

After the Game...



What Student-Athletes Need to Know About Pain Medication



WHAT ARE OPIOIDS?

Opioids are a class of drugs used to reduce pain.

Prescription Opioids can be prescribed by doctors to treat moderate to severe pain, but can also have serious risks and side effects. Common types are oxycodone (OxyContin), hydrocodone (Vicodin), morphine and methadone.

Fentanyl is a synthetic opioid pain reliever. It is 80-100X more potent than other opioids and approved for treating severe pain or managing pain after surgery.

Heroin is an illegal opioid. Prescription opioids can be a "**gateway drug**" to heroin when prescriptions expire or are discontinued.

DON'T LET AN INJURY LEAD TO OPIOIOD MISUSE. 

MISUSING MEDICATIONS IS:

Taking medication for a reason different than prescribed.



Taking more than prescribed.

Sharing or taking someone else's medication.



Combining medication with alcohol.

Improper storage and/or disposal

MISUSE OF PRESCRIPTION DRUGS CAN HAVE SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES:

- Poor decision making, loss of friends and increased family stress.
- Student-athletes who misuse opioids can lose their spot on their sports team, fall behind in class and lose scholarships.

SAFE MEDICATION PRACTICES:

- Keep in contact with doctors and the team's athletic trainers
- Use your prescription only as directed by a doctor
- Complete any therapy or exercises outlined by doctors
- **Store properly. Dispose safely.**

