

"A Doctor Prescribed Them. So They Must Be Safer, Right?"

TROUBLE

"How Do I Know if I Could Have a Problem?"

?

- You start blowing off responsibilities at work, school or home.
- Your drug use is causing relationship or legal problems.
- You need more of a drug for the same effect.
- You take drugs to relieve withdrawal symptoms.
- You quit participating in activities you once enjoyed.

"Where Can I Get Help?"



If you think you or someone you know may have a problem with drugs, turn to Your Life Iowa. Our services are free, confidential and here for you 24/7.

 **CALL:**
(855) 581-8111

 **TEXT:**
(855) 895-8398

 **CHAT:**
YourLifelowa.org

**YOUR
LIFE
IOWA**
Iowa HHS

07/2026

**Prescription
Drugs Are
Still Drugs**



**TAKING SOMEONE
ELSE'S PILLS IS A
PRESCRIPTION
FOR TROUBLE.**

TROUBLE

TROUBLE

**YOUR
LIFE
IOWA**
Iowa HHS

TROUBLE

"Why Is It So Dangerous to Take Prescriptions That Aren't Mine?"

Because doctors look at your health history before prescribing medication. So, **unless a drug is prescribed directly to you, you won't know if it's safe for you**, how your body will handle it or how it might interact with your other medications.

"Are There Any Side Effects I Should Be Worried About?"

Some prescription drugs can make your heart beat super fast, even to the point of causing a heart attack. Others can slow your breathing down enough to make it stop completely. **If you take some medications for too long, stopping may cause withdrawal symptoms like anger, sleep problems and depression.**

Think It's a Prescription Pill? It Might Be Fake — and Contain Fentanyl

!

Fake pills are being sold online as the real thing. These pills look nearly identical to prescription pills, but could contain a potentially lethal dose of fentanyl.

That's why it's so important to only take medication that's prescribed to you by a licensed medical professional.

It Doesn't Matter Where You Live — the Risks Are Real

Overdoses can happen anywhere and not just in big cities. It happens right here in Iowa to people just like you.

Treat prescription drugs like drugs — because that's what they are.

**TAKING SOMEONE ELSE'S PILLS IS A
PRESCRIPTION
FOR TROUBLE.**

TROUBLE

TROUBLE

