

UNDERSTANDING OPIOIDS



Identifying an Opioid Overdose & When to Use naloxone

Substance abuse disorders impact the lives of millions of Americans. In an effort to address the problem, patients, first responders, and health care professionals are being trained in the use of naloxone, the treatment of choice to reverse the potentially fatal effects of opioid overdose.

Signs of an Overdose

Any person taking opioid medications that exhibits any of the following signs may have overdosed:

- Extremely pale and/or clammy to the touch
- Body is limp
- Vomiting or making gurgling noises
- Unresponsive to your verbal commands or to touch
- Cannot be awakened from sleep or is unable to speak
- Breathing and/or pulse is very slow or has stopped

In Case of an Overdose

Call 911 immediately and give clear directions to your location. Stay on the line with the 911 dispatcher, and follow the dispatcher's instructions. *Administer the first dose of naloxone. If no improvement after 3 minutes, administer a second dose.* Good Samaritan and third party laws protect you from liability when you give naloxone.



You have an important role in this current public health crisis. Talk to your doctor or pharmacist today about preparing yourself with naloxone.

Understanding Opioids

Know which opioids are being prescribed to better be aware of the dangers.

COMMON OPIOIDS INCLUDE:

GENERIC	BRAND
HYDROCODONE	Vicodin, Lorcet, Lortan, Norco, Zohydro
OXYCODONE	Percocet, OxyContin, Roxicodone, Percodan
MORPHINE	MS Contin, Kadian, Embeda, Avinza
CODEINE	Tylenol with Codeine, TyCo, Tylenol #3
FENTANYL	Duragesic, Actiq
HYDROMORPHONE	Dilaudid
OXYMORPHONE	Opana
TRAMADOL	Ultram, Ultracet
HEROIN	

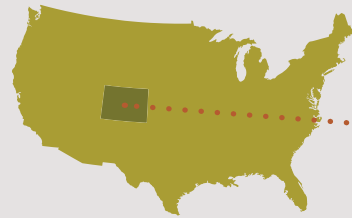
Contact Us

RMHP is here to help and we are easy to reach.

- Call us at 970-243-7050 or 800-346-4643 (TTY: 711)
- Para asistencia en español llame al 800-346-4643
- We're available Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. MT
- Email us at customer_service@rmhp.org
- Visit us 24/7 at rmhp.org



Naloxone is a medication designed to rapidly reverse an opioid overdose.



33,000 deaths per year in the U.S.
(91 people per day)

259 deaths per year in Colorado
(one death every 36 hours)

Based on 2015 statistics

30% of patients receive an average of 30% pain relief from opioids

Every 19 minutes someone dies from prescription drug overdose – a higher rate than car accidents.

What is an Opioid Overdose?

An opioid overdose is a medical emergency in which a higher dose than the body can handle leads to difficulty breathing.

Naloxone is a medication designed to rapidly reverse an opioid overdose and can save someone's life. Various forms of this rescue treatment are available without a prescription at the pharmacy.

Naloxone may be obtained at a pharmacy or a harm reduction organization, with or without a prescription from your health care provider.

The Surgeon General recommends the following groups of people have easy access to naloxone:

- Individuals taking opioid medications
- Individuals misusing prescription medication or taking illicit drugs
- Health care employees
- Family and friends of individuals taking opioid medications
- Anyone in the community who may overdose

Opioid Reversal with naloxone

Naloxone comes in three FDA-approved forms. Understanding what this medication consists of, where to obtain it, and how to use it can save a life today.

Name/Brand	Injectable naloxone – Generic	NARCAN® Nasal Spray	Intranasal naloxone – with Atomizer – Generic
Product Instructions	Remove orange cap from vial, open syringe, press needle through rubber stopper in vial, and pull back plunger to suck up all liquid. Inject all liquid into the shoulder or thigh, through clothing, if necessary.	Insert tip into nostril and press plunger with thumb to spray contents into one nostril. DO NOT TEST OR PRIME DEVICE.	Remove 3 colored caps, screw syringe into cartridge, screw atomizer onto the other end. Spray ½ of the contents into each nostril.
Assembly Required	Yes — 3–4 steps to administer	No — insert into nose and press plunger	Yes — 4–5 steps to administer
Parts per Kit	2 vials and 2 syringes	2 blister pouches per box	2 boxes (prefilled syringe & cartridge), 2 atomizers
Covered by RMHP?	Yes — at zero cost to you	Yes — at zero cost to you	Yes*
Cash Price	Approximately \$30	Approximately \$140	Approximately \$60

** This requires two prescriptions, one for the medication and one for the device. Call us for more information.*



In order to help someone who may have overdosed, be prepared on how to use naloxone to save a life today.