**Facts**

- College students have a higher rate of drug abuse than the general public.
- More than half of students with an Adderall or other ADHD drug prescription have been asked to sell the medication to peers and friends.
- Almost every student who abuses prescription drugs in college gets the drug from a friend or classmate with a legal prescription.
- Most college students who abuse narcotic pain killers begin using after being legally prescribed them for an athletic injury, migraine or other common ailment.
- Studies at some colleges show as many as 30% of students have abused Adderall.
- Nearly 1 in 4 college students meet the medical criteria for substance abuse.

**Resources**

VMI Cadet Counseling Center  
540-464-7667  
Cadetcounseling@vmi.edu

SAMHSA’s National Helpline  
1-800-662-HELP (24/7)

Narcotics Anonymous  
1-800-777-1515

Rockbridge Area Community Services Board  
540-463-3141  
Crisis Hotline:  
1-855-222-2046 (24/7)

**Adderall and Prescription Narcotics**

**Not Safe. Not Legal. Not “Not A Big Deal.”**

Created by: VMI Police Department
**ADDERALL**

**What is Adderall?**
Adderall is a prescription amphetamine medication, generally used to treat Attention Deficit Disorder.

**What is Adderall abuse?**
College students across the country have turned to using Adderall to help them stay awake or focus when studying. Many students believe that the misuse of Adderall is safe or legal because it is a medication and comes from a doctor. This is not true. There can be serious legal and medical results of Adderall misuse.

**Side Effects**
- Addiction
- Increased Blood Pressure
- Insomnia
- Changes to sex drive
- Constipation/Diarrhea
- Overdose

**When mixed with alcohol:**
- Chest pain
- Irregular Heart rate
- Seizures
- Hallucinations
- Shortness of breath
- Death

**NARCOTICS**

**What are narcotics?**
Narcotics or “opioids” are a variety of substances that dull the senses and relieve pain. Examples include the illicit drug heroin and medications like OxyContin, Vicodin, codeine, morphine, methadone, and fentanyl.

**What is narcotic/opioid abuse?**
Besides their medical use, narcotics/opioids produce a general sense of well-being by reducing tension, anxiety, and aggression. These effects are helpful in a therapeutic setting but contribute to the drugs’ abuse. Abusers may obtain narcotics from friends, family members, the internet, by stealing them or by obtaining fraudulent prescriptions.

**Side Effects**
- Drowsiness
- Confusion
- Nausea
- Constipation
- Euphoria
- Addiction/withdrawal
- Slowed breathing
- Death

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**Consequences of Prescription Drug Abuse**

- Adderall and Narcotics are Schedule II drugs under the Federal Drug Control Act. This is the same classification as cocaine, heroin, or meth. This also means that possessing any of these medications without a prescription is a **FELONY**.
- Sharing your prescription with any other person constitutes distribution of a Schedule II drug. You can be guilty of distributing, even if you do not receive any payment. This is also a **FELONY**.
- If any VMI/ROTC routine drug testing shows the presence of Adderall or narcotics in a cadet who does not have a valid prescription or shows these present in higher than prescribed levels, the cadet will be **DISMISSED**.
- Most seriously, abuse of prescription medications can lead to **ADDICTION** or **DEATH**. Recovery from an addiction to prescription medication generally requires professional, medical help. Withdrawal can be lengthy and painful. Fatal overdose can occur quickly.