



# Maryland Overdose Response Program Educational Training Program CORE CURRICULUM

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# Program Overview

I. What Is an Opioid?

II. Recognizing an Opioid Overdose

III. Responding to an Opioid Overdose

IV. Important Information for Certificate Holders

V. *[Opt.]* Tips for Preventing Opioid Overdose

VI. *[Opt.]* Suggested Resources for Family Members, Friends & Loved Ones

# What is an Opioid?



# Opioids . . .

- Any drugs that contain **opium** (or its derivative)
- Natural or synthetic
- **Prescription** medications or **illegal** drugs
- Pill, capsule, powder or liquid
- Swallowed/drank, smoked, snorted or injected



# Opioids . . .



- Manage pain, suppress coughs and **treat opioid-use disorders** (addictions)
- Cause **feelings** of euphoria, contentment and/or detachment
- Effects last from **3 to 24 hours**

In excessive amounts, opioids can **suppress** a person's urge to **breathe**.

**Oxycodone** – 512s, OC,  
Oxy, 80s, Oxycotton,  
Hillbilly Heroin, Killers, Roxis



**OxyContin®**

**Percocet®**

**Roxicodone®**



# Examples of Common Prescription Opioids

**Hydrocodone** – Vikes, Hydro, Norco,  
Fluff, Scratch, Watson 387



**Vicodin®**

**Lorcet®**

**Zohydro™ ER**



**Lortab®**



**Oxymorphone** - Mrs. O, Pink/  
Blue Heaven, The O Bomb, Octagons,  
Stop Signs



**Opana®**



**Hydromorphone** – D, Juice, Dust,  
Footballs, Hospital Heroin, H Bomb, Smack



**Dilaudid®**



**Morphine** - M, Miss Emma, Monkey, White Stuff, Dreamer



# Examples of Common Prescription Opioids

**Codeine** - Captain Cody, Schoolboy, Pancakes & Syrup, T-3s, Doors & Fours, Purple Drank



**Meperidine**

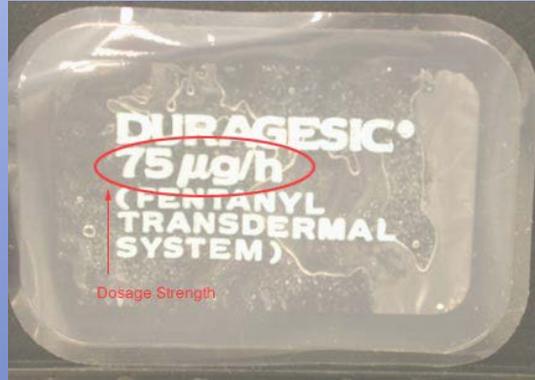


**Methadone** - Jungle Juice, Fizzies, Chocolate Chip Cookies



**Buprenorphine** - Bupe, Box(es), Subs/Subbies, Orange guys





# Prescription Fentanyl



# Illegal Opioids: Heroin



*Slang terms:*



*H, Dope, (Hell) dust, Hammer, Smack, Junk, Skag, Horse, Henry, Elephant, Rock, Brown Sugar, Slow, Hero, Black Tar, Poison, Homebake, Thunder, (China) White, Chinese, H, Train, White Dynamite, Dragon*



# Illegal Opioids: Non-pharmaceutical Fentanyl

- ❖ Illicitly produced, **synthetic** drug
- ❖ **Pill form** packaged to look like prescription medications
- ❖ **Powder form** looks similar to heroin



*Packets of fentanyl-laced heroin*

**Fentanyl + heroin can be a deadly combination →**  
*fentanyl is hundreds of times more potent than heroin*

# Recognizing an Opioid Overdose

# What Is an Opioid Overdose?

- **Opioid overdose** happens when a **toxic amount** of an opioid—alone or mixed with other opioid(s), drugs and/or substances—**overwhelms the body's** ability to handle it.
- Many opioid-related overdoses result from **mixing** prescription painkillers or heroin with benzodiazepines (benzos), cocaine and/or alcohol.

