

# RISKS OF ADDICTION, ABUSE AND MISUSE OF OPIOIDS

## ABUSE AND MISUSE OF OPIOIDS

- Opioid analgesics have high potential for abuse and rise of fatal overdose due to respiratory depression.
- Opioids expose patients and other users to the risks of addiction, abuse and misuse.
- Opioids are sought by drug abusers and people with addiction disorders and are subject to criminal diversion.

**Drug Abuse:** *The intentions non-Therapeutic use of an over-the-counter or Prescription drug, even once, for its rewarding psychological or physiological effects.*

Drug abuse includes, but is not limited to the following examples:

- The use of prescription or over-the-counter drug to get “high”
- The use of steroids for performance enhancement and muscle build up