

COMMONLY DISPENSED CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE PRESCRIPTION DRUGS IN ALABAMA

COMMONLY PRESCRIBED OPIOIDS:

Prescribed for pain

Hydrocodone/Acetaminophen [Vicodin, Norco]; Hydromorphone [Dilaudid]; Meperidine [Demerol]; Morphine [Roxanol, MS Contin]; Codeine; Oxycodone [OxyContin, Percocet]; and Methadone

COMMONLY PRESCRIBED DEPRESSANTS:

Prescribed for anxiety or sleep problems

Alprazolam [Xanax], Clonazepam [Klonopin], Diazepam [Valium], Lorazepam [Ativan], Temazepam [Restoril], Eszopicolone [Lunesta], and Zolpidem [Ambien]

COMMONLY PRESCRIBED STIMULANTS:

Prescribed for attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), the sleep disorder narcolepsy or obesity

Amphetamine [Adderall]; Methylphenidate [Ritalin, Concerta, Daytrana]; Dexmethylphenidate [Focalin]; Dextroamphetamine [Dexedrine]; and Lisdexamfetamine Dimesylate [Vyvanse]

Alabama's top dispensed controlled substance prescription drugs:

- Alprazolam
- Amphetamine
- Buprenorphine
- Clonazepam
- Hydrocodone
- Lorazepam
- Methylphenidate
- Oxycodone
- Tramadol
- Zolpidem

Individuals addicted to depressants and/or tranquilizers should not attempt to stop taking them without talking to their doctor first since withdrawal from these drugs can have dire, potentially life-threatening consequences.

HELP IS AVAILABLE CALL 844-307-1760 24/7 HELPLINE

All services are free, made possible through funding from the Alabama Department of Mental Health and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

All calls are confidential



For additional information about PDMP you may contact:

Alabama Department of Public Health
Prescription Drug Monitoring Program
Bureau of Prevention, Promotion, and Support
201 Monroe Street, Suite 1010
Montgomery, AL 36104
Office Number: 334-206-5226
Fax Number: 334-206-3749

alabamapublichealth.gov/pdmp

CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE PRESCRIPTION DRUG MISUSE AND ABUSE

Be Aware. Stay in control.



PRESCRIPTION DRUG MONITORING PROGRAM

PDMP

ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

- Prescription drug **misuse** is taking a medication in a manner other than that prescribed or for a different condition than for which the medication was prescribed.
- Prescription drug **abuse** is the intentional and inappropriate use of prescription drugs for purposes other than that prescribed, or in a manner or in quantities other than directed.
- Abuse of prescription drugs stems from the ease of availability, the lack of stigma associated with street drugs, and the false belief that they are safe to use.

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO PREVENT DRUG MISUSE AND ABUSE

- When visiting the doctor, provide a complete medical history and a description of the reason for the visit to ensure that the doctor understands the complaint and can prescribe appropriate medication.
- Keep your doctor informed about all medications you are taking, including over-the-counter medications.
- Take your medication(s) as prescribed. Follow the directions for use carefully.
- Read the information your pharmacist provides to learn about the effects the drug could have (before starting to take medications), especially during the first few days when your body is adapting to the medication.
- Ask your doctor or pharmacist about your medication, especially if you are unsure about its effects and to be aware of potential interactions with other drugs.
- Do not increase or decrease doses or abruptly stop taking a drug without first consulting a health care provider.
- Never use another person's prescription.
- Dispose of unused medications.

DID YOU KNOW?

- Older patients are more likely to be prescribed long-term and multiple prescriptions, which could lead to unintentional misuse.
- Youth who use other drugs are more likely to abuse prescription medications.

- Young teens are statistically more likely to abuse only prescription drugs.
- Studies suggest that women are more likely than men to be prescribed an abusable prescription drug, particularly narcotics and anti-anxiety drugs.
- Research has shown that women are at increased risk for nonmedical use of narcotic drugs.
- Substance abuse and addiction cost billions in health care dollars each year. To that, add the costs of lost productivity, law enforcement, criminal case processing, incarceration, countless ruined lives, and premature death.

COMMON SIGNS OF DRUG ABUSE

Physical Symptoms

- Bloodshot or glazed eyes.
- Dilated or constricted pupils.
- Runny nose or sniffing.
- Tremors, slurred speech, or impaired coordination.
- Sudden weight loss or weight gain.
- Changes in appetite or sleep patterns.
- Wearing inappropriate or dirty clothing and a lack of interest in personal grooming.

Behavioral Symptoms

- Sudden mood swings, increased irritability, or angry outbursts.
- Unexplained changes in attitude/personality.
- Lethargy.
- Depression.
- Sudden changes in a social network.
- Neglecting responsibilities at work, school, or home, including neglecting one's children.
- Involvement in criminal activity.

ALABAMA PRESCRIPTION DRUG MONITORING PROGRAM

PDMP is a program developed to promote the public health and welfare by detecting diversion, abuse, and misuse of prescription medications classified as controlled substances under the Alabama Uniform Controlled Substances Act. Under the Code of Alabama, 1975, § 20-2-210, et seq, ADPH was authorized to establish, create, and maintain a controlled substances prescription database program. This law requires anyone who dispenses Class II, III, IV, and V controlled substances to report daily the dispensing of these drugs to the database.

The goals of the Alabama PDMP are:

- To provide a source of information for practitioners and pharmacists regarding the controlled substance usage of a patient.
- To reduce prescription drug abuse by providers and patients.
- To reduce time and effort to explore leads and assess the merits of possible drug diversion cases.
- To educate physicians, pharmacists, policy makers, law enforcement, and the public regarding the diversion, abuse, and misuse of controlled substances.

The Alabama PDMP is part of the **ADPH Pharmacy Division**.

