

OPIOIDS

What are opioids?

- Hydrocodone, oxycodone, codeine, morphine, fentanyl, Vicodin®, Norco®, and Oxycontin® are just some examples of prescription opioids.
- Heroin is an illicit opioid. It comes in various forms and can be smoked, snorted, or injected.

Fentanyl

- It's a synthetic opioid that is 50-100 times more potent than morphine.
- It's often mixed with heroin or cocaine without the user's knowledge.
- From 2002 to 2017 there was a 22-fold increase in the total number of synthetic opioid deaths, and fentanyl is the main culprit (CDC Wonder).
- If you're taking an opioid that wasn't prescribed to you, you don't know what is in it.

Treatment In Santa Clara County

If you are looking for treatment or help with substance use, you can go online at:
www.sccgov.org/sites/bhd
or call: 1 (800) 488-9919

How can I use opioids safely?

- **Use as prescribed.** Don't take more medication than prescribed by your physician.
- **Don't share.** Only use medication that has been prescribed to you.
- **Don't mix drugs.** Mixing opioids with alcohol or other depressant drugs such as Xanax®, Valium®, Ativan® or Ambien® is especially dangerous, and can cause dangerous slowing of heart rate and breathing.
- **Don't use long term.** Opioids can be an effective treatment for short term pain, but long term use puts you at greater risk of drug tolerance, dependence, and addiction.

Safe Storage

Always safely store your controlled medications. If you live in a house, dorm or other communal space, make sure they are not kept in a place that others can easily access, such as a shared bathroom.

Narcan® (naloxone)

- Temporarily reverses an opioid overdose
- 911 still needs to be called
- Naloxone will have no effect on people with no opioids in their system



Learn more or contact us

- ✉ sccoopp@hhs.sccgov.org
- 🌐 www.sccgov.org/sccoopp
- 📘 [Facebook.com/SCCOVerdosePrevention](https://www.facebook.com/SCCOVerdosePrevention)



Santa Clara County Opioid Overdose Prevention Project