

**DO NOT HESITATE.
CALL 9-1-1.**

If you are with someone who is experiencing an opioid overdose, call 9-1-1 as you administer naloxone. Naloxone is effective at countering the effects of both opioids, like heroin, and synthetic opioids, such as fentanyl.

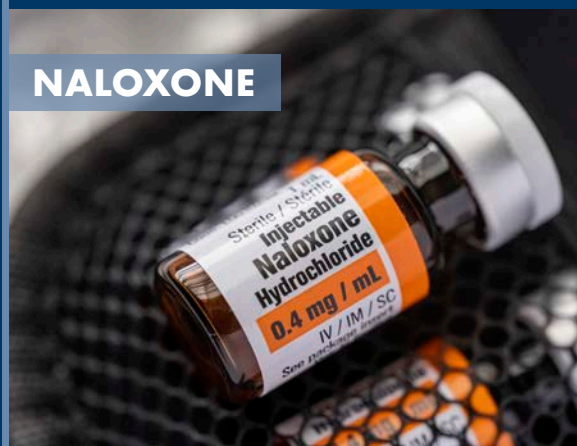
What Is Naloxone?

Naloxone is a medication approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) designed to rapidly reverse opioid overdoses. It can block the effects of opioids, such as heroin and morphine, and synthetic opioids like fentanyl. Naloxone is given when someone is showing signs of opioid overdose, naloxone is a temporary treatment and the effects do not last long. It is critical to obtain medical intervention as soon as possible after receiving naloxone.

NALOXONE VS. NARCAN®

When naloxone was first approved to reverse opioid overdoses, its brand name was Narcan®. Now there are other formulations and brand names for naloxone, but many people continue to call all of these products "Narcan®." However, the proper generic name is "naloxone."

NALOXONE



As of March 2023, Narcan® is available over-the-counter only as a nasal spray.

RESOURCES

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

www.cdc.gov

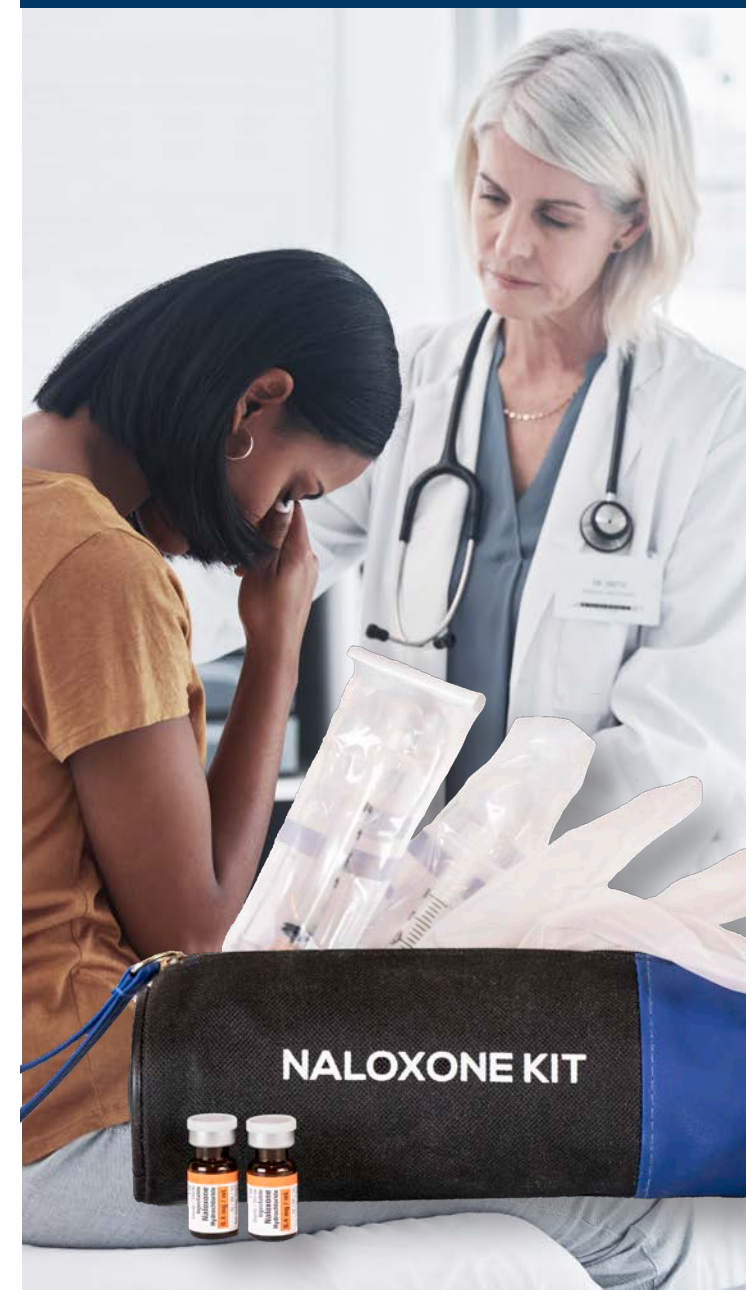
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

