

Opioid Misuse

Terms to Know

Some Helpful Words & Phrases

Problematic pattern of opioid use that causes significant impairments at work, school, or home, among other criteria

Opioid Use Disorder

Use of a substance without a prescription, or in a different way than prescribed

Misuse

Severe end of the SUD spectrum, characterized by inability to control the impulse to use a substance

Addiction

Needing to take more of the medication over time for the same pain relief

Tolerance

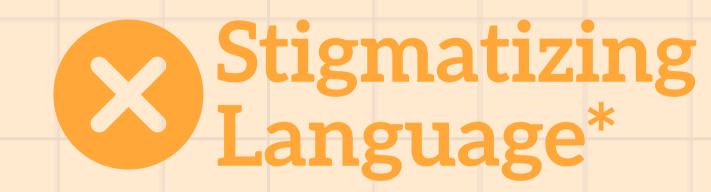
Experiencing symptoms of withdrawal when the medication is stopped

Physical Dependence

An electronic database that tracks controlled substance prescriptions in a state

PDMF





Person with opioid use disorder

Addict, junkie

Substance use

Substance abuse

Time with/without use

Dirty/clean

Using medication not as prescribed

Drug-seeking behavior

* While patients and those with lived experience often use these terms in casual conversation, providers should aim to use evidence-based affirmative language at all times.



Preventing Prescription Opioid Misuse in Special Populations Learn More | pa-foundation.org/special-patient-populations