You are the most important part of your healthcare team. Ask questions and know the facts before using opioids for your pain.

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**What is an opioid?**

An opioid is a strong prescription pain medication. Some possible side effects include nausea/vomiting, sleepiness/dizziness and/or constipation.

**Common names of opioids:**
- Hydrocodone (Vicodin, Norco)
- Oxycodone (Percocet, OxyContin)
- Morphine
- Codeine (Tylenol #3, Tylenol #4)
- Fentanyl
- Tramadol (Ultram)
- Methadone
- Hydromorphone (Dilaudid)
- Oxymorphone (Opana)

**Only use your opioids for the reason they were prescribed.**
- Please discuss with your dentist or pharmacist if you are pregnant and considering opioid use.
- Diversion (sharing or selling) of opioids is considered a felony.

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**Tell your dentist about:**

**Any medications that you are taking:**
- Over-the-counter medications, vitamins or herbals
- Antidepressants (Prozac, Celexa)
- Sedatives (Ambien, Seroquel)
- Benzodiazepines (Valium, Xanax, Klonopin)
- Other prescription pain medications
- Street drugs

**Any past or present history of:**
- Depression
- Anxiety
- Other mood disorders
- Long term (chronic) pain
- Sleep apnea
- Breathing problems
- Tobacco or alcohol use
- Prescription or street drug use or abuse

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**Questions to ask your dentist**

- How long should I expect to have pain?
- Can I use over-the-counter medications such as acetaminophen (Tylenol) or ibuprofen (Motrin, Advil)?
- What other things can I do to help control my pain (ice, rest, dietary restrictions/soft foods)?
- Who do I call if my pain is not controlled, getting worse, or I am having side effects from my opioids?
- Can I have fewer opioid pills because I have small children or teenagers in the house?

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**Things to remember after your dental procedure**

- Ask your dentist to provide information on your dental procedure, medications and any expected pain, so that you may inform your family doctor.
- Only use the opioid pain medicine for severe pain. If pain is tolerable, you may choose not to use an opioid because of the risks associated with use.
- Safely store opioids out of reach of small children, teens and pets.
- Lock up your pills if possible.
- Try to keep a count of how many pills you have left.
- Do not store your opioids in places that allow easy access to your pills (example: bathrooms, kitchens).

Find a local place to SAFELY dispose of unused opioids at: Michigan-OPEN.org/takebackmap