Taking Steps to Address Opioid Misuse and Abuse

Too many people have been impacted by opioid misuse and abuse. CVS Health serves patients in communities all across the country, and we are dedicated to helping make a difference.

CVS Health has made an enterprise-wide commitment to help address the abuse and misuse of prescription opioids.

Increasing Access to Safe Disposal

Disposal of unwanted or unused medications locally reduces the likelihood of misuse or diversion. We're providing secure disposal options close to home.

Nearly 3K disposal units, including 1,700 in-store disposal kiosks and more than 990 disposal units donated to community police departments across the country

Nearly 3.1M pounds of unwanted medications collected since 2014, with plans in 2020 to launch DisposeRx, a no-cost solution that enables patients to safely discard their unwanted or expired medications at home

Encouraging Appropriate Utilization

Reducing the amount of unnecessary opioids prescribed can help reduce the potential for abuse. We’ve implemented criteria to help CVS Caremark® clients manage opioid utilization in a manner consistent with the Centers for Disease Control Guideline.

94.3% of prescriptions are covered for a 7-day supply or less among clients adopting our utilization management criteria

Expanding Access to Life-Saving Antidotes

The opioid overdose-reversal drug, naloxone, can help save lives. We’re implementing an industry-leading program to increase access to naloxone.

Life-saving naloxone is available in all 50 states

More than 9.8K CVS Pharmacy locations have in-store signage to educate patients about the availability and accessibility of naloxone

Educating Patients and Communities

Education on the dangers of misusing prescription drugs can encourage safer and more secure practices. We’re delivering education to teens, parents and patients new to an opioid prescription.

More than 500K students and parents reached through Pharmacists Teach® since 2015, a prescription drug prevention education program led by CVS Pharmacists

CVS Pharmacists provide counseling to patients on safe opioid use and the potential adverse effects of filling a new opioid prescription

Supporting Local Recovery Programs

CVS Health is supporting local recovery programs to improve access to recovery and treatment options in local communities.

115 physicians supported who are working to increase access to medication-assisted treatment

Nearly 350K patients will be reached by these addiction recovery support programs, helping access to medication-assisted treatments