



Prescription Opioid Pain Medicines Question Guide

Opioids are a type of medicine that are meant to reduce feelings of pain. However, opioids have strong side effects and can be highly addictive. Everyone is at risk for opioid misuse, abuse, overdose, and addiction. Consider asking your doctor these questions at your appointment:

- Am I being prescribed an opioid?
- What are the risks of taking opioids?
- Are there other options to try before I start opioids?
- Are you prescribing the lowest dose for the shortest amount of time?
- Can I get addicted to opioids? If so, how will I know?
- What medications should be avoided with the use of opioids?
- How do I know when to stop using opioids and how should I stop?
- What should I do with leftover prescription drugs?

As a patient, it is important to discuss your medications with your doctor.

For more information, visit:
<http://www.tn.gov/health/section/PDO>