

OPIOID OVERDOSE AND NALOXONE

In Newfoundland and Labrador, there has been a rise in opioid related deaths.

Drug use affects all sectors of society and all ages; from those using daily to those who casually experiment

Opioids

Taken for pain relief or euphoria, including:

- Fentanyl
- OxyContin
- OxyNEO
- Hydrocodone
- Morphine
- Heroin
- Methadone
- Percocet

Fentanyl

- Illicit fentanyl is 50 – 100X more toxic than other opioids;
- Can be hidden in other drugs;
- Small doses can be lethal or cause brain damage.
- **Caution!** Do not touch unknown powders; Avoid contact with eyes, nose and mouth.

Overdose Signs

- Can't be woken up
- Snoring or gurgling
- Not breathing
- Lips or nails are blue
- Cold, clammy skin

Do not let the person sleep;
Call 911.

Naloxone Can Save a Life

Naloxone (trade name Narcan) can restore breathing in the event of a fentanyl or other opioid overdose.

Naloxone is temporary and emergency medical care is still required.

Naloxone has no harmful side effects; it cannot get a person high and is not addictive.

Naloxone is the medication that is administered by Emergency Department staff, RCMP and paramedics if someone is having an opioid overdose.

'TAKE HOME' Naloxone Kits

Free Take Home Naloxone Kits are now available to the public in communities across the Province.



Kits are for individuals at high risk of overdose (current or previous opioid users) and their friends/family, to administer if overdose occurs.

HealthLine (811) has a list of Take Home Naloxone Kit distribution sites.

Kit Contacts can provide a Kit and instruction on how to use it.

Kits include: Overdose information, overdose response instructions, a breathing mask, gloves, safety syringes and 2 ampoules of Naloxone.

As healthcare staff, you can help

Provide a welcoming environment to receive and respond to inquiries.

Know the *Kit Contact* and distribution site in your area. To find out more, ask your Mental Health and Addictions team or call 811.

For more information on opioid overdose:

www.overdoseday.com | www.towardtheheart.com | www.fentanylsafety.com

The Provincial Take Home Naloxone Program is a partnership of:

