Loperamide (also sold under the brand name Imodium®) is a prescription and over-the-counter medication approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration to relieve the symptoms of diarrhea. Loperamide is safe and effective when used as directed. A small but growing number of individuals are intentionally misusing loperamide by consuming very high doses in an attempt to self-manage their opioid withdrawal or to achieve a euphoric high.

There are currently no treatment protocols for loperamide abuse or toxicity. However, it is important to recognize this issue and consider it when a patient presents with unexplained cardiotoxicity.

Taking very high doses of loperamide can lead to serious cardiac events and death.

To learn more, visit LOPERAMIDESAFETY.ORG.