# What Leads to Overdose Death?

- **Respiratory failure** – lack of sufficient oxygen in the blood
- Vital organs like the heart and brain start to fail
- Leads to unconsciousness, coma, death

*Surviving an opioid overdose =*

***BREATHING and OXYGEN***

# Recognizing the Signs & Symptoms of an Opioid Overdose

- Loud snoring or gurgling noises
- Body very limp
- Unresponsive
- Skin pale/gray, clammy
- Lips/fingertips turn blue(ish)
- Pulse slow or erratic
- Breathing very slow, shallow, or not at all
- Unconscious

# Responding to an Opioid Overdose

1. Rouse and Stimulate
2. Call 9-1-1
3. Give Naloxone
4. Further Resuscitation
5. Care for the Person

# Step 1: Rouse & Stimulate

Noise: Shake person's shoulders and yell:

*"[Name!] Are you all right? Wake up!"*

Pain: If no answer, do a **sternal rub**:

**Make a fist, rub your knuckles firmly up and down the breast bone.**

# Sternal (Sternum) Rub



# Step 2: Call 9-1-1: Why?

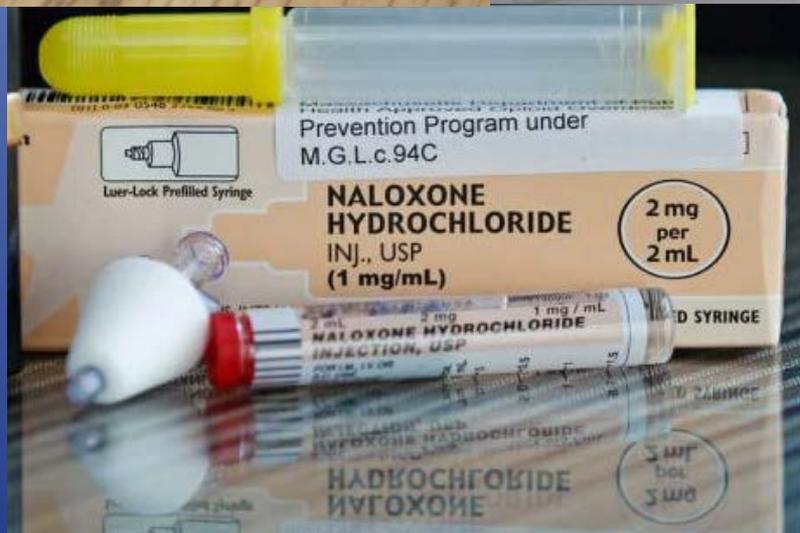
*Get emergency medical help  
for someone experiencing an overdose!*

1. May have **complications** or **other health problems**.
2. **Naloxone** is only **temporary**.
3. May need to give **additional doses of naloxone**.
4. May be a **non-opioid overdose** situation.

# Call 9-1-1: What to Say

- Tell 9-1-1 operator:
  - ✓ **Where you are**
  - ✓ **What you observe** about the person in distress:  
*e.g., gurgling noises, turning blue, won't wake up*
- Tell emergency responder on site:
  - ✓ **Drugs/substances** the person used
  - ✓ **Naloxone** administered – how much/when.

# Step 3: Give Naloxone

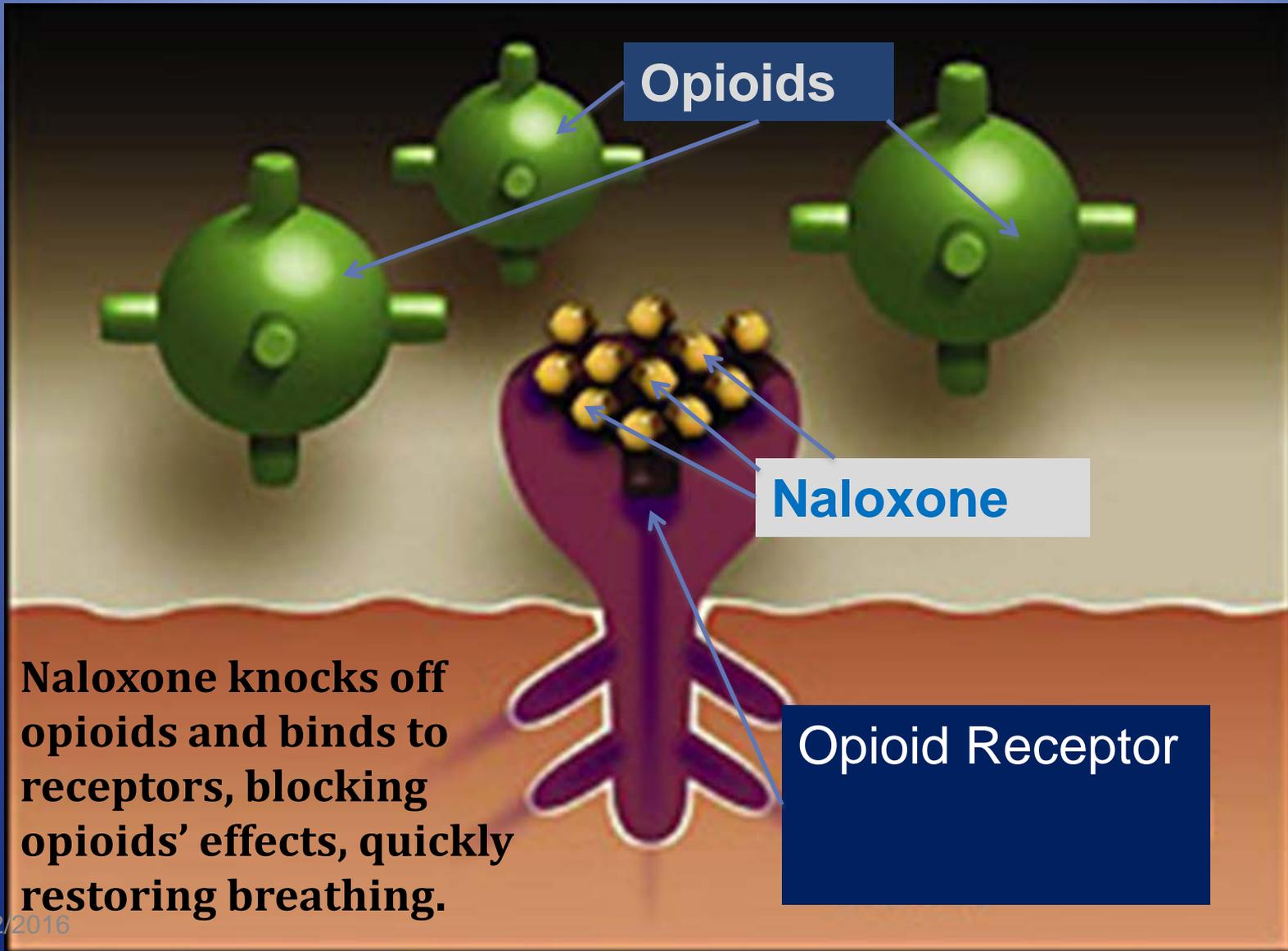


# What is Naloxone?

- Reverses opioid overdose by **restoring breathing**
- No potential for abuse or getting high
- No effect on someone who hasn't taken opioids
- Side effects are minimal and rare
- Safe for children and pregnant women
- Intramuscular, intranasal or intravenous
- Wears off in 30 - 90 minutes

***Naloxone is only effective in reversing  
opioid overdoses***

# How Does Naloxone Work?



# Naloxone Storage & Disposal

## Storage:

- Do not attach naloxone to delivery device until ready to use
- Store naloxone in original package at room temperature; avoid exposure to light
- Keep in a safe place away from children & pets, but easy to access in case of emergency

## Expiration:

- Naloxone loses its effectiveness over time
- Check expiration date on label

## Disposal:

- Check with a local health department or pharmacy about properly disposing of expired naloxone

# Intranasal Naloxone

Amphastar:



Narcan:



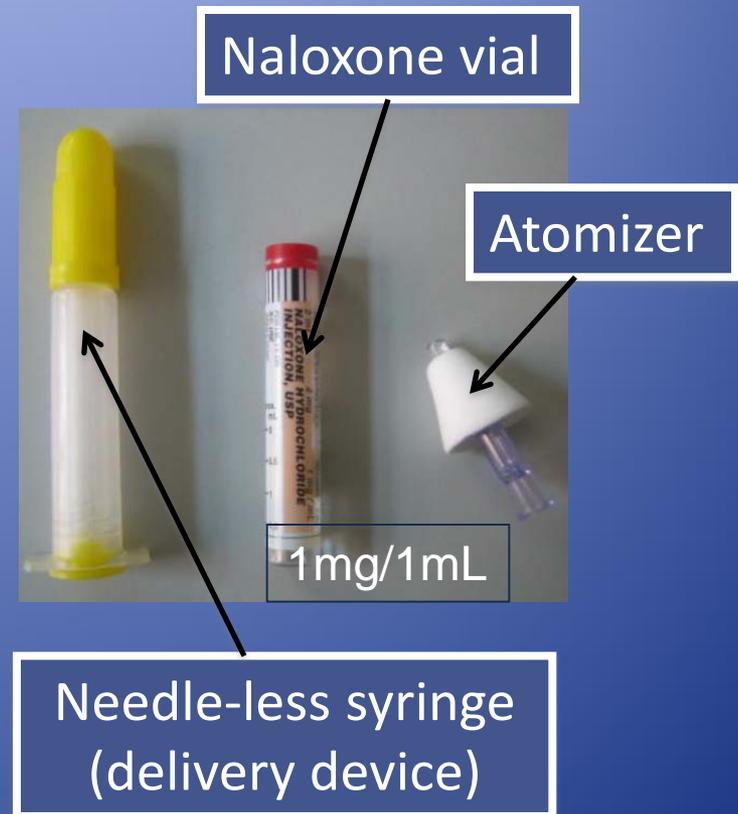
# Administering Amphastar Nasal Naloxone – Step by Step

**Step 1:** Remove caps from needle-less syringe.

**Step 2:** Screw nasal atomizer into top of syringe.

**Step 3:** Remove cap from prefilled vial of naloxone.

**Step 3:** Gently twist naloxone vial into delivery device until you feel it “catch.”



# Administering Amphastar Nasal Naloxone – Step by Step

## Step 5:

### Tilt back the head

so the naloxone will  
not run out of the  
person's nose.



