

RISKS OF ADDICTION, ABUSE AND MISUSE OF OPIOIDS

ABUSE AND MISUSE OF OPIOIDS

- The risk of addiction in any individual is unknown.
- Addiction can occur:
 - In patients appropriately prescribed and at recommended doses
 - If the drug is misused or abused
- Persons at increased risk of opioid addiction include those with:
 - A personal or family history of substance abuse (e.g., drug or alcohol abuse and addiction)
 - Mental illness (e.g., major depression)

Drug Addiction: *Cluster of behavioral, cognitive, and physiological phenomena that develop after repeated substance use and include:*

- A strong desire to take the drug
- Difficulties in controlling its use
- Persisting in its use despite harmful consequences
- A higher priority given to drug use than to other activities and obligations
- Increased tolerance
- Sometimes a physical withdrawal