

## **Opioids and Their Receptors: Present and Emerging Concepts in Opioid Drug Discovery II**

When you have a mild headache or muscle ache, an over-the-counter pain reliever is usually enough to make you feel better. But if your pain is more severe, your doctor might recommend something stronger: a prescription opioid.

Opioids are a type of narcotic pain medication. They can have serious side effects if you don't use them correctly. For people who have an opioid addiction, their problem often started with a prescription.

If you need to take opioids to control your pain, here are some ways to make sure you're taking them as safely as possible.

## Reference

[Pharmacology Research and textbook 1](#)

[Practical Insulin: A Handbook for Prescribing Providers](#)