**Step 6:** Spray one-half (1cc) of  
the naloxone up each nostril.

# Administering Amphastar Nasal Naloxone – Step by Step

**Step 7:** Allow 1-3 minutes for the naloxone to work.  
Continue resuscitation as necessary.

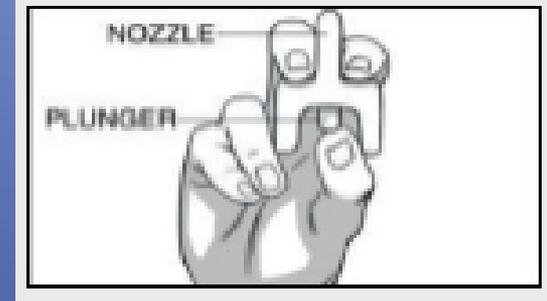
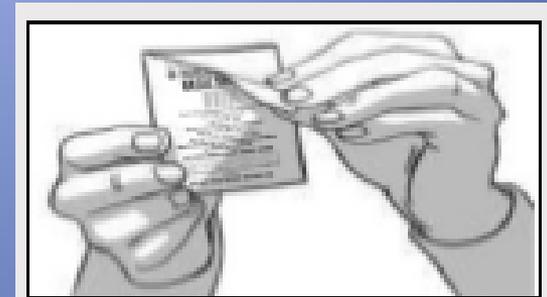
**Step 8:** If breathing is not restored after 2-3 minutes,  
*give another dose* of naloxone (see Steps 5 & 6).  
Continue resuscitation as necessary.

**Step 9:** Stay with the person and provide care as  
directed until medical help arrives.

# Administering Narcan – Step by Step

**Step 1:** Remove NARCAN Nasal Spray from the box. Peel back the tab with the circle to open the NARCAN Nasal Spray

**Step 2:** 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.



# Administering Narcan – Step by Step

**Step 3:** Gently insert the tip of the nozzle into either nostril. Tilt the person's head back and provide support under the neck with your hand. 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.

**Step 4:** Press the plunger firmly to give the dose of NARCAN Nasal Spray. Remove the NARCAN Nasal Spray from the nostril after giving the dose.



# Administering Narcan – Step by Step

**Step 5:** Allow 1-3 minutes for the naloxone to work. Continue resuscitation as necessary.

**Step 6:** If breathing is not restored after 2-3 minutes, *give another dose* of naloxone. Continue resuscitation as necessary.

**Step 7:** Stay with the person and provide care as directed until medical help arrives.

Note individual Narcan cannot be reused.

