



USE PRESCRIPTION DRUGS SAFELY

- Always follow medication carefully
- Don't increase or decrease dose without talking with your doctor
- Don't stop taking medication on your own
- Don't crush or break pills unless directed by a physician
- Learn about the drug's effects on driving and other daily tasks
- Learn about the drug's potential interactions with alcohol, other prescription medicines, and over-the-counter medicines
- Inform your doctor about your past history of substance abuse
- Don't use other people's prescription medications and don't share yours

Additional information on Prescription Drug Abuse can be found by contacting your installation's Army Substance Abuse Program (ASAP) or by visiting acsap.army.mil.

ARMY SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROGRAM



PRESCRIPTION DRUG ABUSE



ARMY SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROGRAM

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What is Prescription Drug Abuse?

The definition of prescription drug abuse is the use of prescription drugs- most commonly painkillers, sedatives and stimulants-in ways not intended by the prescribing doctor and use for non-medical purposes.



Most commonly abused Prescription drugs:

- **Opioids** - prescribed to treat pain.
- **Central Nervous System Depressants** - prescribed to treat anxiety and sleep disorders
- **Stimulants**- prescribed to treat narcolepsy and attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD)

Opioids

The following medications are referred to as prescription narcotics:

Morphine – used before and after surgical procedures to alleviate severe pain

Codeine – treat mild pain, cough suppressant, or diarrhea

Oxycodone – oxycontin, percodan, and Percocet treat moderate to severe chronic pain

Hydrocodone – vicodin, lortab, and lorcet relieve moderate to severe pain

Depressants

The following medications are referred to as sedatives and tranquilizers:

Barbiturates – used to treat anxiety, tension, and sleep disorders

Benzodiazepines – valium, xanax, prosomused to treat anxiety, acute stress reactions, panic attacks, and shortterm treatment of sleep

Newer sleep medications: e.g., Ambien, Sonata, and Lunesta

Stimulants

The following are the most commonly used stimulants:

Dextroamphetamine – dexadrine and adderall.

Methylphenidate – Ritalin and con-certa.

Illicit Use:

It is incumbent upon you to ensure your prescription is current while taking medication or you can be charged with drug use.

Soldiers that test positive for these drugs will have their medical records reviewed and possibly be interviewed by a Medical Review Officer (MRO).

Commanders may take administrative and Uniform Code of Military Justice actions against Soldiers who test positive for illegal drugs or for illicit use of legal drugs when a MRO determines the Soldier has no legitimate medical purpose for taking the drug.



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Abuse of alcohol or the use of illicit drugs by both military and civilian personnel is inconsistent with Army Values, the Warrior Ethos, and the standards of performance, discipline, and readiness necessary to accomplish the Army's mission.

