

## **PRESCRIPTION DRUGS**

Drug Endangered Children

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### **What's the problem?**

- ▣ Teens are abusing prescription and OTC drugs to get high
  - This includes painkillers, depressants, stimulants, and OTC drugs
  - Painkillers: Vicodin, Codeine, OxyContin
  - Depressants: Xanax, Soma, Valium
  - Stimulants: Adderall, Dexedrine, Ritalin
  - OTC drugs: Robitussin, Vicks Formula 44, Coricidin

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### **Facts**

- ▣ Every day 2500 youths from 12-17 years old abuse a pain reliever for the first time
- ▣ More teens are abusing prescription drugs than any other illicit drug except marijuana

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### More facts

- ▣ Because these drugs are so readily available, teens who wouldn't otherwise touch illicit drugs might be tempted to use prescription drugs
- ▣ Parents are not talking to them even though youths report that parental disapproval is a way to keep them from using illicit drugs

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### Source

- ▣ Free from friend or relative
  - 56%
- ▣ From doctor
  - 19%
- ▣ Bought from friend or relative
  - 9%
- ▣ Other source
  - 7%
- ▣ Took from friend or relative without asking
  - 5%
- ▣ Bought from drug dealer
  - 4%

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**70%**

**Obtained from friend  
or relative**

Who's the drug dealer?

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### What are the dangers?

- ❑ A single large dose of prescription painkiller or depressant can cause breathing difficulty which can lead to death
- ❑ Stimulant abuse to hostility, paranoia, and potential heart system failure
- ❑ The abuse of OTC cough and cold remedies can cause blurred vision, nausea, dizziness, coma, and death
- ❑ Many teens mix these substances with alcohol that can cause respiratory failure and death

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### Something to think about

#### Texas state law

An adult cannot allow a minor to have access to a firearm

What is the difference between a prescription drug and a firearm?

Do we need a law similar for prescription drugs and OTC medicines?

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### Physical Signs

- ❑ Constricted pupils
- ❑ Slurred speech
- ❑ Flushed skin

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### **Mental Signs**

- ☐ Personality changes
- ☐ Mood swings
- ☐ Irritability
- ☐ Excessive energy
- ☐ Sleepiness

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### **Mental Signs (cont)**

- ☐ Avoiding sleep
- ☐ Lose of appetite
- ☐ Forgetfulness
- ☐ Clumsiness

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### **Behavioral Signs**

- ☐ Secretiveness
- ☐ Loss of interest in personal appearance
- ☐ Borrowing money or having extra cash
- ☐ Skipping class
- ☐ Not doing well in school

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## OXYCONTIN

- Oxycodone 10,20,40,60,180 mg  
“hillybilly heroin”
- \$40 per tablet per 40 mg's
- Created in 1996 as an opiate with a special coating that releases the drug over 12 hours  
\*pain relief for terminal patients
- Ingestion: Snort, Inject for “heroin” type high

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OxyContin in 10-, 20-, 40-, and 60-mg forms seized by the DEA Washington, DC, Field Division



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## Hydrocodone



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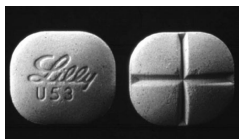
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## Methadone




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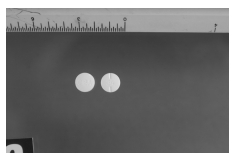
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## Other drugs of abuse

- Popular abuse noted in middle/high schools
- Tranquilizers
  - Valium
  - Soma (muscle relaxant)
- Mood Enhancers
  - Prozac
- OTC products
  - Pure vanilla extract (up to 20% alcohol)
  - Pseudoephedrine/Ephedrine
  - Phenylpropanolamine
  - Triple C (Coricidin)
  - Caffeine
- Plant Material




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## Ritalin

- ▣ Methylphenidate
- ▣ Stimulant-mild
  - Effects between caffeine and amphetamine
- ▣ Increases the release of norepinephrine
  - Allows you to focus
- ▣ Used in the treatment of ADHD disorders in children
  - Risks threats/violence against kids who take the drug
- ▣ Use: Orally or snorted




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## Valium

- ▣ Diazepam
- ▣ Tranquilizer
- ▣ Increased effects with alcohol
- ▣ Muscle relaxant, anti-anxiety
- ▣ Amnesia symptoms
  - Larger doses




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## Diazepam (Valium)



Usually prescribed after surgeries (breast augmentation, oral surgery)  
Used to treat anxiety (fear of flying)  
Popular with college kids during exams

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## Clonazepam (Xanax)




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## "T-Bars"




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## Dextromethorphan

- ▣ Cough Suppressant
- ▣ Opiate-like substance
- ▣ Hallucinations at high doses
  - Especially when mixed with alcohol
- ▣ Dissociative type drug
  - Effects related to PCP & Ketamine




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## Coricidin (Triple C)




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## Soma

- ▣ **Carisoprodol**
- ▣ OTC muscle relaxant
- ▣ Treatment for limited mobility disorders
- ▣ Mimics depressant
  - Larger doses
  - Multiple tablets




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## Carisoprodol (Soma)




