



## Opioids

# Learn about opioid prescriptions and other options

Talk to your doctor about options to help manage your pain safely.

Prescription opioids could have serious side effects and risks.<sup>1</sup>

### Opioid facts<sup>1</sup>

- Opioids are used to treat moderate-to-severe pain
- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) says they are not usually helpful for long-term use

### Opioid safety

To help make sure you stay safe, we:

- Restrict your first Rx to a 7-day supply<sup>2,3</sup>
- Limit refill amounts<sup>3</sup>
- Help ensure use of short-acting opioids first<sup>3</sup>
- Offer counseling with CVS Pharmacy<sup>®</sup> pharmacists
- For pain that lasts less than one month, opioids should be taken only as long as needed while pain is severe. Often, just a few days or less are enough

### We help you understand safe use<sup>1,2</sup>

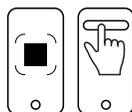
We help make sure you know how to take opioids safely and correctly. Follow these tips to stay as safe as possible.

- Take medication exactly as instructed by your doctor
- Never share your opioids with others
- Avoid alcohol and certain medications that are unsafe with opioids
- Review your medications with your doctor or pharmacist regularly
- Keep any opioids in a secure place. Lock them up, if possible



### Have unused opioids?

Find a safe disposal location by visiting [cvs.co/opioids](https://www.cvs.com/opioids) or scanning the code.



#### To scan the QR code:

- Open the camera
- Focus on the QR code
- Tap the link that appears

<sup>1</sup> Prescription opioids: What you need to know. U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Published May 9, 2016. <https://www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/pdf/aha-patient-opioid-factsheet-a.pdf>. Accessed August 2, 2023.

<sup>2</sup> Based on history of an opioid prescription.

<sup>3</sup> Prior authorization may be requested for certain medications to extend limits on quantity or days supplied or if claims history does not meet current program requirements; duration limit does not apply to patients in active cancer treatment, palliative care or end-of-life care.