

# What Are Drugs?

Chapter 5 Lesson 1

ByDesign Science, Level 4

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# Legal and Illegal Drugs

- ♦ Cough syrup. Beer. Allergy medicine. Marijuana, Wine. Cigarettes. Nicotine. Caffeine.
- ♦ They seem so different. Yet, each of these substances is a drug.
- ♦ A drug changes the body's functions and affects the body, mind, or behavior.
- ♦ Each of these substances does that.





# Legal and Illegal Drugs

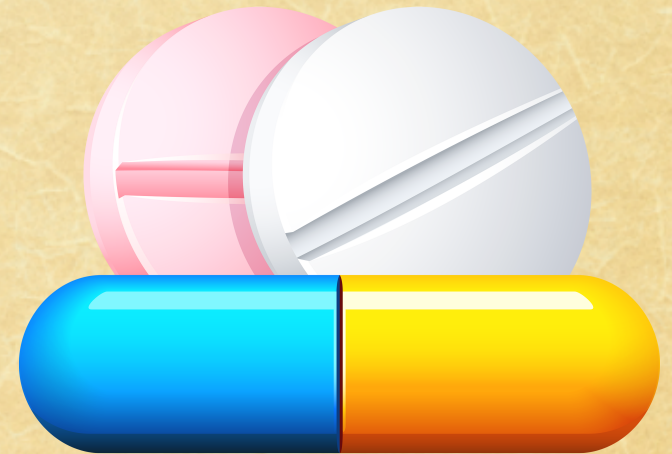


- ♦ Medicines are legal drugs, which means the law allows them to be used.
- ♦ A *medicine* is a drug that can help protect people from sickness or treat or cure a sickness.
- ♦ Medicines can save lives and help people who are sick.



# Legal and Illegal Drugs

- ♦ Medicines are helpful drugs, as long as they are used the correct way.
- ♦ You need to be careful with medicines. They can be dangerous if taken the wrong way.
- ♦ You should never take more of a medicine than is prescribed.





# Legal and Illegal Drugs

- ♦ You should never take medicines prescribed for someone else, either.
- ♦ It is against the law to do both these things.
- ♦ Medicines that are meant to be helpful can be used in harmful or dangerous ways.





# Legal and Illegal Drugs

- ♦ Some drugs are against the law. These drugs are called *illegal drugs*.

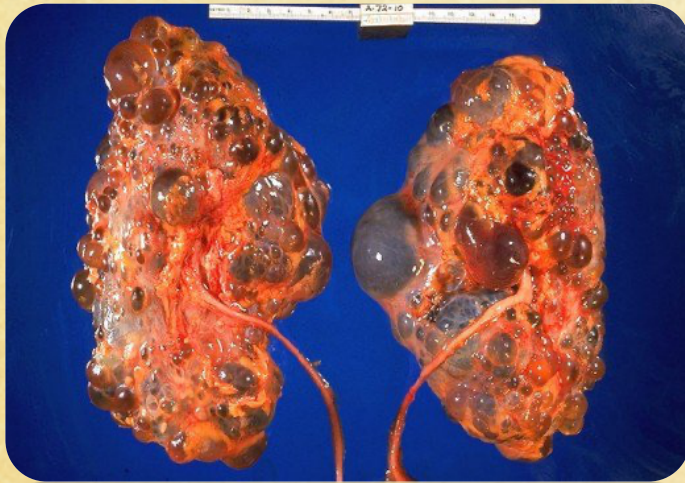


If you abuse drugs,  
they will abuse you

- ♦ It is against the law to have, sell, buy, or use illegal drugs.
- ♦ They have serious effects on the human body.
- ♦ Illegal drugs cause many deaths every year.



# Legal and Illegal Drugs



- ♦ Drugs move through the body and affect certain organs, such as the brain or liver.
- ♦ Sometimes organs are damaged so they do not function as they were designed.
- ♦ The heart may stop beating or the person may stop breathing.



# Legal and Illegal Drugs

- ♦ Drugs can be very powerful and dangerous if not used properly.
- ♦ For example, medicines, which are legal drugs, can be used illegally.
- ♦ It is against the law to take a medicine that a doctor prescribed for someone else.
- ♦ It is also dangerous to do this.





