



**ALWAYS ASK
IF IT'S AN
OPIOID.**

OPIOIDS CAN TAKE AWAY MORE THAN PAIN.

If you're prescribed medication for pain, always ask if it's an opioid.

To ensure you have a good understanding of what you are taking, ask your health professional about;

THE MEDICATION

- Is this an opioid?
- How will this medication help?
- How will I know if it's working?
- How long do I need to take it for?
- When should I stop taking this medication?
- Can I drink alcohol while taking this medication?
- Can I take this with other medication?

THE POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS

- How safe is this medication for me?
- What are the possible side effects I may experience?
- How common are these side effects?
- What should I look out for?
- Can I become dependent on this medication?
- Can I drive or operate heavy machinery?

EXPLORING OTHER OPTIONS

- Are there other options available?
- Is there anything else I can do to support my recovery and wellbeing?

Don't be afraid to ask your health professional to explain things further, or to repeat what they've said if you're in doubt. It can be useful to write down key points, or to take a friend or family member with you to support your conversation.