

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR HEALTH



Secretaries' Innovation Group December 4, 2019



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VADM Jerome Adams, M.D., M.P.H.

Surgeon General of the United States



SURGEON GENERAL'S DIGITAL POSTCARD ON OPIOID MISUSE

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO PREVENT OPIOID MISUSE?



TALK ABOUT IT.

Opioids can be addictive and dangerous. We all should have a conversation about preventing drug misuse and overdose.



BE SAFE.

Only take opioid medications as prescribed. Always store in a secure place. Dispose of unused medication properly.



UNDERSTAND PAIN.

Treatments other than opioids are effective in managing pain and may have less risk for harm. Talk with your healthcare provider about an individualized plan that is right for your pain.



KNOW ADDICTION.

Addiction is a chronic disease that changes the brain and alters decision-making. With the right treatment and supports, people do recover. There is hope.



BE PREPARED.

Many opioid overdose deaths occur at home. Having naloxone, an opioid overdose reversing drug, could mean saving a life. Know where to get it and how to use it.



For help, resources,
and information:

<https://www.hhs.gov/opioids/>

1-800-662-HELP (4357)



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SURGEON GENERAL'S ADVISORY ON NALOXONE AND OPIOID OVERDOSE

*I, Surgeon General of the United States Public Health Service, VADM Jerome Adams, am emphasizing the importance of the overdose-reversing drug naloxone. For patients currently taking high doses of opioids as prescribed for pain, individuals misusing prescription opioids, individuals using illicit opioids such as heroin or fentanyl, health care practitioners, family and friends of people who have an opioid use disorder, and community members who come into contact with people at risk for opioid overdose, **knowing how to use naloxone and keeping it within reach can save a life.***

BE PREPARED. GET NALOXONE. SAVE A LIFE.



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MARIJUANA USE DURING PREGNANCY



In a national survey, the number of pregnant women who used cannabis in the past month **doubled** between 2002 and 2017.

MARIJUANA USE DURING ADOLESCENCE



Nearly 1 in 5 people who begin marijuana use in adolescence **become addicted.**

TODAY'S MARIJUANA HAS MORE THC



Concentrated products, commonly known as dabs or waxes, are widely available and contain **high doses of THC**, the ingredient that causes euphoria and intoxication.

“No amount of marijuana use during pregnancy or adolescence is known to be safe.”

VADM JEROME M. ADAMS, M.D., M.P.H.

Surgeon General

Department of Health & Human Services



HHS.gov



U.S. Surgeon General
@Surgeon_General

High alert. ⚠️ Today, marijuana comes in new forms that are easier to hide & more potent than ever. Read my advisory. Get the #StonedColdFacts and talk to your teen.



U.S. Surgeon General
November 1 at 2:35 PM · 🌐

High alert ⚠️. Using marijuana while pregnant or breastfeeding can harm your baby's health. Read my advisory on pregnancy and marijuana to get the #StonedColdFacts and help your 🍌 start strong.



WWW.HHS.GOV

Read the Advisory

Marijuana and Developing Brains

Learn More



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