You’ve always protected your kids.

Prescription pain meds. Heroin. Opioid addiction. As a parent, you’re probably wondering how to keep your teen safe. You’re not alone if you’re asking, “What can I do to protect my kid?”

4 out of 5 people who use heroin began by misusing prescription pain meds.

1 in 4 teens has reported misusing or abusing a prescription drug at least once.

Because their brains are still developing, teens are at HIGH RISK for opioid addiction.

Simply talking to your kid helps protect them from misusing prescription pain meds, as well as alcohol and other drugs.

TEENS WHO TALK TO THEIR PARENTS about prescription pain meds are up to 42% LESS LIKELY to misuse them.

To help protect your kids, talk to them about opioids.

STOP Addiction BEFORE IT STARTS

Learn what you can say…

Partnership for Drug-Free Kids

Keep Talking.

» One talk isn’t enough—especially for teens. Talk about it often.
» Your kid may not seem like they’re listening, but keep talking. It could take several conversations to make an impact.

Talk. It makes a difference.
There is no “perfect” time. Take advantage of everyday moments, like driving in the car together. Refer to a news story about opioid addiction, a TV show or movie, or something that happened in your community to start a conversation.

You can ask:

**Talking Points: Let Them Know You Care**

1. **Opioid addiction and overdose deaths are a big problem. But I want you to know that we can talk about it.**

2. **I care about you, and I want you to be safe and healthy.**

3. **You (or someone you know) could get hurt playing sports. A doctor might prescribe a pain med that’s an opioid. No one should EVER share their prescription.”**

4. **“If you were injured or had surgery, and needed pain relief, we’d talk with your doctor about whether prescription opioids are necessary.**

Many teens think prescription pain meds like Percocet®, OxyContin®, and Vicodin® are safer than illegal street drugs.