

Teens and Young Adults: Rx to Heroin

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Created By Partnership to End Addiction

Nearly half of young people who inject heroin start by abusing prescription drugs. This infographic follows a teen through the addction process. Click through to The Medicine Abuse Project for more information.

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Nearly half of young people who inject heroin start by abusing Rx drugs. Teen abuse of prescription (Rx) pain medicine, also known as opioids, usually starts in two ways. Some teens start abusing it at a party or with friends because they're curious or think it will make them feel good. Others start taking it legitimately when prescribed by a doctor after an injury or dental procedure – but in some cases, legitimate use turns to dependence, abuse, addiction and then heroin use. Follow Katie's journey below and along the way, hear stories from other teens and families who have also been down this road and find the tools you need to help teens and young adults. Katie suffers an injury that requires surgery. In the suffers an injury that requires surgery and has a lis prescribed painkillers. Learn More Katie quickly runs out of her Rx - and feels like she needs it. She begins taking more pills than prescribed. Learn More Katie quickly runs out of her Rx - and feels like she needs it. She begins taking more pills than prescribed. Learn More Learn More Learn More