

OTC & Prescription Drug Abuse & Misuse • No. 154 • 12/04

Copies of the following titles may be requested from the Library by circling the title(s) needed and returning the list to the Library, **MS 0571**. This guide is not intended to be comprehensive in its coverage. For additional materials on the topic, please contact Freya Anderson at 465-2942.

Prescription Drug Abuse

Simoni-Wastila, Linda & Gail Strickler. **Risk factors associated with problem use of prescription drugs.** *American Journal of Public Health*, v. 94, n. 2, February 2004, p. 266 (8 pp.).

“Nearly 1.3 million Americans aged 12 years and older experience problem use of prescription drugs signifying physiological dependence or heavy daily use.”

Farrell, Veronica M.; Vanessa L. Hill; Jason B. Hawkins; Lisa M. Newman & Richard E. Learned, Jr. **Clinic for identifying and addressing polypharmacy.** *American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy*, v. 60, September 15, 2003, Section 3, p. 1830 (3 pp.).

Highlights one attempt to reduce polypharmacy, or “excessive or unnecessary use of prescription or nonprescription medications.”

National Institute on Drug Abuse. **Prescription drugs: Abuse and addiction.** *National Institute on Drug Abuse Research Report Series*, n. 01-4881, July 2001 (12 pp.).

Provides an overview of commonly abused or misused prescription drugs, what they are, their affects, and how to prevent and treat their misuse and abuse.

Taylor, Trusandra. **Targeting prescription drug abuse – A new federal initiative.** *Behavioral Health Management*, July/August 2004, p. 37-40.

“On March 1 ONDCP [White House Office of National Drug Control Policy] launched a new federal initiative in conjunction with the FDA and DEA to focus on the nation’s increasing rate of prescription drug abuse.”

Meadows, Michelle. **Prescription drug use and abuse.** *FDA Consumer*, September-October 2001. <http://www.fda.gov/fdac/features/2001/501_drug.html> (9 pp.).

How prescription drug abuse can happen, the consequences of abuse, how to detect abuse, how to use prescriptions safely and the drugs that are most likely to be abused, as well as where to go for more information or help.

Office of Applied Studies, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. **Nonmedical use of prescription-type drugs among youths and young adults.** *The NHSDA Report*, January 16, 2003 (3 pp.).

“In 2001, almost 3 million youths aged 12 to 17 and almost 7 million young adults aged 18 to 25 had used prescription-type drugs nonmedically at least once in their lifetime.” Provides additional statistics from the National Household Survey on Drug Abuse.

Office of Applied Studies, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. **Nonmedical use of prescription pain relievers.** *The NSDUH Report*, May 21, 2004 (3 pp.).

“In 2002, almost 30 million persons aged 12 or older (13 percent) had used prescription pain relievers nonmedically in their lifetime.” Provides additional statistics from the 2002 National Survey on Drug Use and Health.

Gilson, Aaron M.; David E. Joranson & Martha A. Maurer. **Improving state medical board policies: Influence of a model.** *Journal of Law, Medicine & Ethics*, v. 31, 2003, p.119-129.

“State medical boards are in a unique position not only to address physicians’ concerns about being investigated [for prescribing opioids], but also to encourage pain management.”

Gerhardt, Annie M. **Identifying the drug seeker: The Advanced Practice Nurse’s role in managing prescription drug abuse.** *Journal of the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners*, v. 16, n. 6, June 2004, p. 239-243.

Provides an overview of drug-seeking behavior, how to recognize it, treatment and management guidelines, and “prescription parameters that will help APNs [Advanced Practice Nurses] avoid legal ramifications.”

Lineberry, Timothy W. & J. Michael Bostwick. **Taking the physician out of “physician shopping”: A case series of clinical problems associated with internet purchases of medication.** *Mayo Clinic Proceedings*, v. 79, n. 8, August 2004, p. 1031-1034.

“Illustrat[es] some of the medical problems that resulted from drugs bought on-line illegally.”

Synthetic Opioids (OxyContin)

Diverted synthetic opioids. *Pulse Check: Trends in Drug Abuse*, November 2002 (updated February 11, 2003) <http://www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov/publications/drugfact/pulsechk/nov02/div_synth_opioids.html> (9 pp.).

Overview of “the illegal diversion and abuse of synthetic opioids, particularly OxyContin (oxycodone hydrochloride controlled-release), prescribed to patients suffering from severe persistent pain – a legitimate medical need.”

