

WHAT YOU NEED
TO KNOW ABOUT

FENTANYL & OPIOIDS

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VENTURA COUNTY
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH



What are opioids?



- Opioids are drugs that **relieve pain** by attaching to nerve cells throughout the brain and body.
- They may be prescribed for **acute or chronic pain**.

Opioids are extremely addictive.

- May be abused to induce euphoria or a “high”
- When it’s too hard to stop using, people may buy illegal opioids



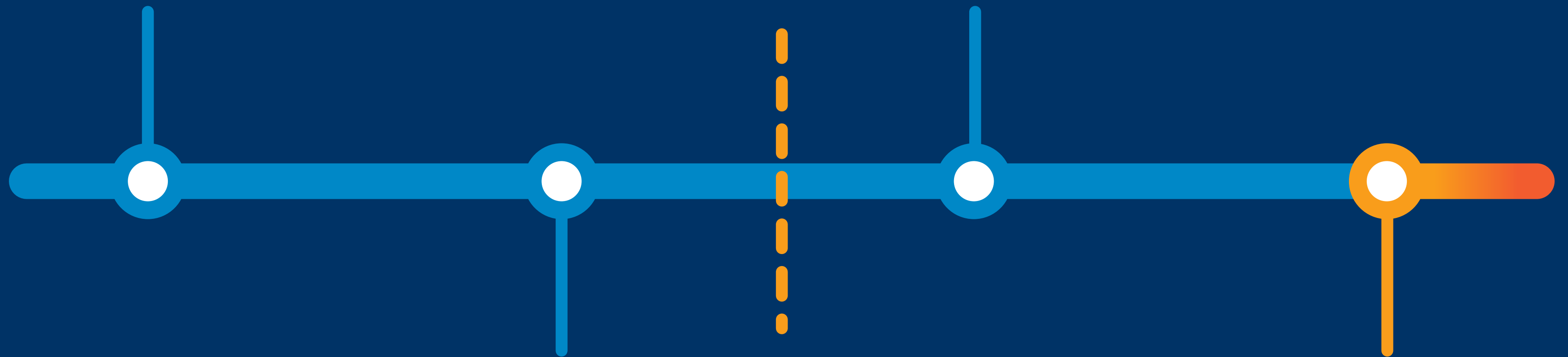
> 5 DAYS
of use
can lead to
dependence

BEFORE

Stages of Addiction

Experimentation

Misuse



Social/Recreational Use

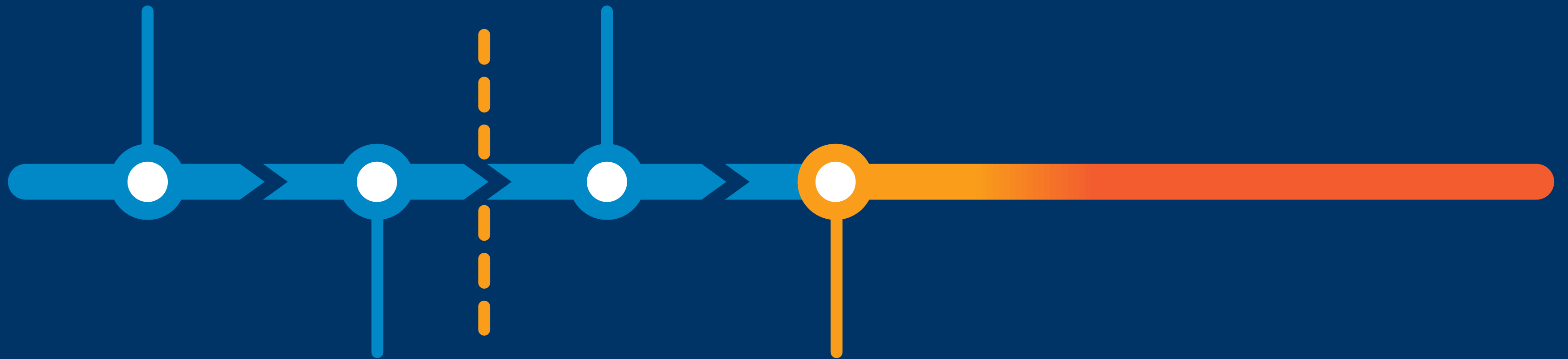
Addiction

NOW

Stages of Addiction


Experimentation

Misuse



Social/Recreational Use

Addiction



**Addiction takes
over everything
that was once
important.**

Types of Opioids

- **Prescription pain medications** such as Oxycodone (OxyContin[®]) or Hydrocodone (Vicodin[®])
- **Heroin** – surged in 2000s
- **Fentanyl** – prescription or illicit



What is fentanyl?

Fentanyl is an extremely powerful synthetic opioid.

It can be found in fake pills and any street drug.

People are overdosing and dying from fentanyl.



As little as **2 milligrams**
of fentanyl can be lethal.

You can't see it, smell it or taste it.





Watch the 30-second PSA:

**SPEAK UP ON
FENTANYL.**



LIVE

👁️ 0.71K



Fake Pills Look Like the Real Thing

Could you tell which has fentanyl?



Fake Pills Look Like the Real Thing

Could you tell which has fentanyl?



REAL



FAKE

Like chocolate chips in cookie dough, **illicit fentanyl is often unevenly distributed when mixed into pills.**



Sold on Social Media

- **Fake pills are easy for teens to get via social media**
- They may think they are real pills such as OxyContin, Xanax, or Adderall
- Teens may have **more than one social media account** on a platform – one they share with parents and one private



Rainbow Pills



- Created in appealing colors but are **fakes** made with fentanyl
- All children should be warned **never to take pills that aren't prescribed to them**



Overdose Can Happen Quickly

- An overdose slows down breathing and can lead to death.
- Even people who are long-time users can overdose, especially after a period of not using.
- Mixing with other drugs increases the risk.

Naloxone Saves Lives

- **Call for information:**
1-805-667-NO-OD (1-805-667-6663)
- **Find closest location:**
www.VenturaCountyResponds.org/naloxone



Naloxone is a safe and legal antidote to reverse opioid overdose.

**If you or someone you care about is
struggling with addiction, help is available.**



ACCESS LINE

1-844-385-9200

Toll-free • 24/7

Questions?

Thank You

Learn More:

www.VenturaCountyResponds.org

www.FentanylVenturaCounty.org