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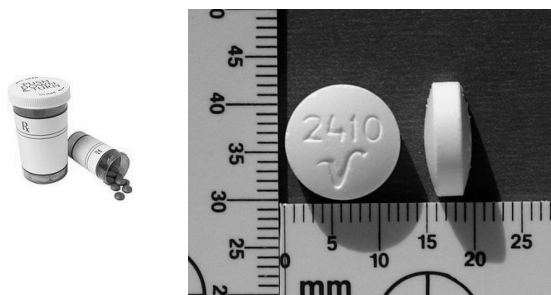
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## Soma




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## Salvia Divinorum

- ▣ Perennial herb
  - Related to mint family
- ▣ Salvinorin A
  - Hallucinogen
- ▣ Smoked, brewed, chewed, liquid extracted
- ▣ Effects:
  - Hallucinations
  - Introverted
  - Depression, schizophrenia




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## Legislation

- ▣ Delaware, Florida, Illinois, Kansas, Mississippi, Missouri, North Dakota, Oklahoma, and Virginia
- ▣ California, Louisiana, Maine and Tennessee enacted other forms of legislation restricting the distribution of the plant.
- ▣ Alabama, Alaska, Hawaii, Indiana, Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, Oregon, South Carolina, and Utah. Legislative bills proposing regulatory controls are pending in Michigan, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas and Wisconsin.
- ▣ Salvinorin A and/or Salvia divinorum have been placed under regulatory controls in Australia, Belgium, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Italy, Japan, Spain, and Sweden.

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## “Pharming”

\*Grabbing a handful of prescriptions drugs and swallowing them

12-17 yr old females




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## K2/Spice

- ☐ Unregulated mixture of dried herbs
  - Ingredients are commonly listed as “Indian Warrior” and “Wild Dagga” or “Lion’s Tail”
    - “Each of which are potentially bioactive herbs”
  - No mention of additives or other compounds that have a pharmacological activity
  - The dried herbs are laced with active ingredients similar to cannabinoids.

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## Indian Warrior *Pedicularis densiflora*

- ☐ Perennial herb with stout, green or reddish stems and fern-shaped leaves
  - Long spiky flowers of deep red or bright pink color
- ☐ Root parasite which attaches to the roots of other plants to obtain nutrients
  - Native to California and Oregon
    - Found in forests and woodlands at low elevation

Wikipedia

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- ☐ Kingdom: Plantae
- ☐ Order: Lamiales
- ☐ Family: Orobanchaceae
- ☐ Genus: Pedicularis
- ☐ Species: *P. densiflora*



Wikipedia

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## Medicinal Uses

- ☐ Tea or tincture for its ability to relax tense muscles
- ☐ Insomnia and nerve pain
- ☐ Buds or flowers
  - Added to herbal smoking blends for their color, flavor and relaxing properties

Wikipedia

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## Lion's Tail *Leonotis leonurus*

- ☐ Also known as "Wild Dagga"
- ☐ Plant species in the mint family
- ☐ Native to southern Africa



Wikipedia

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## Medicinal Use

- ☐ Used as a minty tea
- ☐ Leaf extract may also:
  - Control painful arthritic or other inflammatory disorders
  - Adult-onset treatment for Type-2 diabetes in South Africa

Wikipedia

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## K2/Spice Facts

### Street names:

K2  
Fake Weed  
Spice  
Spice Gold  
Yucatan Gold  
Skunk  
Genie  
Voodoo

### Effects:

hallucinations  
severe agitation  
elevated heart rate  
elevated blood pressure  
red eyes  
mood alteration

www.sciencedaily.com

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## What are the active components?

- ▣ HU-210\*
- ▣ HU-211
- ▣ JWH-018, 073, 081
- ▣ CP 47,497
- ▣ Oleamide
- ▣ WIN 55,210
- ▣ CP 55,940



\*Federally controlled and very potent

Spice: A never ending story?

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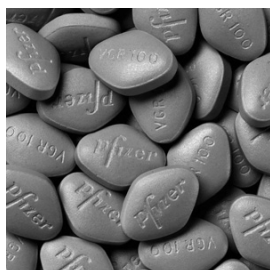
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## Viagra




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## Cialis




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## Cialis Facts

- ❑ Cialis has a high propensity of abuse due to the creation of a daily tablet.

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## Codeine Cough Syrup Vicks NyQuil

Hangover effects the next morning  
Narcotic properties  
Very Addicting




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### What can you do?

- ☐ Watch for signs around the house
  - Missing prescription pills
  - Unfamiliar/unknown pills in house or bedroom
  - Empty cough/cold medicine bottles/packages
- ☐ Be alert and cognizant
  - If your child is running out of prescription quickly, losing medication, or requesting refills before doctor prescribed refill date

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### Rules for the house

- ☐ Safeguard all drugs at home
- ☐ Monitor quantities and control access
- ☐ Set rules for all drug use
- ☐ No sharing, always follow medical dosages and advice
- ☐ BE A GOOD ROLE-MODEL
  - Follow these rules with your own medicines
- ☐ Tell friends and family to safe-guard their prescriptions as well

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### Proper disposal

- ☐ Unused drugs thrown in the trash can be retrieved and abused or illegally sold
- ☐ Proper disposal saves lives
  - Take meds out of the bottles
  - Mix them with something unappealing
    - Kitty litter, coffee grounds, fertilizer, rotten food, grease
  - Seal them in a bag or disposable container and throw them away

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