What kind of drugs are prescription painkillers?

Prescription narcotics ("opioids") are painkillers prescribed by doctors, typically in pill form, to help patients with moderate to severe chronic pain. While their use and benefit is widely debated, one thing is for certain: there is always risk for addiction.

Some common prescription painkillers include:

- Oxycodone
- Hydrocodone
- Morphine
- Codeine
- Fentanyl
- Propoxyphene
- Hydromorphone
- Meperidine

What are signs of misuse?

- Appearing overly drowsy or confused
- Poor balance or unsteady on their feet
- Requesting early refills
- Reporting that their medications have been lost or stolen (particularly if this occurs more than once)
- Poor grooming or disheveled appearance
- Appetite changes
- Mood swings or major personality changes
- Increased isolation
- Demanding narcotic drugs at doctor visits
- Apparent doctor shopping

Learn more at: DoseOfReality.Texas.gov

A message from the Office of the Attorney General of Texas, Texas Health and Human Services, and the Texas Department of State Health Services.