# Classifying Drugs

- ♦ One way that drugs can be classified is by how they affect the body.
- ♦ Class of Drug: Analgesic
  - ♦ Reduces pain
  - ♦ Examples: acetaminophen, aspirin, ibuprofen





# Classifying Drugs

- ♦ Class of Drug: Depressant
  - ♦ Slows down the nervous system; reduces heart rate and breathing rate; relaxes the body; causes sleepiness
  - ♦ Examples: alcohol, inhalants, marijuana (illegal drug)





# Classifying Drugs



- ♦ Class of Drug: Stimulant
  - ♦ Speeds up the nervous system; increases heart rate, breathing rate, and blood pressure
  - ♦ Examples: caffeine, cocaine (illegal drug), nicotine (in tobacco)



# Classifying Drugs

- ♦ Class of Drug: Hallucinogen
  - ♦ Affects the senses and causes a person to see, feel, or hear things that do not exist
  - ♦ Examples: ecstasy (illegal drug), LSD (illegal drug), marijuana (illegal drug)





# Review

1. What is a **drug**?
  - A. changes the body's functions and affects the body, mind, or behavior
2. What is a medicine?
  - A. a legal drug that can help protect people from sickness, or treat or cure a sickness
3. What two things should you never do with your medicine?
  - A. never take more than is prescribed
  - B. never take (or give) medicine that belongs to someone else



# Review

4. What is an illegal drug?
  - A. a drug that it is illegal to sell, buy, or use
5. What can illegal drugs do to your body?
  - A. can damage organs so badly they do not function properly
  - B. the heart may stop beating
  - C. the person may stop breathing



# Classifying Drugs

- ♦ Laws control where people can buy different medicines.
- ♦ These laws divide medicine into two general classifications.





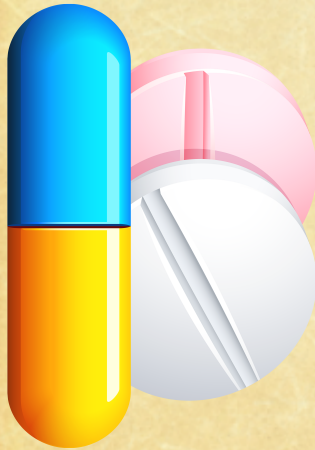
# Classifying Drugs

- ♦ A **prescription medicine** is a drug that must be prescribed, or ordered, by a doctor or other health-care professional.
- ♦ This person knows how to choose the proper drug.
- ♦ The patient's age, size, and medical history help determine the right medicine and the right dose.





# Classifying Drugs

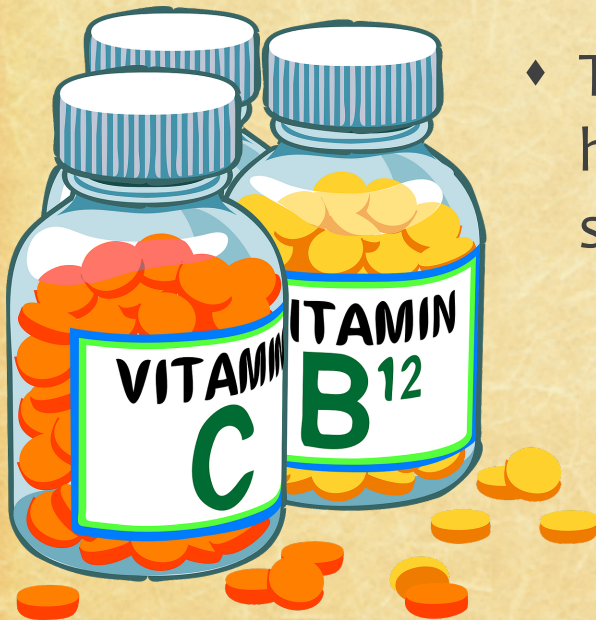


- ♦ Prescription medicines can help in many ways.
- ♦ Stimulants are sometimes used to help people with attention deficits / hyperactive disorder (ADHD).
- ♦ Depressants help people who have seizures caused by epilepsy.
- ♦ Analgesics help people who suffer from pain.



# Classifying Drugs

- ♦ A drug that does not need a prescription is called an over-the-counter medicine (OTC drug).
- ♦ Aspirin, antacids, and certain allergy pills are some examples of OTC drugs.



- ♦ These drugs might be given for headaches, fevers, upset stomachs, or allergies.



