

STORING OPIOID MEDICINE SAFELY

Most people who use heroin started out using opioid medicine they found at home. Keep opioid medicines in a safe, locked place, out of reach of family, children, visitors, or pets.

6 TIPS TO KEEP YOU AND THE COMMUNITY SAFE

1

Use a lockbox, lockbag, or locked drawer and hide the key to keep opioid medicine safe.

This will prevent others from stealing or misusing the medicine. It will also prevent young children and pets from accidentally finding and swallowing the medicine.

2

Don't forget about medicine patches.

Children and pets can be seriously injured if they get ahold of a patch. Children could take patches out of the garbage and use them like stickers.

**3**

Make sure the lid to the medicine bottle is closed tightly.

Children or pets might try to open the bottle.

4

Read your prescription label to learn how to store medication.

Some medications should be kept in a cool, dry place, away from light. Heat, steam, water, and light might make a medicine not work as well.

5

Count your pills.

This will help you know how many pills you have and if any go missing.

6

Keep medication in their original bottle or container. Original bottles and containers have directions on how much medicine to take, how to use the medicine, and expiration dates.