

OPIOIDS FOR PAIN

- Be smart.
- Be safe.
- Be sure.**

Ask your Doctor:

- 1** *Is this prescription an opioid?*
- 2** *At what level of pain should I take this prescription?*
- 3** *Do I have to take every pill in the prescription?*
- 4** *Where can I safely dispose of remaining pills?*
- 5** *What can I do to avoid addiction?*
- 6** *What are possible warning signs of dependence or addiction?*
- 7** *What can I do if I believe that I might have developed a dependence on this drug?*

When properly used, opioids for pain provide much-needed relief during the healing and recovery process. But uninformed use or abuse of opioids can lead to addiction and have devastating effects.

If your doctor prescribes an opioid pain medication such as Vicodin, Percocet, hydrocodone or Oxycontin, be sure to ask these simple questions.

For more information ask for our free flyer, or visit www.pamedsoc.org/opioidinfo

A Public Health Advocacy Program
from the Pennsylvania Medical Society

