Using Opioids Safely: High Risk Medications to Avoid

- Alcohol
  - Advise against use
  - May rapidly release opioid (dose dump) when certain ER/LA opioids are exposed to alcohol

- Benzodiazepines and sedative hypnotics
  - Highest risk of unintentional overdose
  - Potentiating effect on sedation and respiratory depression

- Medications that interact with:
  - Methadone (multiple)
  - Tramadol or tapentadol (SSRI or SNRIs; risk of serotonin syndrome)

- Cannabis-based products*

- Certain muscle relaxers (Carisoprodol)

*Evidence exists that cannabis-based products may be opioid sparing in some individuals.