

SAFE PRESCRIBING TOOLKIT

Caring for our patients
Caring for our community

Teens who take prescription opioids, such as after removal of wisdom teeth, have a **33% higher risk** of opioid misuse later in life.

5 days of opioid use can lead to dependence.

“Dentists play a pivotal role in providing quality care, ensuring patient safety, and supporting the improvement of public health... As prescribers of opioids for dental pain management, dentists have a professional responsibility to reduce the misuse and abuse of opioids...”

– CALIFORNIA DENTAL ASSOCIATION

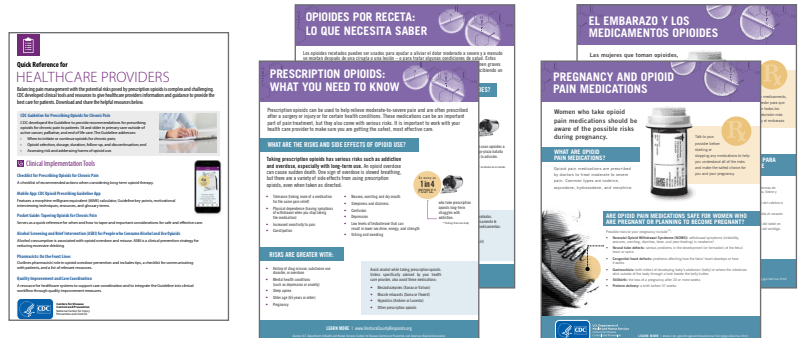
Since 2012, the Ventura County Rx Abuse and Heroin Workgroup has been committed to working with local agency and community partners to reduce epidemic-level opioid misuse and fatal overdoses.

The opioid crisis affects us all. Prescribers across the country are experiencing the new normal in healthcare, and are responding to enhanced professional guidelines and evolving standards for patient care.

Ventura County continues to make great strides in addressing the opioid crisis locally. The Ventura County Opioid Abuse Suppression Taskforce (COAST), funded by a grant from the US Department of Justice, increases data integration and strategic targeting of resources across the county.

SAFE PRESCRIBING TOOLKIT

The COAST grant allows us to reach out to prescribers like you to share information and materials that assist with patient communications. The items in this toolkit may be copied and shared with your staff, colleagues and patients. They are also available online at venturacountyresponds.org. We encourage you to bookmark the website, which features regularly updated resources for prescribers and patients.



Working together, we are making a measurable difference locally: to individuals, to families and to our community.