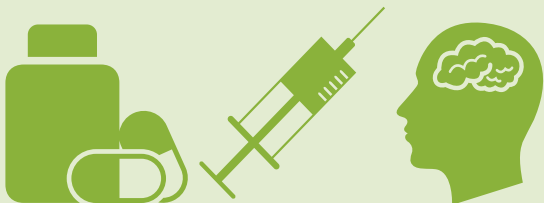


Check your answers!

1. **False.** We now know that opioids are not effective for long-term management of pain and also have a high risk of the development of opioid use disorder, overdose and side effects. There are other safer and more effective treatments now available.
2. **False.** Opioid use disorder is not a choice. It is a brain disease that needs treatment, just like other diseases.
3. **False.** People can develop opioid use disorder with any opioid, even those prescribed for pain.
4. **False.** People with opioid use disorder can recover and live full and productive lives.



What can you do?

1. Talk to your provider.
 - ❖ Ask if there are safer ways to manage your pain
2. If you think you might be dependent on your opioid or have opioid use disorder, ask your provider about what treatment options you have.
3. Opioid use disorder is not a choice; it's a disease. Don't feel guilty or ashamed to ask for help.

Recovery is possible!
Ask your VA provider for help.

Veteran's Crisis Line
1-800-273-TALK (8255) or
Text - 838255

Contact info:

VA



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Veterans Health Administration
PBM Academic Detailing Service

Opioids: Do You Know the Truth About Opioid Use Disorder?



Please read
this important
information
if you take an
opioid such as:

- Hydrocodone
- Oxycodone
- Morphine
- Fentanyl
- Methadone
- Codeine
- Tramadol
- Oxymorphone
- Hydromorphone
- Heroin

Patient
Brochure

**VA Academic
Detailing Service**

Real Provider Resources
Real Patient Results

Let's test what you know!

Please circle either **true** or **false** to test what you know:

1. Opioids are effective for long-term management of pain.

True or **False**

2. Developing opioid use disorder is a choice.

True or **False**

3. Heroin is the only opioid that can cause opioid use disorder.

True or **False**

4. People with opioid use disorder will never recover.

True or **False**

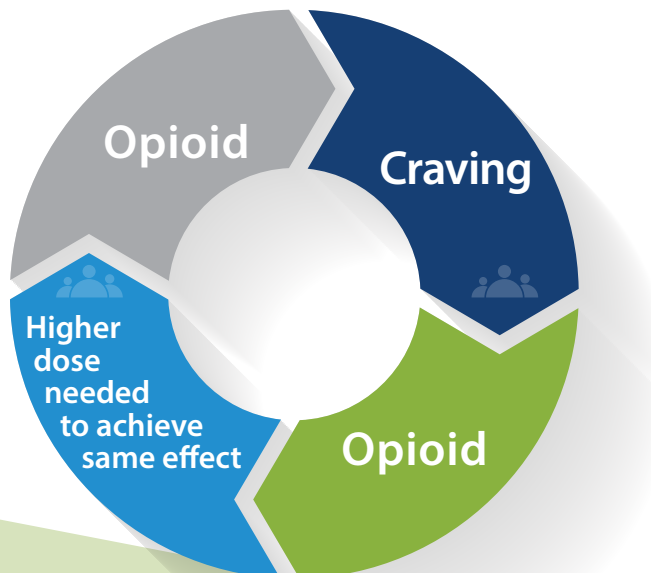
What are opioids?

Opioids are:

- Prescription medications, such as hydrocodone (Vicodin®), usually used to treat pain
- Illegal drugs such as heroin

Some signs of opioid use disorder

- Craving - strong urge to use
- Difficulty with work, relationships, activities
- Hard to control use of drug even when it causes harm



Ask your provider about other signs of opioid use disorder!

Did you know?

Opioid use disorder develops over time and is not a choice or a weakness.

It is a brain disease that needs treatment, just like other diseases such as diabetes and high blood pressure.



Treatment works!

Ask your provider about using medication as part of your treatment plan.

- Buprenorphine / Naloxone (Suboxone®)
- Methadone
- Naltrexone injection