Office of National Drug Control Policy. **Drug facts: OxyContin.** (last updated September 23, 2004). <<http://www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov/drugfact/oxycontin/index.html>> (7 pp.).

“OxyContin is a prescription painkiller used for moderate to high pain relief.” Provides facts, mostly statistics, on its extent of use, health effects, treatment, arrests and sentencing, production and trafficking, legislation, street terms, and sources for additional information.

Gilson, Aaron M.; Karen M. Ryan; David E. Joranson & June L. Dahl. **A reassessment of trends in the medical use and abuse of opioid analgesics and implications for diversion control: 1997-2002.** *Journal of Pain and Symptom Management*, v. 28, n. 2, August 2004. (14 pp.)

“Results demonstrated marked increases in medical use and abuse of four of the five studied opioid analgesics. In 2002, opioid analgesics accounted for 9.85% of all drug abuse, up from 5.75% in 1997.”

Over-the-counter (OTC) Drugs

US Food and Drug Administration. **Use caution with pain relievers.** *FDA Consumer*, January-February 2003 (revised November 2003) (2 pp.).

Over the counter pain relievers, such as acetaminophen and ibuprofen, can be dangerous when too much is taken, causing liver damage or digestive system problems.

US Food and Drug Administration. **FDA launches consumer campaign on safe use of OTC pain products.** *FDA News*, P04-04, January 22, 2004 (2 pp.).

“FDA’s nationwide campaign focuses on the OTC pain and fever reducers that contain acetaminophen and non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs), which include products such as aspirin, ibuprofen, naproxen sodium and ketoprofen.”

Magnus, Edie. **Addicted to cough medicine?** *Dateline NBC* [Transcript]. Updated March 27, 2004. <<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/4608341/print/1/displaymode/1098/>> (4 pp.)

“Key ingredient in over-the-counter cough remedies proves addictive, even deadly to some who abuse it.”

National Institute on Drug Abuse. **Methamphetamine: Abuse and addiction.** *NIDA Research Report Series*, n. 02-4210, April 1998 (Reprinted January 2002) (8 pp.).

“Methamphetamine is a powerfully addictive stimulant that dramatically affects the central nervous system... made easily in clandestine laboratories with relatively inexpensive over-the-counter ingredients.”

McBride, Andrew J.; Richard Pates; Reem Ramadan & Christopher McGowan. **Delphi survey of experts' opinions on strategies used by community pharmacists to reduce over-the-counter drug misuse.** *Addiction*, v. 98, 2003, p. 487-497.

"The consensus view presented offers practical and realistic guidance for policy-makers and community pharmacists on the sale of OTC products." Focuses on the UK.

US Food and Drug Administration. **Protecting consumers from counterfeit drugs.** *FDA Consumer*, May-June 2004 (2 pp.).

"Drug counterfeiting has been relatively rare in the United States, but the practice has increased in recent years."

Drug Interactions

Meadows, Michelle. **Preventing serious drug interactions.** *FDA Consumer*, July-August 2004 (7 pp.).

"The large number of drugs on the market, combined with the common use of multiple medications, makes the risk for drug interactions significant." Highlights some types of interactions, how they are discovered, and the importance of communication in preventing interactions.

US Food and Drug Administration, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research. **Medicines and you: A guide for older adults.** May 11, 2004. <<http://www.fda.gov/cder/consumerinfo/medAndYouEng.htm>> (9 pp.)

Because our bodies change as we age, "there is a bigger risk of drug interactions for older adults." Includes information on how to safely take over-the-counter and prescription medications and tips for cutting costs.



Like Checklists? Then try

Table of Contents

Keep astride of current periodicals by subscribing to Table of Contents, a free service provided to state employees by the Alaska State Library. Choose from a wide variety of journals and magazines, look over their table of contents page, and have the best articles delivered right to you!

Sign up today!

1. Visit the State Library's Table of Contents webpage at:

<http://library.state.ak.us/forms/tocexp.html>

2. Sign up for Table of Contents and choose from our extensive list of periodicals, both digital and on paper.

3. When the table of contents of your chosen periodicals arrive, select articles you are interested in and we will send you a paper or digital copy.

What do you think?

The State Library is interested in hearing from you. Let us know how we can improve Checklists to help you keep informed on current hot topics and work related issues.

Suggestions for Future Checklist Topics: _____

Comments/Suggestions Regarding Checklists: _____

Comments About the Alaska State Library and its Services: _____

Name: _____

Agency: _____

Mail Stop: _____

info