

Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH)  
Ontario Federation of Community Mental Health and Addiction Programs  
St. Joseph's Care Group, Thunder Bay

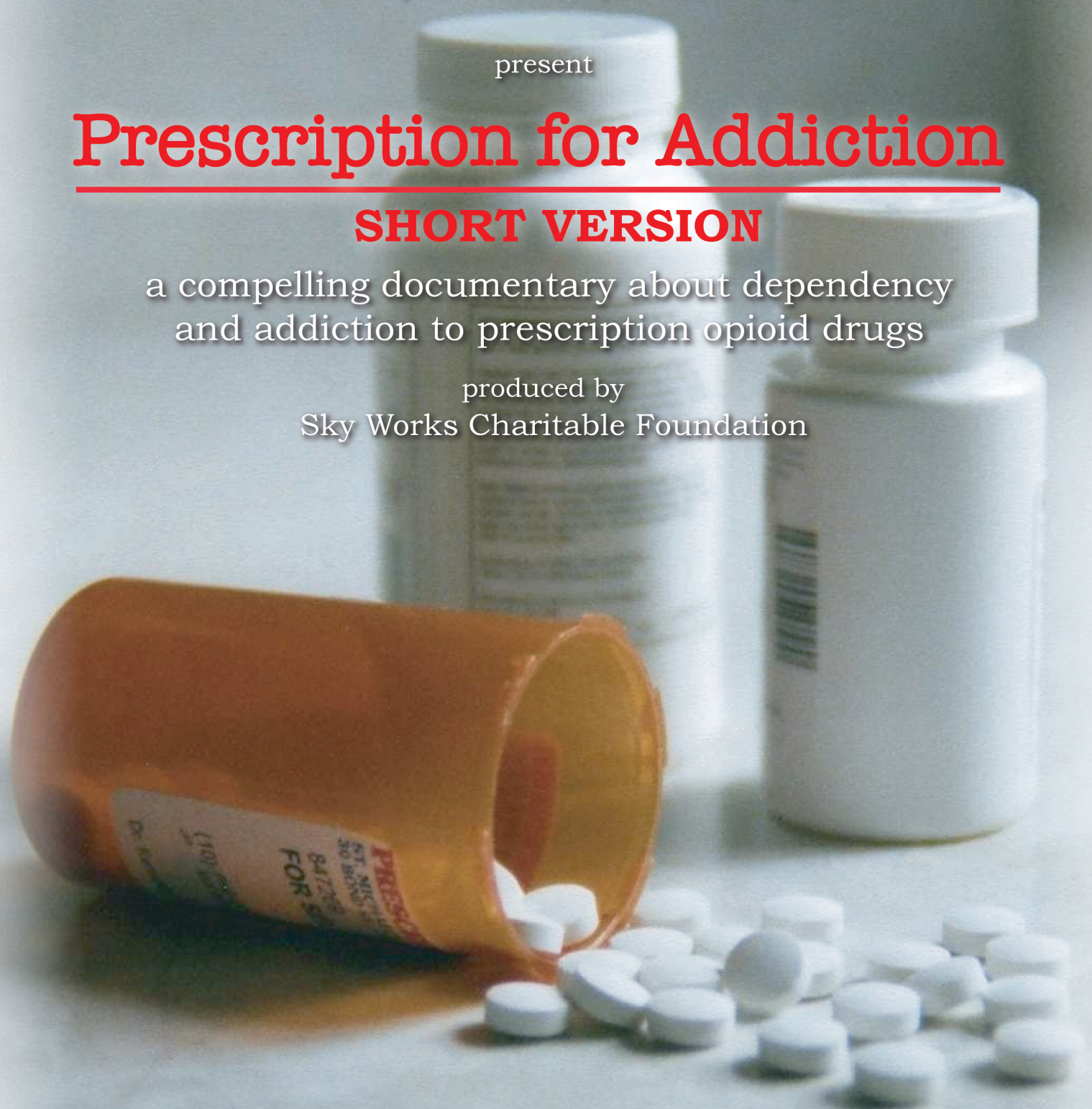
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# Prescription for Addiction

## SHORT VERSION

a compelling documentary about dependency  
and addiction to prescription opioid drugs

produced by  
Sky Works Charitable Foundation



*"Everyone knew that I did not want to be on anything that was addictive. They said, 'So long as you are taking them for pain, you won't become addicted. You won't have a problem with them.'"*

Lisa, car accident survivor who became opioid dependent

*"The problem is large. People are dying. People are breaking into pharmacies for them.... It's an epidemic."*

Chris, former "oxy" user

# Prescription for Addiction

## SHORT VERSION



Opioid addiction is a health and social crisis that crosses all social, economic and cultural barriers. Whether it begins with efforts to treat pain or through illegal recreational use of opiate drugs the consequences can be devastating for individuals, families and communities. *Prescription for Addiction* features compelling first-hand stories of opioid dependence. We meet Lisa, a car accident survivor, Charles, a seniors advocate, and Chris, a youth recovering from “oxy” addiction. Parents tell the story of their son, Ben, who committed suicide because he saw no way out of his opiate addiction. We travel to a First Nations reserve where leaders are grappling with a serious prescription pill problem in their community. And we meet Scott, a former opioid user who is undergoing methadone maintenance treatment in a determined effort to turn his life around.

*Prescription for Addiction* includes insights from doctors and other health professionals about the risks and benefits of opioids, the responsibilities of prescribing doctors, and the use of methadone and other treatment approaches in helping people who are opioid dependent. The film is appropriate for a wide range of audiences including health professionals, addiction service providers, people struggling with addiction, their families, law enforcement personnel, educators, youth, the elderly, aboriginal communities, and anyone who uses health care.

This 39-minute version of *Prescription for Addiction* has been condensed from a longer 85-minute documentary. It contains new material, as well as a Special Features section with additional interviews about opioid dependence and treatment. The film comes with a comprehensive User Guide offering support for facilitators, teachers and others wishing to screen the film in their communities. *Prescription for Addiction* opens the door for people to talk about an issue that is affecting communities across Canada. The film offers hope to those struggling with opioid addiction and dependence, and much-needed awareness for those not already affected by this serious health and social issue.

PRESCRIPTION FOR ADDICTION Produced by SKY WORKS CHARITABLE FOUNDATION  
Director / Editor DAVID ADKIN Producer LAURA SKY Director of Photography JIM AQUILA  
Sound ROSS REDFERN and MARK OBRADOVICH Original Music RUSSELL WALKER

Running Time: 39 minutes

With additional interviews, scene selection, and optional English subtitles for the hearing impaired

To order a copy of *Prescription for Addiction (Short Version)* and its companion User Guide, please contact:

Sales and Distribution, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health  
Toll-free: 1-800-661-1111 In Toronto: 416-595-6059  
E-mail: [publications@camh.net](mailto:publications@camh.net) Website: [www.camh.net](http://www.camh.net)

Free in Ontario until March 2009

A feature-length version of *Prescription for Addiction* is available from: [www.vtape.org](http://www.vtape.org)

*Prescription for Addiction (Short Version)* was commissioned by the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH) in collaboration with the Ontario Federation of Community Mental Health and Addiction Programs and St. Joseph's Care Group, Thunder Bay. The film was made possible by generous funding from Health Canada, and the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care, Government of Ontario. The views expressed in the film do not necessarily represent the views of Health Canada or the Government of Ontario.