# Intramuscular/Injectable Naloxone



# Administering Injectable Naloxone – Step by Step:

**Step 1:** Pop off the flip-top from naloxone vial.

**Step 2:** Insert needle into vial and draw up 1cc of naloxone into syringe.

**Step 3:** Use alcohol wipe to clean injection site – shoulder, thigh or buttocks.

**Step 4:** Inject needle straight into muscle (through clothes, if necessary), then push in plunger.

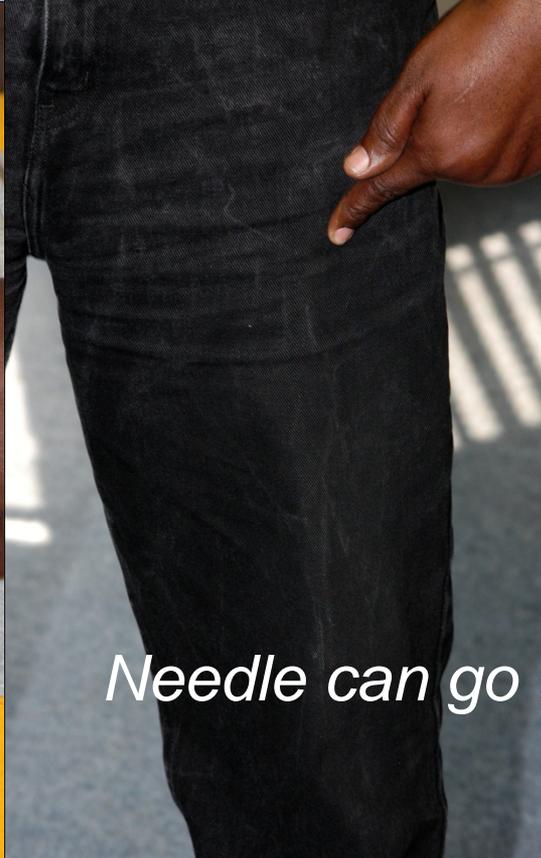


**Do not inject naloxone into the person's heart, chest or back!**

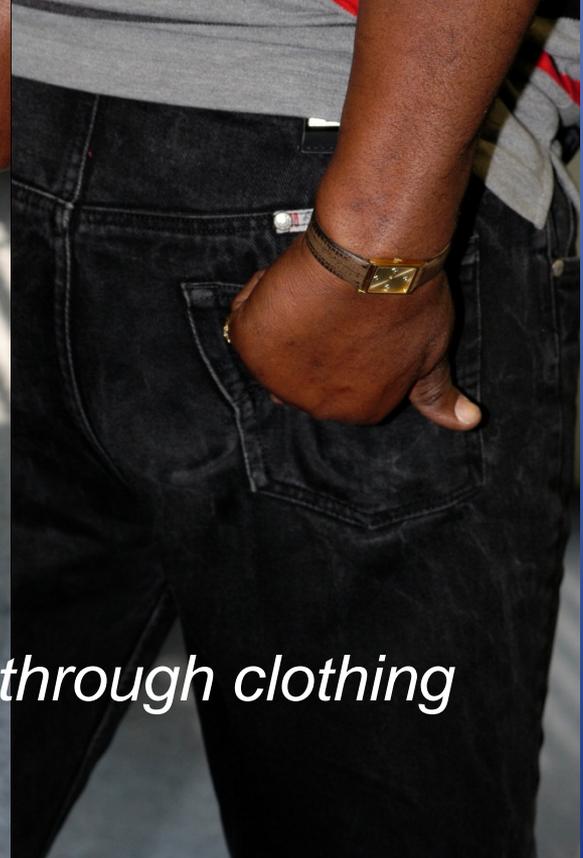
# Naloxone Injection Sites



Shoulder



Thigh



Buttocks (upper, outer quadrant)

*Needle can go through clothing*

# Administering Injectable Naloxone – Step by Step

**Step 5:** Allow **1-3 minutes** for the naloxone to work. Continue resuscitation as necessary.

**Step 6:** If breathing is not restored after 2-3 minutes, ***give another dose*** of naloxone (see **Steps 1 - 4**). Continue resuscitation as necessary.

**Step 7:** Stay with person and provide care as directed until medical help arrives.

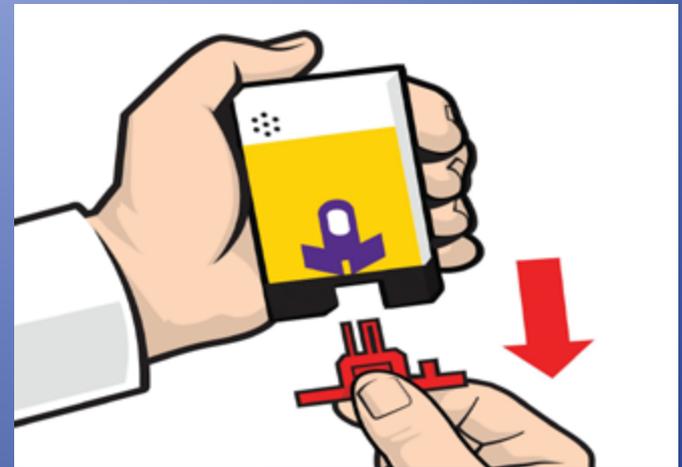
# Administering Evzio – Step by Step



# Administering Evzio – Step by Step

## Step 1: Pull off the red safety guard.

- **Note:** The red safety guard is made to fit tightly. **Pull firmly to remove.**



# Administering Evzio – Step by Step

**Step 2:** Place the **Black** end of EVZIO against the outer thigh, through clothing, if needed.

**Press firmly** and hold in place for 5 seconds.

EVZIO makes a distinct sound (click and hiss) when it is pressed against the thigh. This is normal and means that EVZIO is working correctly. Keep EVZIO firmly pressed on the thigh for 5 seconds after you hear the click and hiss sound.

The needle will inject and then retract back up into the EVZIO auto-injector and is not visible after use.



# Administering Evzio – Step by Step

**Step 3:** Allow **1-3 minutes** for the naloxone to work. Continue resuscitation as necessary.

**Step 4:** If breathing is not restored after 2-3 minutes, ***give another dose*** of naloxone. Continue resuscitation as necessary.

