



Protect your family from **ADDICTION**

Safe storage and disposal of medicine are essential

Keeping unused or expired medication is risky! More than 10 million Americans misused prescription drugs in 2019. Most obtained them from family or friends — often from their own medicine cabinet.

Understand your medications

When you get a prescription, be sure you understand why, what danger signs to heed and how to follow the dosage. Get the details from your doctor or pharmacist.

Safely store prescriptions

Just having an opioid in your house makes it more likely that a relative could overdose by accident or develop an addiction.

- Don't share prescriptions.
- Put away medicine every time.
- Ensure that any safety cap is engaged.
- Store prescriptions out of reach of children to prevent accidental poisoning.
- Lock up addictive prescriptions. (Simple lockboxes can be purchased at pharmacies or online).
- Track usage to guard against pilfering.

Discuss the dangers of misusing medications with older children and teenagers. Doing so can cut their risk of future drug abuse in half.



DAVE YOST
OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL



Safely dispose of drugs

Disposing of unused medication, even if it is expired, prevents family members from misusing the drug or giving it to others.

Get rid of medications when:

- You stop taking that prescription.
- The medication expires.

The best way to remove risky drugs from your home:

- Participate in medication takeback days, such as those organized by the Ohio Attorney General's Office.
- Deposit medications at an official dropoff site. A list can be found on the "Safe Prescriptions" page at www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov/SCOPE.

Learn about fighting addiction

Ohio Attorney General Dave Yost's **Scientific Committee on Opioid Prevention & Education (SCOPE)** is made up of experts from the fields of medicine, behavioral economics and data analysis. Together, the group searches for science-guided, evidence-driven ways to prevent opioid addiction in Ohio.

For more information, visit
www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/SCOPE,
call 800-282-0515 or
email SCOPE@OhioAG.gov.

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To get assistance:

If you suspect an overdose, call 911.

In nonemergency cases, call the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services' help line at **877-275-6364**;
text "4hope" to 741741 to reach the crisis line;
or visit **www.RecoveryIsBeautiful.org**.



Ohio Attorney General's Office

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