



National Transportation Safety Board

Safety Issues

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Medical Information for Pilots

- Pilots may not appreciate the potentially impairing effects of some common drugs
- No FAA drug reference for pilots



Medical Resources for Pilots

- FAA Publications
 - *Medications and Flying*
 - *Guide for Aviation Medical Examiners*
- Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA)
 - Member resources

Medical Resources for Pilots

- General Aviation Joint Steering Committee (GAJSC)
 - 2013 Letter to pilots
 - 2014 Initiatives
 - Drug database
 - Training course

Controlled Substances

Evidence of increased use of controlled substances is consistent with data for the US population



Prescribing Controlled Substances

- American Pain Society & American Academy of Pain Medicine prescribing guidelines
 - Counsel patients about driving and work risks
- State prescribing guidelines for pain
 - Some address driving risks but not all modes of transportation

Health Care Providers' Communication with Patients: Potentially Impairing Drugs

- Pilot drug use trends consistent with US population
- Health care providers
 - Prescribe drugs
 - May be involved in choice of over-the-counter drugs
- Opportunity to discuss potential transportation safety risks

Marijuana

- Most commonly identified illicit drug
- Increased from 1.6% to 3.0%



Marijuana Use Policy

- DOT clarified its marijuana policy
 - Marijuana use not acceptable
- FAA regulation limited to substance dependence



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