**Step 5:** Stay with person and provide care as directed until medical help arrives.

Note individual Evzio cannot be reused.



# Step 4: Further Resuscitation

Assess breathing: if the person is not breathing, or if breath is shallow or short,

**Give rescue breaths.**

**OR**

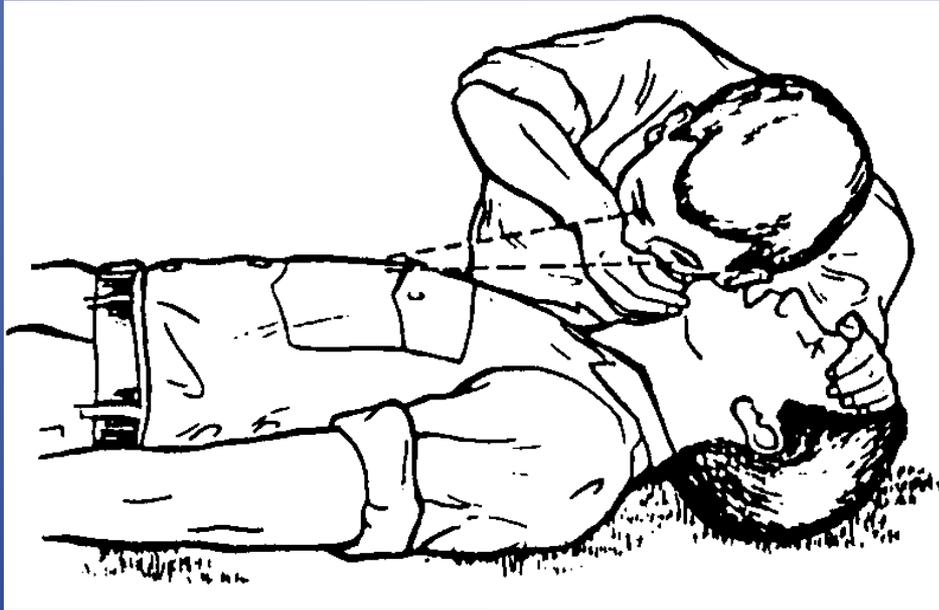
If you are trained in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), administer **traditional CPR**, chest compressions with rescue breaths.

**OR**

**Follow the 9-1-1 dispatcher's instructions.**

*Continue until the person wakes up or medical help arrives.*

# Assess Breathing



Look,  
Listen &  
Feel

If shallow or short breaths,  
or not breathing →  
*start rescue breathing right away*

# Rescue Breathing Instruction

*Rescue breathing is the quickest way to get oxygen into the body and one of the most important things you can do to prevent someone from dying from an opioid overdose.*

# Rescue Breathing – Step by Step

**Step 1:** Lay the person on his/her back on a flat surface.

**Step 2:** Tilt the chin to open the airway.

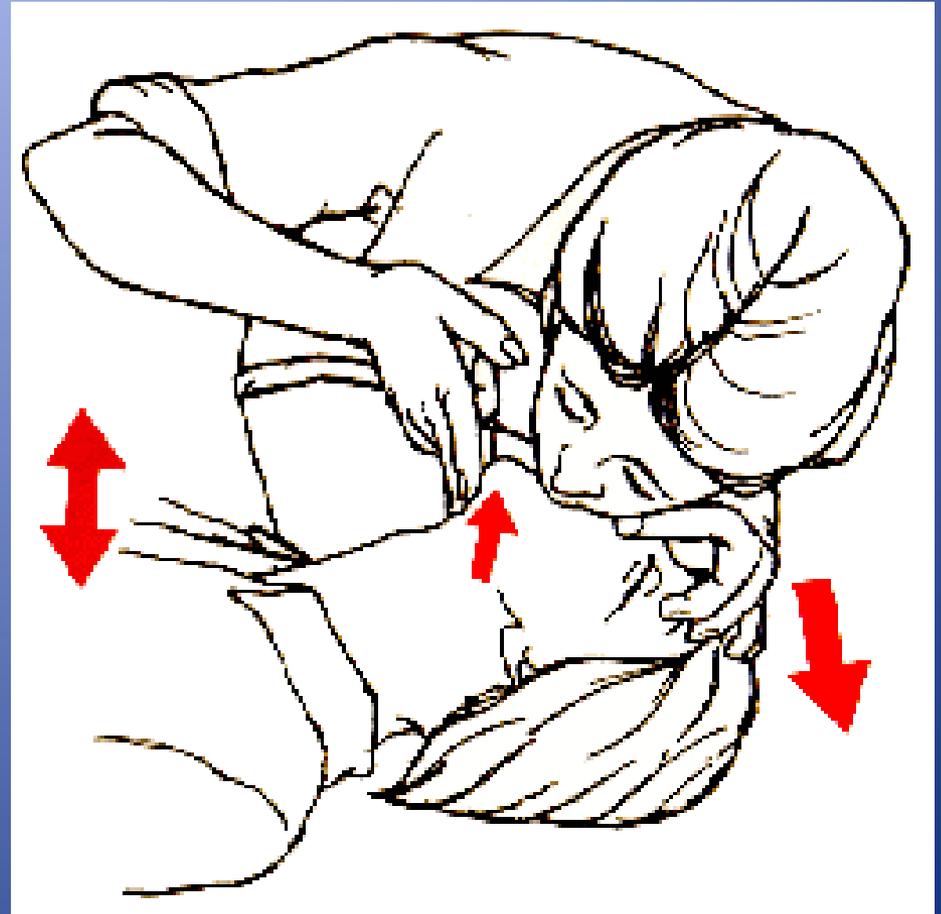
**Step 3:** Remove anything blocking the airway.



