

Drugs on Saturday to combat “Prescription drug abuse”

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News release:^[1] US Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA),
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“Got Drugs?” is a drive by US DEA calling its citizens to
dispose of unused prescription drugs on April 30, 2011,

News and Views

Saturday. More than 5300 sites were established for this nationwide free event in an effort to prevent pill abuse and theft. The idea is to collect expired, unused, and unwanted prescription drugs that languish at home which are potentially dangerous.

VIEWS

“Prescription drug abuse” is a more common problem than the abuse of illegal substances. Evidences point that our home front (India) is the main source of drugs sold through illegally operating Internet pharmacies.^[2]

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Apart from creating a fertile field for the development of antimicrobial resistance, other potentially harmful consequences range from sleep disturbances to death.

It is right time that the government takes effective measures to check prescription drugs sold as over the counter drugs. Public awareness through mass education is another untouched area.

REFERENCES

1. Available from: <http://www.justice.gov/dea/pubs/pressrel/pr041911a.html> [Last accessed on 2011 May 3].
2. UN panel: Prescription drug abuse becoming a global problem Available from: <http://www.earthtimes.org/articles/news/310977,un-panel-prescription-drug-abuse-becoming-a-global-problem.html> [Last accessed on 2011 May 3].

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