

## What's happening

While prescription opioids can fulfill an intended purpose under the direction of a physician, the availability and addictive qualities of opioids—including pain medications—has led to a high number of deaths and overdoses.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), reports that 47 people die every day from prescription painkiller overdoses in the United States.

According to the Minnesota Department of Health, 2,074 opioid overdoses were treated in hospitals in 2016. 395 Minnesotans lost their lives to opioid overdose according to their death certificates. In 2015, over 10,000 people were admitted to Minnesota treatment centers for opioid use. It's time to take action.

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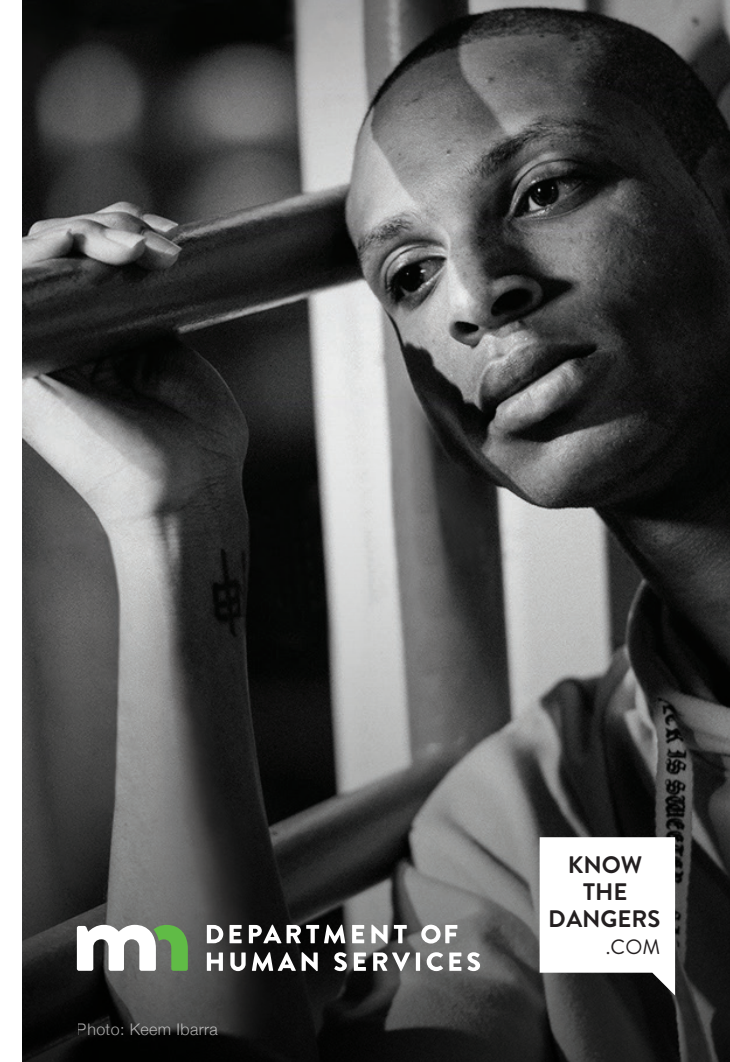
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# A quick look at opioid use disorder.



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## What is Opioid Use Disorder?

Opioid use disorder is a physical reliance on opioid painkillers and other synthetic drugs.

## Opioids include:

- Illegal drugs like heroin
- Prescription pain drugs including oxycodone, hydrocodone, codeine and morphine
- Synthetic opioids such as fentanyl



## Why does this matter?

When it comes to addressing the opioid crisis in Minnesota, it really is about all of us. Opioid use disorder affects nearly everyone—directly or indirectly—regardless of age, gender, or socio-economic status.

Knowing how to support a person experiencing substance use disorder can be difficult. If you believe that someone you know may be struggling with dependency, resources are available. Remember, there are significant risks to use of such substances, including death.

## Treatment Options

Substance use disorder can have wide-reaching effects and be rooted in deep struggles with physical and psychological pain. Don't wait until an overdose to seek help. Everyone is worthy of recovery and help is available now.

**Fast-Tracker** is a database of resources and treatment options created specifically for Minnesotans.

**Counseling and 12-step programs** are abstinence-based treatment programs within outpatient or residential facility settings.

**Medication Assisted Therapy** helps counteract the negative withdrawal effects and cravings.