# Rescue Breathing – Step by Step

**Step 4:** Pinch the person's nose closed completely.

**Step 5:** Cover his/her mouth with your mouth and **blow 2 regular breaths** about 1 second each.



# Rescue Breathing – Step by Step

**Step 6: Breathe again.**  
**Give 1 breath every 5 seconds.**

# Step 5: Care for the Person

- Stay with the person until medical help arrives.
- If s/he is unable to sit up, put person in **recovery position**.
- Keep person **calm** and encourage him/her not to take more opioids.
- If overdose re-occurs, give **another dose** of naloxone.

# Care for the Person

After receiving naloxone, a person may:

- Feel **physically ill/vomit**.
- **Experience withdrawal** symptoms, which can be unpleasant, but not life-threatening.
- Become **agitated and upset** due to withdrawal symptoms or coming off high.
- Have a **seizure**, though this is rare.

# Recovery Position

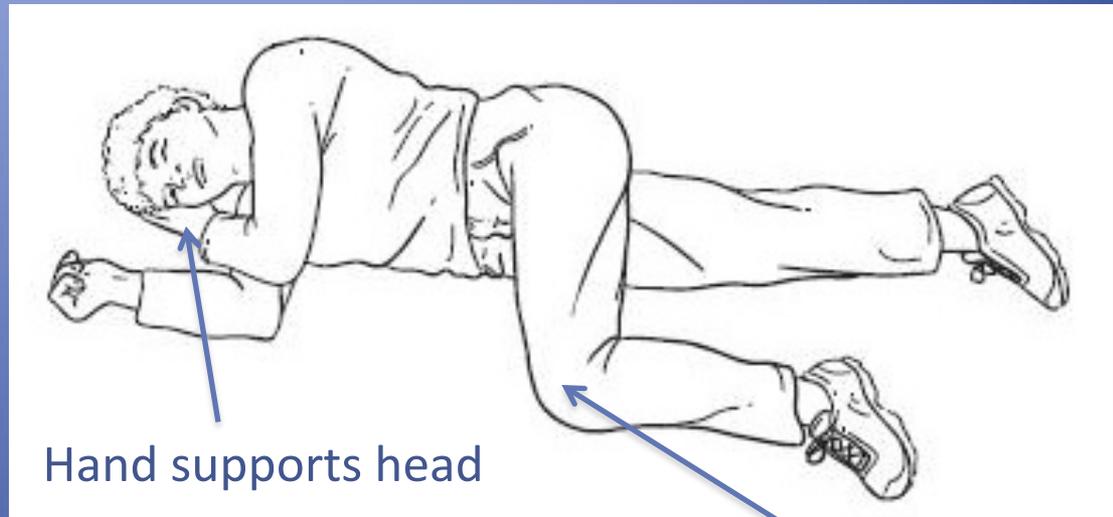
If you have to leave the person—*even briefly*—put him/her into the **recovery position.**

This keeps the **airway clear** and **prevents choking/aspiration** if vomiting occurs.

