



# Epi Moves

A Bi-Monthly Epidemiology Newsletter  
Manatee County Health Department Epidemiology  
Program



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## Manatee County Health Department

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To report diseases or request information  
call (Mon-Fri, 8-5, Area code 941):

Epidemiology	748-0747 Ext. 1235
HIV/AIDS	(813) 307-8011
STD	748-0747 Ext. 1264 or 1265
Animal Bite	748-0747 Ext. 1340
Tuberculosis	748-0747 Ext. 1264 or 1265
Foodborne illness	748-0747 Ext. 1369
<b>Non-business hours</b>	<b>748-0747</b>

*Epi Moves is a bimonthly newsletter  
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## Prescription Drug Abuse: A Growing Epidemic

In the state of Florida, prescription drugs accounted for **79% of all drug-related deaths in 2009**, and the pain killer oxycodone caused the most drug-related deaths. (FDLE)

### **In Manatee county:**

- There were 63 prescription drug-related deaths in 2009. (District 12 Medical Examiner)
- The crude 3-year death rate for unintentional poisoning from 2006-2008 is 16.6 deaths per 100,000. This is above the state rate of 13.2 per 100,000. (FL DOH Vital Statistics)
- Manatee County averaged 2 deaths per year in teens ages 16-19 for unintentional drug poisonings from 2000-2009. (FL DOH Vital Statistics)
- Since 2003, exposure calls to Poison Control for prescription drugs have increased over 200%. (Florida Poison Control)
- Deaths from unintentional poisonings have been above the state rate since 2003. (FL DOH Vital Statistics)
- In 2008, unintentional poisoning deaths were the leading cause of death in ages 20-44. (FL DOH Vital Statistics)
- According to the Florida Youth Substance Abuse Survey of 2008, lifetime prevalence rates for prescription drug use are higher in Manatee County than in the state of Florida as a whole. In particular, Manatee students report higher lifetime use of prescription pain reliever use (9.5% in Manatee versus 8% for state).

### Here is How You Can Help...

- Make prescription interaction and addiction warnings clear to your patients.
- Sign up for the **Prescription Drug Monitoring Database** when it goes live in to ensure you are in communication with other medical professionals and pharmacies about patient prescriptions.
- Share best practices with your colleagues and your patients about appropriate prescription practices.
- Be on the look out for upcoming continuing education courses on prescription drug misuse.
- Educate your patients on how to dispose of medicine appropriately. It is unsafe to flush medicine down the toilet or sink! Residents can dispose of uncontrolled medications safely at the Manatee County Sheriff's Office.



A Prescription for a  
Safe Community and a  
Clean Environment

## Pharmaceutical Take Back Program

Bring unused or expired prescriptions and over-the-counter medication to the following locations for proper disposal!

Saturday, January 22, 2011 10AM until 2 PM

3913 Manatee Avenue West  
Bradenton, FL  
(Westgate Shopping Ctr)

9005 US 301 North  
Parrish, FL  
(Parkwood Square)

**Publix.**

7290 55<sup>th</sup> Ave East  
Bradenton, FL  
(Twelve Oaks Plaza)

6030 14<sup>th</sup> Street West  
Bradenton, FL  
(Bayshore Gardens)

8330 Market Street  
Sarasota, FL (Lakewood Ranch)

**Permanent Drop Off :**  
**Manatee County Sheriff's Office, 600 US Highway 301, Bradenton**



**Publix.**

