

Injuries And Emergency Room Visits From Xanax Mis-Use Skyrocket

As doctors and law makers struggle to reduce the rate of opiate based prescription drugs emergency room visits from alprazolam (Xanax) have increased dramatically.

Cases of emergencies from mis-use of Xanax ave risen from 57,419 in 2005 to 123,744 in 2011. The problem is two-fold, many doctors are over-prescribing alprazolam making the drug more widely available and a lack of education about the potential for serious hazards.

It's no secret that our medical system over prescribes many drugs today including everything from antibiotics to opiate-based pain killers, however this trend is having a large array of negative consequences that include everything from creating antibiotic resistant bacteria, higher medical costs, and in the case of Xanax, many more emergency room visits from accidents and addiction problems from intentional mis-use.

In some cases doctors will become complacent in their care and look for a quick-fix to make their patient happy. Xanax is becoming a medication handed out by physicians for any patient complaints that the physician feels will be reduced by a calmer patient.

The protocol for prescribing this serious medication is way too lax. Xanax is becoming the new valium which used to be referred to as mother's little helper. These E.R. visits will continue to increase until the medical community comes to grips with the fact that medicating patients is only a bandage and the underlying problems need to be addressed.

As a [personal injury attorney serving Bradenton Florida](#) for more than 30 years, I have witnessed the negative effects of over prescribed drugs on our local residents. While the drugs themselves are new and different, the problems they cause are all too familiar. Over dose, emergencies from combining with non-compatible drugs, problems from taking with alcohol and increased illegitimate access. Even the environment has been negatively impacted by over-prescribing as many drugs have turned up in streams and rivers in significant amounts.

The first line of defense is accurate prescription from physicians, however failing that, kit will be on the shoulders of law makers and regulators to make sure use of potentially dangerous drugs does not spiral out of control and harm our communities.

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