



*Don't
IGNORE
the
WARNING
SIGNS*

NARCAN PROGRAM



**FOREST COUNTY POTAWATOMI
HEALTH DIVISION**

WHAT IS NARCAN?

Narcan is the first and only FDA-approved nasal form of naloxone for the emergency treatment of a known or suspected opioid overdose. Since most overdoses occur in a home setting, it was developed for first responders, family, friends and caregivers – with no medical training required.

Narcan is used to temporarily reverse the effects of opioid medicines. The medicine in Narcan has no effect in people who are not taking opioid medicines and is safe and effective in adults and children. It works by neutralizing the opioids in your system and helping you breathe again.

Narcan is to be given right away and does not take the place of emergency medical care. Always get help immediately, even if the person wakes up. Use Narcan nasal spray if you or your caregiver think signs or symptoms of an opioid emergency are present, even if you are not sure, because an opioid emergency can cause severe injury or death.

The FCP Pharmacists work with the clinic physicians to provide Narcan without the need of going to the doctor for a prescription. The FCP Pharmacists are certified to train on Narcan use.

OVERDOSE

Protect yourself and your loved ones from the effects of overdose...

An overdose can happen any time you take a drug. It can happen the first time you use a drug or the hundredth. No matter when an overdose occurs, it can have devastating and even deadly consequences.

No specific amount of a drug defines an overdose. Instead, an overdose is determined by how and why you use a drug and how your body reacts to it.

There is no way to predict the exact amount of a drug that is safe versus dangerous.

FAST FACTS ABOUT THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC

INVOLVED IN MORE THAN **3** OUT OF **5** OVERDOSE DEATHS | **91** AMERICANS DIE EVERY DAY FROM AN OPIOID OVERDOSE

QUARTER OF A BILLION OPIOID PRESCRIPTIONS IN 2013

MOST COMMONLY INVOLVED IN OPIOID OVERDOSE DEATH: **METHADONE, OXYCODONE, AND HYDROCODONE** | **1,000** PEOPLE TREATED DAILY FOR MISUSE

You can take too much of any drug. However, some drugs cause more damage and have more serious health consequences than others. Depressants like opiates, alcohol, and benzodiazepines slow breath and heart rate. Stimulants like cocaine or amphetamines elevate these.

NEARLY HALF OF ALL OPIOID DEATHS INVOLVE A PRESCRIPTION

WHY DOES OVERDOSE HAPPEN?

An overdose can be accidental or intentional. It can stem from medical or recreational use.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Ending drug use is the only way to promise safety from overdose. If you have underlying mental or physical health issues that require treatment, talk with your health care providers about alternatives and safety measures. Only take medications as prescribed. Do not mix medications. Do not take someone else's prescription drugs or purchase legal or illegal drugs. Reach out for help to address dependence, tolerance, and addiction concerns.

Use NARCAN if an overdose is suspected or possible.

WHAT DOES OVERDOSE LOOK LIKE?

Common symptoms of an opioid overdose include:

- The face is extremely pale and/or clammy
- The body is limp
- Fingernails or lips have a blue or purple cast
- Vomiting or making gurgling noises
- Unable to speak or be woken up
- Breathing and heart rate are reduced or have stopped
- Pinpoint pupils

Signs of over-medication include:

- Sleepiness, drowsiness, difficulty staying awake
- Mental confusion and/or slurred speech
- Slow or shallow breathing
- Slow heartbeat, low blood pressure