www.samhsa.gov

>INFOCUS

NALOXONE

Reverse An Opioid Overdose



GET YOUR LIFE >INFOCUS

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What Are The Signs Of An Opioid Overdose

During an overdose, a person’s breathing can be dangerously slowed or stopped, causing brain damage or death. It’s important to recognize the signs and act fast, even before emergency workers arrive. Signs of an overdose may include:

- Small, constricted “pinpoint pupils”
- Falling asleep or loss of consciousness
- Limp body
- Slow, shallow breathing
- Choking or gurgling sounds

How To Give Naloxone

The medication can be given by intranasal spray (into the nose), intramuscular (into the muscle), subcutaneous (under the skin), or intravenous injection (into the veins). All methods can be highly effective in reversing an opioid overdose.

To administer it by nasal spray:

- 1) Hold the Narcan® nasal spray with your thumb on the bottom of the plunger and your first and middle fingers on either side of the nozzle.
- 2) Tilt the person’s head back and provide support under the neck with your hand.
- 3) Gently insert the tip of the nozzle into one nostril, until your fingers on either side of the nozzle are against the bottom of the person’s nose. Then, press the plunger firmly.
- 4) Wait and watch the person closely. If the person does not respond in 2 minutes, repeat the steps and give the second dose of Narcan®.
- 5) Roll the person on their side to prevent choking.

SAVE A LIFE



Caring For Someone After Giving Naloxone

- When the person wakes up, explain what happened. Tell them not to take any more drugs because that could cause another overdose.
- Naloxone wears off in 30 to 90 minutes. Stay with the person until they go to the hospital, or until the naloxone wears off, and make sure they do not overdose again.
- If you do not seek medical care, stay with the person for at least 3 hours and watch for signs of returning overdose. Call 9-1-1 if the person is not OK when they wake up.
- When the ambulance arrives, tell them that naloxone has been given.
- If you need to leave, turn the person on their side to prevent them from choking.
- Make sure to refill your supply.



By The Numbers

Naloxone is more important than ever. The numbers do not lie:

- More than one million people have died since 1999 from a drug overdose.
- In a single year there were 106,699 drug overdose deaths in the United States.
- Opioids were involved in 80,411 of those 106,699 overdose deaths.
- Nearly 88% of opioid-involved overdose deaths involved synthetic opioids such as fentanyl.
- Nearly 17,000 died in one year from prescription opioid overdoses.
- Opioid deaths more than doubled between 2010-2017 and continue to rise.

Side Effects Of Naloxone

Naloxone can (but does not always) cause withdrawal symptoms, unpleasant physical reactions, when an individual stops using a substance that they depend on. Withdrawal symptoms may be uncomfortable but are not life-threatening. They may include:

- Fever
- Nausea
- Feeling restless or irritable
- Fast heart rate
- Sweating
- Vomiting
- Shaking

