



Welcome to Opiates Anonymous,

We wish to assure you that we do not have a monopoly on a solution for opiate addiction. What we can offer you is a solution that has worked for us and others. If you are willing and open-minded perhaps it may work for you as well.

At our meetings, our members share their experience so others can identify with what we were like and how we were able to find a solution for addiction based on the instructions laid out in the book: *Alcoholics Anonymous*. We use the book *Alcoholics Anonymous* as our guide because it is the original text from which all twelve step programs were formed. We prefer its clear-cut directions.

Through identification with our experiences, new members may discover that we were once just as hopeless as they were but that we have since recovered from a hopeless state of mind, body, and spirit. Because identification is of paramount importance to the person who is seeking recovery, Opiates Anonymous has a single purpose as outlined in our Fifth Tradition: "Each group has but one primary purpose - to carry its message to the addict who still suffers."

Our First Tradition is about unity and the other traditions were established to help preserve the unity. It has also been our members' collective experience that unity within the meeting place can best be maintained if we are all on the same page. "Being on the same page" means that we have one set of instructions on how to recover. One set of instructions unifies us in a common solution. Having a simple, consistent, and clear cut message of how we have recovered avoids confusion for the person who is new to Opiates Anonymous.

Our Third Tradition is about membership: "The only requirement for Opiates Anonymous membership is a desire to stop using opiates and all other mind altering substances."

Our First Step is: "We admitted that we were powerless over opiates and all other mind altering substances - that our lives had become unmanageable." As addicts, we must admit to our innermost selves that we can never safely ingest any mind altering substance because we will set off the terrible cycle of addiction all over again.

If you think that you may have a problem with opiates and other mind altering substances, attending one of our meetings may help you decide if you are an addict. Only you can decide whether or not you are an addict.

www.opa12.org