



Oklahoma Institute for Child Advocacy
Supports SB 951 (Sen. Laster/Rep. Cox)
To prevent youth access to dangerous products

Facts about Dextromethorphan (DXM)

- At high doses, dextromethorphan (DXM) acts as a powerful hallucinogen producing psychedelic effects similar to those of phencyclidine (PCP) and Ketamine, both of which are powerful controlled dangerous substances.
- Nationally in 2004, an estimated 12,584 emergency department visits involved pharmaceuticals containing DXM.
- The Oklahoma Poison Control Center reports that DXM abuse cases are on the rise. In 2006, 14.7% of all reported intentional substance abuse cases in Oklahoma were DXM. DXM abuse is up from 11.6% in 2005 to 14.7% in 2006.
- One in ten (2.4 million) teens reports abusing cough medicine to get high.
- The number of Oklahoma Poison Control Center’s reported Coricidin HBP and other dextromethorphan (DXM) intentional cases in 2006 (as of November 27) were:

Coricidin HBP	77
Other DXM products	27
<i>Total DXM abuse</i>	<i>104</i>

- A report of the American Medical Association (AMA) 2004 Interim Meeting cites adopted AMA directives on the abuse of DXM. The adopted directives include (but are not limited to) the following:
 - The Federal Trade Commission consider taking actions against purveyors of bulk DXM for sale to individuals, particularly those committing unfair or deceptive acts in conducting business over the Internet; and
 - ***The AMA supports legislation preventing the over-the-counter sale of DXM products to individuals under the age of 18.***

Facts about Inhalents / “Huffing”

- 6th and 7th graders are at the highest risk for inhalant abuse.
- Inhalant use is up among Oklahoman youth. In 2003, 9.9% of youth grades 9-12 reported use compared to 12% in 2005 (21.2% increase).
- Inhalant abuse is the second drug of choice for 6th graders in Oklahoma, with 10% reporting inhalant use.
- There has been a troubling increase in inhalant use (one in five teens has tried huffing a household product to get high).
- One in five students in the United States has used inhalants by the 8th grade – National Inhalant and Poison Prevention Network statistic.
- ***Approximately 30 states currently prohibit inhalant sales to youth.***