



MEDICATION SAFETY

CONVERSATION STARTERS

SAFE STORAGE IDEAS

Where do you keep your prescription drugs?

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------|
| ✓ Locked kitchen cabinet | ⊘ Nightstand |
| ✓ Safe | ⊘ Kitchen counter |
| ✓ Lockbox | ⊘ Bathroom |
| ✓ Locked closet | ⊘ On top of refrigerator |
| | ⊘ Any unlocked cabinet or drawer |

CHILD-PROOFING IS NOT ENOUGH

All ages are at risk for prescription drug misuse, abuse and diversion. Taking a medication not prescribed to you is dangerous — and against the law — at any age.

ONLY TAKE AS MANY AS YOU NEED

You should ALWAYS take antibiotics until they're gone, but not all medications are like that. If I tell you to only take this medication for as many days as you feel symptoms, **for your safety**, only take as many as you need.

DON'T SAVE MEDS FOR A “RAINY DAY”

Self-medicating with leftover prescription drugs in the future can be dangerous since some medications are highly addictive. If you have unused medication, someone could steal it, and since you're not actively taking it, you may not notice.

DISPOSE OF UNUSED DRUGS PROMPTLY

When you stop taking a medication or one becomes expired — over the counter or prescribed — dispose of it promptly at a medication disposal location. Our closest location is:

(Find it at ktracs.ks.gov/consumers/medication-safety)

HOW OTHERS ACCESS PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

Prescription drug misuse occurs when people take medications not prescribed to them. Mostly, people get access to these drugs through someone they know, through buying, sharing or stealing from a friend or family member.

MORE PATIENT TIPS: [KTRACS.KS.GOV/CONSUMERS](https://ktracs.ks.gov/consumers)