Opioid Facts

**SIDE EFFECTS OF OPIOIDS**

- Fatigue
- Depression
- Anxiety
- Chronic Constipation
- Inability to Sleep
- Breathing Problems
- Irregular Heartbeat
- Loss of Strength
- Decreased Sex Drive
- Infertility
- Low Testosterone in Males
- More Pain and Pain Sensitivity
- Accidental Overdose
- Memory Loss
- Menstrual Irregularities & Breast Feeding Issues in Females
- Compromised Immune System
- Concentration Problems
- Respiratory Failure

**Did You Know**

1. If you take an opioid for more than one month there is an increased risk you may become addicted for life.

2. A person is **4 times** as likely to die from a drug overdose in Lake County compared to other California residents.

3. After only **2 months**, Opioids are usually ineffective and may make pain worse.

If an opioid is prescribed for chronic pain, only a small dose will be given. If you are prescribed an opioid, your doctor will repeatedly evaluate you to ensure that the medication is providing functional improvement in pain, and that you are receiving medication from only one prescriber to keep you safe.

If you have children or youth living in your home, please keep your prescription medications secured.

[Further information and resources provided through the website: www.saferxlakecounty.com]
For Our Patients With Pain

TREATMENT OF YOUR PAIN IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT TO US

Everyone experiences pain, it is a part of life and serves many important functions. Sometimes pain may prevent us from doing the things we want to do. Our goal is to treat your pain so you can function better. Your doctor will work with you to find the safest and most effective answers.

If medications are needed to help pain, they may include acetaminophen, non-steroidal anti-inflammatory, antidepressant and anti-convulsant medications.

Chronic Pain Affects More Americans than Cancer, Heart Disease, and Diabetes Combined

16.3 million
CORONARY HEART DISEASE

100 million
CHRONIC PAIN

25.8 million
DIABETES

7.0 million
STROKE

11.9 million
CANCER

WAYS TO HELP WITH PAIN

- Physical Therapy
- Stop Smoking
- Exercise
- Massage & Relaxation Therapy
- Acupuncture
- Chiropractic Therapy

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