

## PRESCRIPTION PILLS

## **Get the Facts**

Prescription pills are often taken to treat chronic and acute pain or to treat mental illnesses, when taken appropriately it can be beneficial to their treatment. However, the misuse of prescription pills can lead to addiction, overdose or death.

According to the MN Student Survey, nearly 4% of MN 11th graders have misused prescription pills.

## Here's What You Need to Know

- From 1999 to 2017, almost 218,000 people died in the United States from overdoses related to prescription opioids.
- Side effects of prescription misuse include: increased tolerance, physical dependency and experiencing withdrawal symptoms, constipation, vomiting, anxiety, hot and cold sweating, insomnia, seizures, schizophrenia and panic attacks.
- 25% of patients receiving long-term opioid therapy struggle with opioid addiction.



## www.opuscoalition.org

References: MN Department of Health, MN Student Survey, Center of Disease Control and Prevention, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Know the Truth™ Prevention Program student surveys.