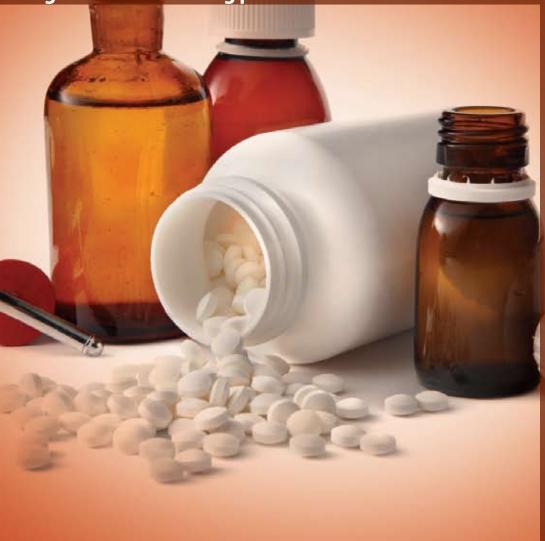
DIDMOU AND W.

that the National Consumers League and the Food and Drug Administration have said that consumers do not recognize the potency of over-the-counter drugs and are not taking products as directed?



The "Take with Care" program was launched because evidence finds that some consumers don't realize the potency of most over-the-counter (OTC) pain relievers, the largest category of these drugs, and therefore may be taking more than the recommended dose or combining these medicines incorrectly.

"OTC pain relievers and fever reducers... can cause serious problems when used by people with certain conditions or those who are taking specific medicines," said FDA Associate Commissioner for External Relations Peter J. Pitts.

According to data from the FDA and the nation's poison control centers, misuse of OTC pain relievers, such as taking too much of a single product, mixing OTC products with the same active ingredient or combining OTC pain relievers with certain prescription drugs, can cause severe and sometimes life-threatening adverse reactions.