

# PAIN KILLERS CAN BE JUST PLAIN KILLERS

South Carolina is not immune to the consequences of opioid misuse. Overdosing is at an epidemic level in our state. And while opioids can be a vital, life-changing tool for those living with chronic pain, these statistics highlight why they should only be used with extreme caution.

**5 MILLION PAIN KILLER PRESCRIPTIONS ARE FILLED EVERY YEAR IN SOUTH CAROLINA - THAT'S MORE THAN ONE FOR EVERY PERSON IN OUR STATE.**

**1 IN 4 PEOPLE WHO ARE PRESCRIBED OPIOIDS STRUGGLE WITH ADDICTION.**

**4 IN 5 HEROIN USERS STARTED WITH PRESCRIPTION PAIN KILLERS.**

**1 IN 4 TEENS HAS MISUSED OR ABUSED A PRESCRIPTION DRUG AT LEAST ONCE.**

**IN 2016, 550 DEATHS IN SOUTH CAROLINA WERE PRESCRIPTION OPIOID OVERDOSES. THAT'S AN INCREASE OF 18% FROM 2014.**

**FATAL HEROIN OVERDOSES INCREASED BY 67% FROM 2014 TO 2015.**

**IN 2015, THE NUMBER OF DEATHS FROM HEROIN AND OPIOID OVERDOSES SURPASSED THE NUMBER OF HOMICIDES.**

Help stop South Carolina's opioid epidemic. Store any prescription medications safely and securely. Find safe drug disposal locations. Know where to get help. And learn more about the dangers of prescription opioid drugs at [JustPlainKillers.com](http://JustPlainKillers.com).

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AN INITIATIVE OF **South Carolina**  
**DAODAS**  
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