

Are you at risk for an opioid overdose?

Use this checklist to help assess whether you or a loved one are at increased risk of life-threatening opioid-induced respiratory depression. Check all that apply:

- History of, or potential for, substance abuse dependence and/or addiction
- Potential for accidental exposure and/or unintentional opioid misuse
- Prescribed a high morphine-equivalent dose (MED) of opioids
- Switching to a different opioid or changing opioid dose
- Chronic pulmonary disease
- Sleep apnea
- Severe asthma
- Clinically significant kidney and/or liver impairment
- Use of other CNS depressants (e.g. benzodiazepines or alcohol)
- Use of certain medications known to interact with opioids (e.g. Cytochrome P450 inhibitors or inducers)

If you checked any of the boxes, talk to your doctor about prescribing Narcan (naloxone) along with your opioid. It may save your life or the life of a loved one!

Have you or a loved one become addicted to alcohol or drugs?
Call today to get confidential help, and take the first step towards a better life.

1-844-HELP4WV



What are opioids?

Opioids are a classification of drugs that include illegal drugs such as heroin, as well as prescription medications used to treat pain such as morphine, codeine, methadone, oxycodone, hydrocodone, fentanyl, hydromorphone, and buprenorphine.

What is an opioid overdose?

In the case of prescription medications, an opioid overdose occurs when the substance is misused (whether deliberately or unintentionally) and the patient takes more than the allotted, safe amount. This leads to depressed breathing, decreased heart rate, and suppresses other functions of the central nervous system. Opioid overdoses can cause serious, life-altering consequences and even death.

What is Narcan (naloxone)?

Opioid overdose-related deaths can be prevented when Narcan (generic: naloxone) is administered in a timely manner. As a narcotic antagonist, Narcan displaces opiates from receptor sites in the brain and reverses respiratory depression that usually is the cause of overdose deaths. During the period of time when an overdose can become fatal, respiratory depression can be reversed by giving the individual Narcan.

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