

TOOLBOX TALK #4

PREVENTING PRESCRIPTION DRUG ABUSE

Prescription drug abuse is a rising epidemic that can significantly affect the construction workplace. Symptoms of prescription drug abuse can be hard to spot. However, if you suspect an employee is abusing or addicted to a prescription medication, contact human resources or your employee assistance program.

Behaviors that may indicate a worker has a prescription drug-related problem include:

- Lack of focus
- Poor decision-making
- Declining work quality
- Poor judgment
- Unusual carelessness
- Frequently missing work

To help prevent drug misuse:

- Always follow your doctor's recommended dosage
- Keep medications in their original containers
- Dispose of leftover or expired drugs safely

For more information on disposal, go to www.nsc.org/disposalresources .

