

What is Naloxone?

Naloxone, also called NARCAN®, is a prescription medication that reverses an opioid overdose. Naloxone works on opioid street drugs like heroin, and prescription drugs like Oxycontin®, Vicodin®, or Percocet®. Naloxone is available in different forms. The most common form is an intranasal mist. Naloxone is also available as an injection.

Naloxone is completely safe. If it turns out that the situation was not an opioid overdose there is NO negative effect.

Connecticut's Good Samaritan Law protects anyone using Naloxone to help save another person's life.



How does access to Naloxone help the community?

Naloxone gives family members, friends, and bystanders a way to help someone who is experiencing an overdose. Naloxone can save someone's life.

How can I get a Naloxone kit?

Connecticut law allows medical professionals (physicians, pharmacists, surgeons, physician assistants, APRNs, dentists and podiatrists) to prescribe Naloxone. Your family doctor should be able to give you a prescription.

Pharmacists can prescribe Naloxone without a prescription.



For more information about getting a Naloxone kit call The Department of Mental Health & Addiction Services Community Call line: 860-418-7000.

Pharmacists who have been trained and certified can prescribe and give out Naloxone from a pharmacy. For a list of prescribing pharmacists visit Connecticut Department of Consumer Protection website:



www.ct.gov/dcp/Naloxone for a list of Connecticut pharmacists prescribing Naloxone.

Where can I learn to administer Naloxone?

Training materials are available online: www.ct.gov/dmhas/Naloxone



WORRIED THAT SOMEONE YOU LOVE MAY OD?

Learn the signs of overdose, and what **you can** do to **prevent it.**

What are opioids?

Opioids are drugs that include the illegal drug heroin, man-made opioids like fentanyl, and pain relievers you can get legally by prescription, such as oxycodone (Oxycontin®), hydrocodone (Vicodin®), codeine, morphine, and many others.

The most commonly used opioids are:

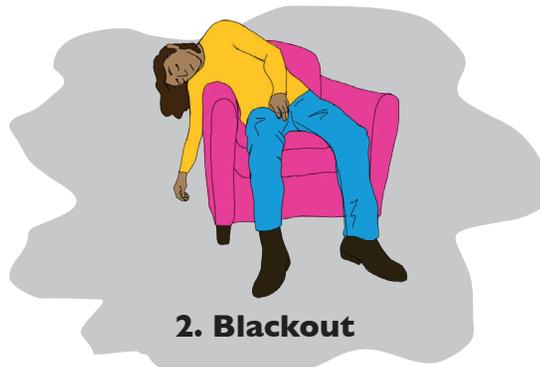
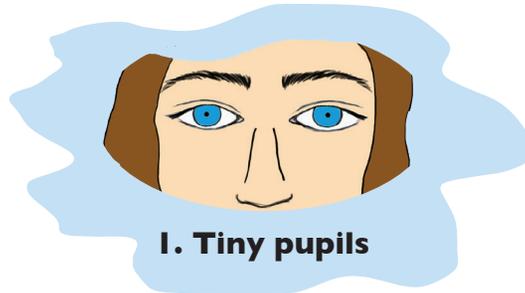
- Heroin
- Vicodin®
- Oxycontin®
- Percocet®
- Fentanyl
- Methadone
- Morphine

Misuse of opioids

Misusing prescription or over-the-counter medicine can be harmful and even life threatening. All medications have side effects, but doctors manage risks for their patients who take medicines as prescribed. Without a doctor's help, people who misuse prescription medicines (whether their own or someone else's) are at risk for serious side effects that can be deadly. Misusing a prescription drug can lead to substance use disorder. Substance use disorder happens when repeated use of alcohol and/or drugs causes significant problems at work, school, or home.

What is opioid overdose?

Opioids effect the part of the brain which controls breathing. In high doses opioids can cause a decrease in the ability to breathe, and possibly death. An opioid overdose often has a mix of three signs and symptoms:



How can I reduce the risk of overdose?

- **Safely store prescription drugs**
Prescription drugs are often easy to get to in the home. That can make it easy for someone to take a medicine when it's no longer needed or when it's prescribed for another family member. Parents should store prescription medications in a safe, secure place and get rid of them properly when they're no longer needed.
- **Get rid of unused medications in Local Drug Collection Boxes.**
To find a drug collection box near you, visit: CT.gov/dcp and type into the search box in the upper right corner of the webpage: *Local Drug Collection Boxes*
- **Carry a Naloxone kit with you.**
Teach friends and family how to use Naloxone.
- **Consider treatment** such as counseling and medication (Medication Assisted Treatment).

**PREPARE TO
SAVE THE LIFE
OF SOMEONE
YOU LOVE**