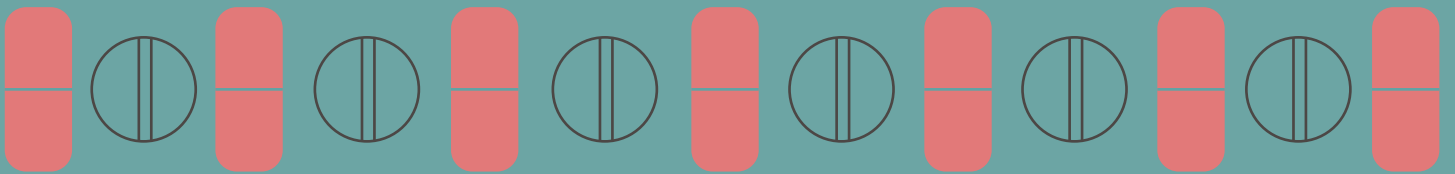




# What is Prescription Drug Abuse?

- Taking a medication that was not prescribed to you.
- Purposefully taking the wrong dosage of a prescribed medication.
- Taking a prescribed medication for something other than its intended purpose.



## BUT AREN'T PRESCRIPTION DRUGS SAFE?

When prescription medications are abused, they can be just as dangerous as illegal drugs you buy on the street. The level of risk of abusing prescription medications depends on many factors, including:

- How much is taken (dosage)
- How often it is taken (frequency)
- How it is taken (method of ingestion)
- With what it is taken (water, food, alcohol, other drugs, etc.)
- Personal health (medical history and underlying conditions and factors)<sup>1</sup>

