

## Online pharmacies: Fact vs. fiction

RUN TIME - :58

### ANCHOR LEDE

Weight loss drugs are more popular than ever, leading people to seek options that are quicker, cheaper and involve less prying questions than a traditional in-person doctor visit.

But, buyer beware, says one OSF HealthCare pharmacist.

Tim Ditman of OSF has more.

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Some red flags to look for:

- Is the website based outside the U.S.?
- Do you start on one website and get pushed to another to complete the transaction?
- Does the site guarantee you cost savings?

OSF pharmacist Casey Zaring:

\*\*\*SOT\*\*\*

Casey Zaring, RPh, PharmD [pronounced ZARE-ing]

OSF HealthCare clinical pharmacist

**"If something is off by a decimal point, it's a tenfold error. It can cause lack of movement in your gastrointestinal tract, obstructions and gallbladder attacks. If a person isn't aware of the risks and talking to a pharmacist, they can upgrade their dose too quickly and cause more adverse effects like dehydration. Also with some of these online websites, there's not continuous monitoring by a health care provider. No labs, check-ins or follow ups." (:41)**

I'm Tim Ditman.

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### ANCHOR TAG

Safe.pharmacy and BeSafeRx are websites you can check to see if a pharmacy is legitimate.