

## **One in 20 US adults are addicted to prescription narcotics.**

Report from the US Centers for Disease Control (CDC) recently reported that now one in 20 US adults are addicted to prescription narcotics. To quote the Director of the CDC Thomas Frieden, MD; ***“Physicians have supplanted drug pushers on the street corners” as the most important suppliers of Illicit narcotics.*** Between 2000-2010 oxycodone sales jumped 16 fold in areas. 14, 800 overdose deaths from opioid pain medications occurred in 2008 and the CDC expects those number to continue go up. Lastly, in 2010 pharmacies doled out 69 tons of oxycodone and 42 tons of hydrocodone the equivalent of giving every single US citizen 40-5mg Percocets and 24-5mg Vicodin tablets.

***CDC Vital Signs: Overdose of Prescription Opioid Pain Relievers – United States, 1999-2008; 2011 Press release, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Nov. 4, 2011.***