



## Opioids

.....



# Learn about opioid prescriptions and other options

Talk to your doctor about options to manage your pain safely.

Prescription opioids could have serious side effects and risks.<sup>1</sup>

### Opioid facts<sup>1</sup>

- Opioids are used to treat moderate-to-severe pain.
- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention say they are not usually helpful for long-term use.

### Opioid safety

To help make sure you stay safe, we:

- Restrict your first prescription to a 7-day supply.<sup>2,3</sup>
- Limit refill amounts.<sup>3</sup>
- Help ensure use of short-acting opioids first.<sup>3</sup>
- Offer counseling with CVS Pharmacy<sup>®</sup> pharmacists.
- For pain that lasts less than one month, opioids should be taken only as long as needed while pain is severe. Often, just a few days or fewer are enough.

### We help you understand safe use<sup>1,2</sup>

We help make sure you know how to take opioids safely and correctly. Follow these tips to stay as safe as possible:

- Take medication exactly as instructed by your doctor.
- Never share your opioids with others.
- Avoid alcohol and certain medications that are unsafe with opioids.
- Review your medications with your doctor or pharmacist regularly.
- Keep any opioids in a secure place. Lock them up, if possible.



Have unused opioids?

Find a safe disposal location by visiting  
[caremarkrxplaninfo.com/SCPEBA](https://www.caremarkrxplaninfo.com/SCPEBA).



<sup>1</sup> Overdose Prevention: About Prescription Opioids. U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Published June 10, 2025. <https://www.cdc.gov/overdose-prevention/about/prescription-opioids.html>.

<sup>2</sup> Based on history of an opioid prescription.

<sup>3</sup> Prior authorization might be requested for certain medications to extend limits on quantity or days supplied or if claims history does not meet current program requirements; duration limit does not apply to patients in active cancer treatment, palliative care or end-of-life care.

©2025 CVS Health and/or one of its affiliates. All rights reserved. 106-70610D 090825