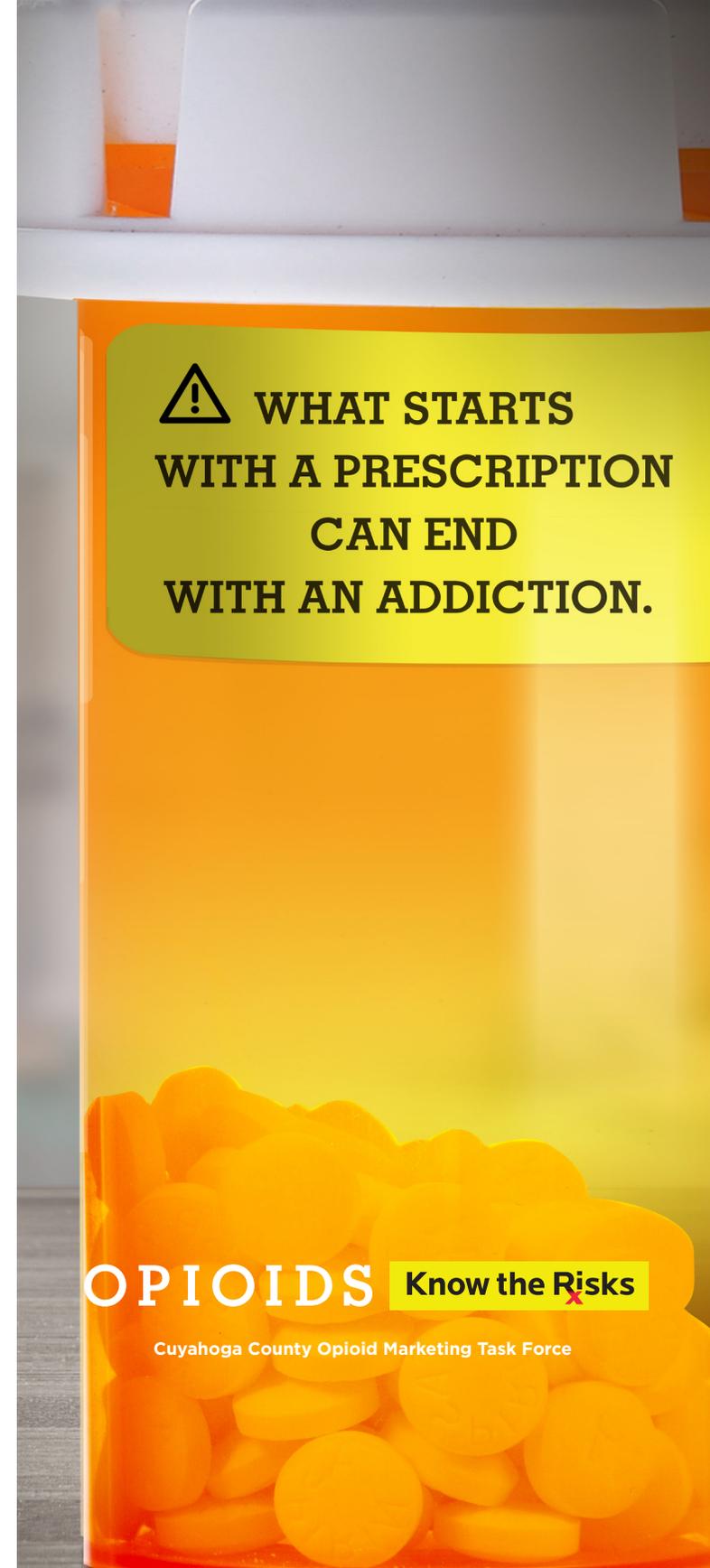
Do **NOT** keep extra or expired prescription drugs at home.

Do **NOT** dispose of medication in the toilet or sink drain.



QUESTIONS? Email us at knowtherx@cuyahogacounty.us

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 **WHAT STARTS WITH A PRESCRIPTION CAN END WITH AN ADDICTION.**

OPIOIDS Know the Risks

Cuyahoga County Opioid Marketing Task Force

What are opioids?

Prescription opioids can be used to help relieve moderate-to-severe pain and are often prescribed following a surgery or injury, or for certain health conditions.

These medications can be an important part of treatment but also come with serious risks. It is important to work with your health care provider to make sure you are getting the safest, most effective care.

Common opioids include:

- Codeine
- Fentanyl
- Hydrocodone
- Hydromorphone
- Meperidine
- Methadone
- Morphine
- Oxycodone



What are the risks and side effects?

Prescription opioids carry serious risks of addiction and overdose, especially with prolonged use. An opioid overdose, often marked by slowed breathing, can cause sudden death. The use of prescription opioids can have a number of side effects as well, even when taken as directed.

- Tolerance
- Physical dependence
- Increased sensitivity to pain
- Constipation
- Nausea, vomiting, and dry mouth
- Sleepiness and dizziness
- Confusion
- Depression
- Low levels of testosterone that can result in lower sex drive, energy, and strength
- Itching and sweating

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

What factors put me at risk?

- History of drug misuse, substance use disorder, or overdose
- Mental health conditions
- Sleep apnea
- Age (65 years or older)
- Women who are pregnant or considering becoming pregnant

In Cuyagoga County alone, there were over **500 opioid overdoses** in 2016.



LEARN MORE AT KnowTheRx.org

For help with addiction, call
The Ohio Department of Mental Health and
Addiction Services at (877) 275-6364.

Questions? Email us at knowtherx@cuyahogacounty.us