# Classifying Drugs



- ♦ Some OTC drugs are less powerful than prescription medicines.
- ♦ Many are the same strength as the prescription form of these drugs.
- ♦ OTC drugs are considered helpful if people follow the package directions.
- ♦ They can still be harmful if misused.



# Drug Safety and Abuse

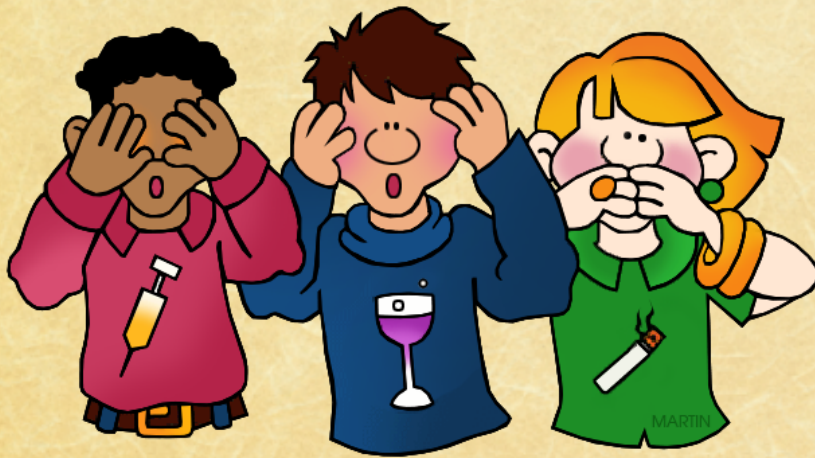
- ♦ Many people live responsibly lives, and they do not want to do anything that would harm their own bodies.
- ♦ However, some people are not responsible.
- ♦ They abuse medications or use illegal drugs
- ♦ They often try to get others to act in similar irresponsible ways.





# Drug Safety and Abuse

- ♦ Some teenagers abuse prescription drugs because they think it is safer than using illegal drugs.
- ♦ They might not realize it but abusing drugs and prescription medications can be deadly.



- ♦ Follow these guidelines for medicine safety:



# Drug Safety and Abuse

## Guidelines for Medicine Safety

- ♦ Recognize that God wants you to take care of your body
- ♦ Never decide on your own which medicine to take
- ♦ Always follow the directions for taking a medicine exactly
- ♦ Never take medicine for any reason other than treating the illness that it was designed for
- ♦ Never take medicine that was prescribed for someone else
- ♦ Be familiar with a medication's side effects before taking the medicine.



# Drug Safety and Abuse



- ♦ If people abuse their bodies by using medicines improperly, or taking illegal drugs such as cocaine or marijuana, they can forget what is important in life.
- ♦ People who misuse drugs or use illegal drugs are not following God's plan.

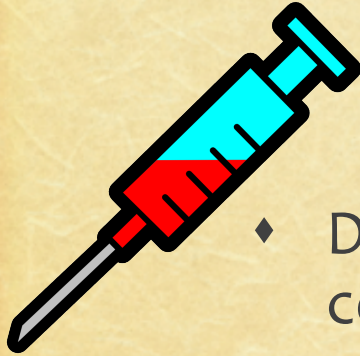


# Review

1. What are the two main classifications of drugs?
  - A. prescription medication and OTC
2. What is a prescription medication?
  - A. a drug that must be prescribed, or ordered, by a doctor or other health-care professional
3. What is an over-the-counter medication?
  - A. a drug that does not need a prescription



