

Naloxone

Why am I Receiving This?

Our organization is making naloxone more widely available to our patients. Accidental overdose is a leading cause of preventable death, and having the opioid overdose reversal medication more widely available in our community is one important step to prevent these accidental deaths. It is important for people with and without substance use to have naloxone available in case of emergency.

Naloxone is appropriate for the following people:

- Those with active opioid use (prescription or illicit use)
- Those with active substance use, other than opioids, due to risk of fentanyl cross-contamination in the illicit drug supply
- Those being discharged home with an opioid for pain after surgery
- Those who live with family or friends who use opioids or other substances
- Those with young children to protect from accidental poisonings
- Anyone who wants to be prepared for an emergency

Is it Safe?

Naloxone is safe to use in anyone, and can save a life. It is ok to use in pregnancy, breastfeeding, in infants and children. If naloxone is used and the person is not experiencing an opioid overdose event, no harm will occur.

What are the Signs of an Opioid Overdose?

Most opioid overdoses are accidental. Because opioids interfere with breathing and brain functioning, people who overdose become sleepy or comatose, and breathing slows or eventually stops completely. **When the brain and body can't get enough oxygen, injury and death may follow.** An overdose can happen minutes or hours after using opioids. Although it is impossible to predict who will overdose, taking opioids- even in low doses- can put a person at risk.

Signs and symptoms include: slow or absent breathing, cold and clammy skin, person choking, inability to wake up, not moving, making gurgling sounds or snoring, blue lips and nails, and tiny pupils.

Slow or no breathing 	Skin feels cold and clammy 	Choking or coughing 	Unresponsive/ Can't be woken up 
Person is not moving 	You can hear gurgling sounds or snoring 	Lips and nails are blue 	Pupils are tiny 



How do I Use Naloxone?

The kit or prescription we have given you today includes naloxone nasal spray and directions for use. Although your care team may have shown you how to assemble the kit, we encourage you to review the steps outlined on the box and watch the instructional videos (QR code below). Anyone who is at risk of overdose, or knows someone who is, should carry naloxone and understand how to use it.

Please share these directions with your friends and family, and make sure they know where your naloxone kit is stored.



SCAN FOR VIDEOS
ON HOW TO USE
NALOXONE AND
FACTS ABOUT
NALOXONE

Scan to give us feedback on this resource

