

Florida Department of Health

Opioid Use In Specific Populations: What You Should Know

Florida
HEALTH

Opioid misuse affects people across all age groups and occupations, but certain populations face unique risks and barriers. Understanding these differences can help guide prevention, support, and treatment efforts.



YOUTH

Ages 12-24

Fast Facts

- Many teens access prescription opioids from a friend, family members, or unused medications.
- Illicit fentanyl-laced pills are increasingly common, often disguised as legitimate medications, and potentially deadly.



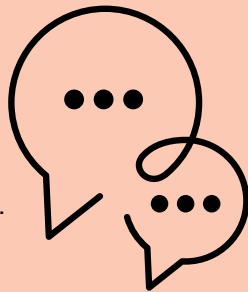
Risks

- Curiosity, peer pressure, and mental health struggles
- Lack of awareness about risks



Prevention Tips

- Frequent, open conversations with kids about the dangers of opioids can reduce risk.
- Never use or share another person's prescription medications.
- Keep any prescription medications that can be misused, locked away and out of reach.



TAKE ACTION:

- Dispose of unused medications safely
- Carry and know how to use naloxone (Narcan)
- Share information with friends, coworkers, and family

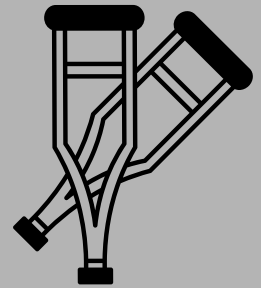
OLDER ADULTS

Ages 60+



Fast Facts

- Older adults are among the groups affected by opioid use disorder, because they may choose to use prescription opioids to cope with painful chronic conditions, or after a surgery.



Risks

- As a result of chronic pain, older adults may use prescription opioids for a long time, which increases the risk of developing an opioid use disorder.



Prevention Tips

- Regularly review medications with your health care provider.
- Only take medications as prescribed by your health care provider.



NEED HELP?

Naloxone Locator: [ISAVEFL.com](https://www.isavefl.com)

Visit: [StLucie.FloridaHealth.gov/Overcome-The-Opioid-crisis](https://www.StLucie.FloridaHealth.gov/Overcome-The-Opioid-crisis)

Treatment: [HopeForHealingFL.com](https://www.HopeForHealingFL.com)