Poll Supports Greater Patient-Provider Communication Around Prescription Opioid Safety

Enhanced patient-provider communication plays a significant role in preventing the potential misuse and abuse of prescription opioids, according to a national poll from Morning Consult commissioned by Allied Against Opioid Abuse (AAOA).

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**Healthcare Providers Are Trusted Sources of Information**

- **Nine in 10** adults report they feel comfortable speaking with a healthcare professional and asking questions related to prescription opioid safety.
- **Nearly 90%** of adults say they trust doctors and pharmacists when it comes to receiving information about prescription opioids and other medicines.

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**Patient-Provider Engagement Helps Change Behaviors**

- **Nearly 2/3** of adults overall report they would be more likely to safely store prescription opioids if their healthcare provider or pharmacist spoke with them about doing so.

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**Patients Report Talking About Prescription Opioid Safety with Providers**

- **More than 1/4** of adults report their healthcare provider or pharmacist have spoken to them about safe storage and disposal of prescription opioids.

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**Additional Education and Engagement Needed**

- **More than 1/3 of adults overall (34%)** said they would keep leftover pills in case they needed them later.
- The majority of adults believe:
  - Provider-Patient Conversations (85%)
  - Awareness and Availability of Alternative Therapies (85%)
  - Improved Education for Healthcare Providers (84%) have the greatest ability to help address the prescription opioid abuse crisis.

Source: The national poll, conducted by Morning Consult and commissioned by AAOA, surveyed more than 2,200 adults from March 10-13, 2020.

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