# Drug Safety and Abuse

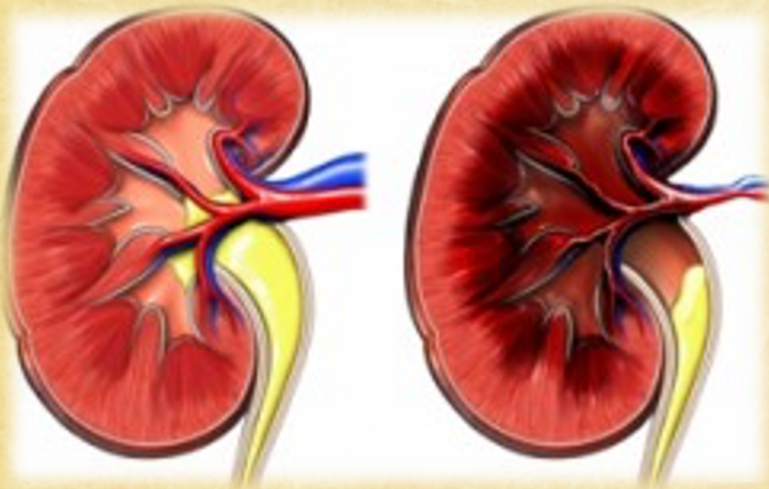


- ♦ Anabolic steroids are drugs made to act like certain hormones.
- ♦ Doctors prescribe them for some medical conditions, but some people abuse them to get larger muscles.
- ♦ You may have heard in the news about some famous athletes who have used steroids.
- ♦ The athletes lost the support of their fans who believed they had reached their goals dishonestly. More importantly, they may have damaged their long-term health.



# Drug Safety and Abuse

- ♦ Many people stay away from steroids. That is good!
- ♦ Steroids do a lot of damage.



- ♦ They can cause young people to stop growing, raise blood pressure, cause severe acne, and can have harmful effects on the body's organs.



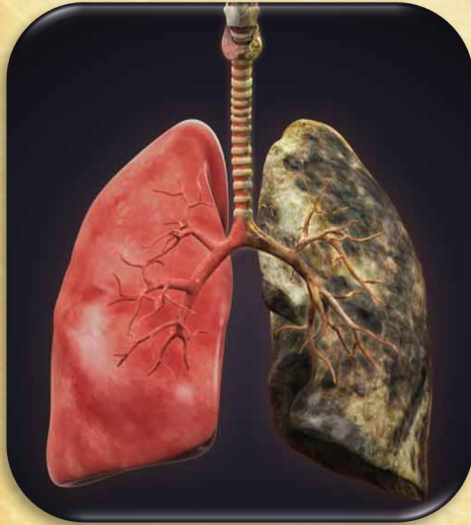
# Drug Safety and Abuse

- ♦ Other people think they will feel good by sniffing or inhaling substances that were never meant to go into the human body. This is drug abuse!
- ♦ These abusers will slowly inhale certain household products such as hair spray or paint thinner, which can make a person feel intoxicated, or drunk.





# Drug Safety and Abuse



- ♦ But the chemicals in these products take the place of oxygen in the lungs.
- ♦ As the chemicals travel through the body, they can damage the brain, heart, kidneys, and liver.
- ♦ Inhalants can cause a person to stop breathing or suddenly cause a person's heart to stop beating. Then death occurs.



# Silent Killers

- ♦ Drugs are chemicals that harm your body and can possibly kill you.
- ♦ However, many people who abuse drugs do not realize all the harmful effects these drugs have on their bodies.





# Silent Killers



If you abuse drugs,  
they will abuse you

- ♦ Trying something in your body once can be damaging.
- ♦ Trying something without knowing the risk or thinking that once will not hurt is dangerous behavior.
- ♦ For this reason, many drugs are called “silent killers.”



# Silent Killers

- ♦ In the next lesson, you will learn about two substances that are definitely silent killers – alcohol and tobacco.
- ♦ Although alcohol and tobacco are legal for adults to use, they are illegal for children to use.
- ♦ Many people use these drugs because they do not notice the harmful effects on their bodies right away.





# Silent Killers

- ♦ Alcohol is a powerful liquid drug found in beer, wine, and liquor.
- ♦ Tobacco is a plant with leaves that people smoke or chew.
- ♦ It is in cigarettes, cigars, pipes, snuff, and other products.





# Silent Killers



- ♦ One of the dangerous poisons found in tobacco is nicotine.
- ♦ Nicotine is a powerful addictive drug.
- ♦ Once a person starts using nicotine, it is difficult to stop.



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# Review

6. What are the two main classifications of drugs?
  - A. prescription medication and OTC
7. What is a prescription medication?
  - A. a drug that must be prescribed, or ordered, by a doctor or other health-care professional
8. What is an over-the-counter medication?
  - A. a drug that does not need a prescription



# Review

9. What is a silent killer?

A. when you try something without knowing the risk or thinking that once will not hurt

10. What are two examples of silent killers?

A. alcohol and tobacco

11. What is alcohol?

A. a powerful liquid drug found in beer, wine, and liquor

12. What is tobacco?

A. plant with leaves that people smoke or chew