# Recovery Position



Face & body turned to side



Hand supports head

Bent knee supports body

# If You Administer Naloxone . . .

**Call the  
Poison Center  
1-800-222-1222**

***Within 1-2 hours***

**Or contact the training entity  
that issued your certificate.**

# Important Information for Certificate Holders

# Good Samaritan Laws

## CODE OF MARYLAND, CRIMINAL PROCEDURE ARTICLE, § 1-210

A person who seeks, provides or assists with medical assistance for another person experiencing an alcohol- or drug-related medical emergency cannot be arrested, charged, or prosecuted for:

- Possession of a controlled dangerous substance
- Possession or use of drug paraphernalia
- Providing alcohol to minors

Calling 911 WILL NOT affect your PAROLE or PROBATION status

## Code of Maryland, Health General § 13-3110

An individual who administers naloxone to an individual believed to be experiencing and overdose shall have immunity from liability under § § 6-603 and 5-629 of the Courts and Judicial Proceedings Article

*You cannot be held liable for a good faith attempt to help someone.*

# Obtaining a Prescription & Naloxone

- ❑ **Qualified trainees are entitled to receive a certificate.**
- ❑ **Show your certificate to get a prescription for naloxone from a physician or advanced practice nurse with prescribing ability**
- ❑ **You can also use your certificate to obtain naloxone through a standing order at the training location or a participating pharmacy.**
  - ❑ **For a list of pharmacies that stock naloxone visit [bha.dhmh.maryland.gov/naloxone](http://bha.dhmh.maryland.gov/naloxone).**

# Certificate Holders – General Responsibilities

- Certificates are **valid for two years**. Apply for **renewal** no later than **90 days before** your certificate expires.
- An entity may charge you a **reasonable fee** to **replace** a lost certificate; keep it in a safe place.
- Administer naloxone in accordance with **training procedures**.
- Make a **good faith** effort to get emergency **medical help** for the person experiencing an opioid overdose.
- Please remember to **contact the Poison Center** or training entity after administering naloxone.

# DHMH *May* Suspend or Revoke a Certificate If:

- ❑ A certificate holder improperly uses or administers naloxone, or DHMH determines it's necessary in order to protect public health or safety.
  - **What can you do?** *File an appeal or write to DHMH requesting reinstatement of your certificate once you've corrected the problem.*
  
- ❑ The training entity doesn't meet DHMH requirements or has issued someone an invalid certificate.
  - **What can you do?** *Apply for a valid certificate after completing training at an authorized entity. Ask DHMH for a list of approved entities.*

# [Opt:] How NOT To Respond to an Opioid Overdose

## Anecdotal Remedy

## Possible Consequence(s)

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| Use ice to cool down body                                 | → | Slowed heart rate, arrhythmia                 |
| Put person in bath/shower                                 | → | Drowning                                      |
| Hit/slap or burn fingers/feet                             | → | Bruising, broken bones, infection, amputation |
| Give drink/induce vomiting                                | → | Choking to death                              |
| Inject person with cocaine, salt water, milk, epinephrine | → | High blood pressure, infection                |



# [Opt.] Opioid Overdose Prevention Tips

- ❖ Keep all medicine in a safe place, such as a locked cabinet. (*Naloxone should be kept readily available.*)
- ❖ Properly dispose of expired or unwanted medications.
- ❖ Take only medicine prescribed for you and only as directed.
- ❖ Never share your prescription drugs with anyone else.
- ❖ If you have breathing problems (e.g. asthma, sleep apnea), check with your doctor before taking opioids.
- ❖ Never mix pain medication with alcohol, benzos, sleeping pills, muscle relaxants, anti-nausea drugs, other opioids or illegal drugs.

# [Opt.] Opioid Overdose Prevention Tips

- ❖ Do not use alone.
- ❖ Make an **overdose prevention plan** and share it with someone you trust to give you naloxone if needed.
- ❖ If you have not used opioids in a while, your tolerance will be lower and risk for overdose greater, so use less opioids than you normally would.
- ❖ You are also at greater risk for overdose if you have overdosed before.
- ❖ **Always keep naloxone on hand.**
  - ❖ Get treatment for drug dependence or addiction.
  - ❖ Seek professional help if you are depressed.
  - ❖ Call a crisis hotline [*insert #*] or 9-1-1 if you are suicidal.

# Suggested Resources for Family, Friends & Loved Ones of Opioid Users

- ❖ *Entities: Use this slide to list information about local resources for things such as:*
  - ❖ **Self-care**
  - ❖ **Support groups**
  - ❖ **Grief/trauma counseling**
  - ❖ **Advocacy groups** for involvement
  - ❖ **Treatment & recovery services.**
  
- ❖ **Recovering from Opioid Overdose – *Resources for Overdose Survivors & Family Members***, part of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA's) 2014 OPIOID OVERDOSE TOOLKIT, available at <http://store.samhsa.gov/product/Opioid-Overdose-Prevention-Toolkit-Updated-2014/All-New-Products/SMA14-4742>.

# **Maryland Overdose Response Program Core Curriculum**

**Health-General Article,  
Title 13, Subtitle 31,  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
Sections 13-3101 – 3109**

**Code of Maryland Regulations,  
Title 10, Subtitle 47, Chapter 08,  
Regulations .01-.11**