



## ALWAYS FOLLOW SAFE MEDICATION USE TIPS

It is important to get your “Dose of Reality” about the risks and dangers of using prescription painkillers, as well as the signs of misuse, before it becomes a problem for you or your loved ones.

- Understand the purpose of your prescription and don't be afraid to ask your prescribing physician follow-up questions, including if a non-narcotic is available;
- Do not share your prescription painkillers or other medications with anyone;
- Do not take someone else's prescription medication;
- When picking up your prescription, read and examine the label; and
- Take medications only for as long as they're needed, and never more than directed.

For even more of a Dose of Reality with regard to prescription painkillers, talk with your doctor, dentist, pharmacist or prescribing medical professional, or visit [DoseOfRealityFL.com](http://DoseOfRealityFL.com). In case of emergency, call 9-1-1.

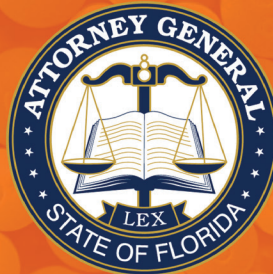


# DOSE OF REALITY

PREVENT PRESCRIPTION PAINKILLER ABUSE IN FLORIDA.

Learn more at: [DoseOfRealityFL.com](http://DoseOfRealityFL.com)

A message from the Office of the Florida Attorney General.



# PRESCRIPTION PAINKILLER STORAGE AND DISPOSAL



# DOSE OF REALITY

PREVENT PRESCRIPTION PAINKILLER ABUSE IN FLORIDA.

**MYTH: THE MOST COMMON WAY ADDICTS GET PRESCRIPTION DRUGS IS FROM DRUG DEALERS.**

**DOSE OF REALITY:  
2 OF THE MOST COMMON PLACES ADDICTS GET PRESCRIPTION DRUGS ARE FROM FAMILY AND FRIENDS.**

## SAFE STORAGE

The bathroom medicine cabinet is a common place where prescriptions are stored; however, keeping them in an easily accessible place means they're available for children, teens, or others to find and misuse.

### STORE PRESCRIPTIONS OUT OF SIGHT!

Keeping your prescription painkillers secure and out of sight can prevent them from falling into the hands of someone who wants to misuse them. It can also prevent someone in your house from accidentally taking the wrong medication.

Make sure to put medicines away after every use. Never leave medicine out for others to access and ensure the safety cap is locked.

### LOCK PRESCRIPTIONS UP!

Storing your prescription painkillers and other medications in a lockbox, safe, or locked medicine cabinet is one of the most effective ways to prevent misuse or accidental use. Many companies offer lockable medication storage options.

### PRACTICE SAFE STORAGE WHILE TRAVELING TOO!

Don't forget to bring your prescriptions with you when traveling. It is important to keep prescriptions secured and out of sight even while traveling. Many hotels have a passcode-protected hotel room safe or plenty of storage options to ensure your prescriptions are not easily accessible to others. There are also many companies that sell portable medication storage travel containers or bags for individuals who travel with prescriptions often.

## DISPOSE OF YOUR PRESCRIPTIONS PROPERLY

### NEVER FLUSH OR DRAIN!

Unused or expired prescription medications should never be flushed or poured down the drain. These potentially dangerous pharmaceutical substances can contribute to contamination of our water supply if not disposed of properly.

### SAFELY DISPOSE OF PRESCRIPTIONS!

Unused medications are a disaster waiting to be found. It is vital to safely dispose of unneeded or expired prescriptions. There are safe Drug Take Back disposal sites available throughout Florida. See [DoseofRealityFL.com/Drug-Take-Back.html](https://DoseofRealityFL.com/Drug-Take-Back.html) to find a disposal location near you.

Many local sheriff and police departments accept unwanted prescription narcotics too. Always call them first to make sure they are a drug take back location.



Visit [DoseOfRealityFL.com](https://DoseOfRealityFL.com) for more information