What to Ask Your Doctor Before Taking Opioids: A Checklist



|--|

Opioids (such as hydrocodone, oxycodone, codeine and morphine) are not right for everyone. They can have some very serious side effects. Ask your health care provider these questions *BEFORE* taking opioids.

Why do I need this medication—is it right for me?
How long should I take this medication?
Are there non-opioid alternatives that could help with pain relief while I recover?
How can I reduce the risk of potential side effects from this medication?
What if I have a history of addiction with tobacco, alcohol or drugs?
What if there is a history of addiction in my family?
Could this treatment interact with my other medicine for anxiety, sleeping problems, or seizures?
Can I share this medication with someone else? Why not?
How should I store my opioid medication to prevent other people from taking it?
What should I do with unused opioid medicine?
Can I have an Rx for naloxone?

For more information, visit https://www.fda.gov/consumers/consumer-updates/what-ask-your-doctor-taking-opioids