

## Vocabulary: Drug Dosage



### Vocabulary

- Controlled release – a mechanism that slows the release of a *drug* from a pill.
  - Most controlled-release pills are designed so that the drug is embedded in an insoluble coating. The drug is released gradually through tiny holes in the coating.
  - Controlled release may also be called *time release*, *sustained release*, *continuous release*, or *extended release*.
- Dosage – the amount of a drug that is taken at a time.
- Drug – a substance that causes changes in the bodily functions of an organism.
  - Drugs are often used for the treatment of diseases or the alleviation of symptoms, such as pain.
  - Drugs are also used recreationally or to enhance athletic performance. Many recreational and performance-enhancing drugs are illegal.
- Overdose – the ingestion of an unhealthy quantity of a drug.
  - Depending on the type of drug and other factors, an overdose may be extremely harmful and even fatal.
- Target organ – the specific body part that a drug is designed to treat.