

Some Walgreens Stop Carrying Popular Painkiller

Last Update: 3/13 11:46 pm

The ABC Action News Investigators have discovered that one of the Tampa Bay area's largest drugstore chains has made a major policy change.

Some Walgreens stores are not carrying Oxycontin, the widely used and often addictive painkiller.

The company wouldn't say which stores or how many are not carrying the drug, but ABC Action News investigative reporter Matthew Schwartz found two of the stores, both in Pasco County. One is on Little Road in Port Richey, the other is on U.S. 19 in New Port Richey. Both stores were recently robbed of Oxycontin at gunpoint. Signs are posted on the front doors at the stores, stating that Oxycontin will be available to customers by mail, sent from a central location. A Walgreens spokesperson would not say what the procedure will be for customers to get their prescriptions filled, but said they will provide customers with clear instructions about how they can obtain them.

The spokesperson told the ABC Action News Investigators that the ban is due to the robberies, and that it is temporary.

Dozens of bay area pharmacies have been robbed of prescription painkillers over the past three years, by people addicted to them, and by drug dealers who sell pills on the street.

A Pasco County Sheriff's Office spokesman says law enforcement welcomes any policy that will help security at pharmacies, and that the office "welcomes the change."

A spokesman for the area's other big drugstore chain, CVS, says that company has no plans to stop carrying Oxycontin at any of its stores. Ironically, early Thursday morning (March 13), a CVS in Saint Petersburg was robbed by four gunmen. They got away with \$450 dollars, and an undisclosed amount of...Oxycontin. Five days earlier a CVS in Pinellas Park was also robbed of Oxycontin.

Copyright 2008 The E.W. Scripps Co. All rights reserved. This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten, or redistributed.

[Las Vegas Drug Use](#)
Local criminal defense attorney We'll prove your innocence!
storefront.dexonline.com

[Caught w/ Drugs?](#)
Florida's Ultimate Criminal Defense Helping To Clear Your Name- Call Us
www.TampaDefenseAttorney.com

Find your Dream Home
with
abc ACTION NEWS
&
1-877-MLS EXPERTS
CLICK HERE



Scripps TV Station Group
© 2008 The E.W. Scripps Co.
[Privacy Policy](#) | [User Agreement](#) | [EEO](#)



Comparison Shop at **BizRate** and **Shopzilla**

uSwitch.com compares gas & electricity, home phone, mobile phones, broadband, credit cards, loans and car insurance



This site is hosted and managed by [Inergize Digital Media](#)