



STOP ODNE

FACING THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC

UNDERSTANDING FENTANYL, OPIOID OVERDOSE AND
NARCAN.





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Nebraska Pharmacists Association

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opioid epidemic

opioid epidemic waves

1st Wave



Started 1999

Over-Prescribing of Opioids

2nd Wave



Started 2010

Rise in Heroin Overdose Deaths

3rd Wave



Started 2013

Rise in Synthetic Opioid
Overdose Deaths

2023

107,543

overdose Deaths

81,083

from synthetic opioids
like Fentanyl

www.cdc.gov



Nearly
12,000,000
Americans report
misusing prescription
opioids

OPIOID USEDISORDER

Complex illness characterized by compulsive use of opioid drugs even when the person wants to stop, or when using the drugs negatively affects the person's physical and emotional well-being.



Sadie

Taisa

Paul



Jake

Lance

Matthew



Andrew

Derrek

Taryn

OUD is a medical
condition that can
affect anyone

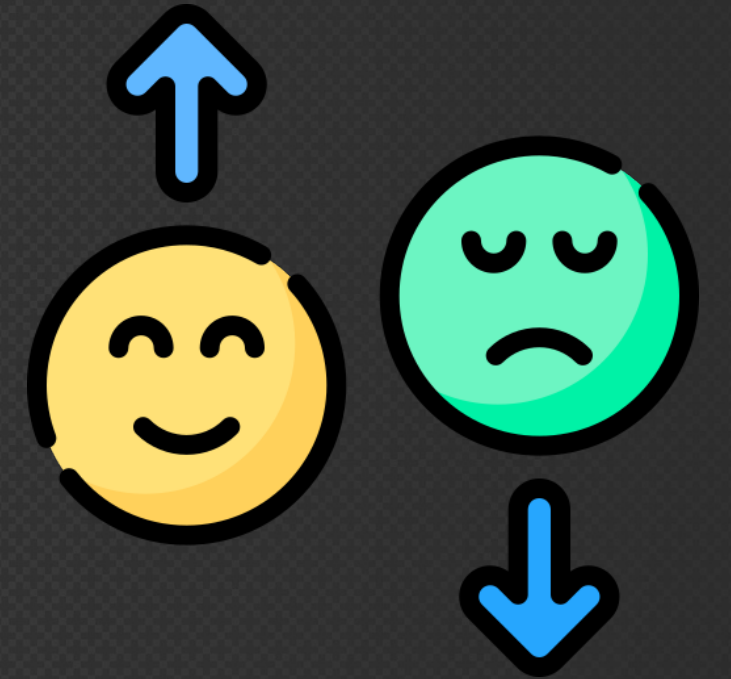
it does not discriminate!

Signs of an Opioid Use Disorder

- *Taking more opioids than prescribed, and/or for longer than intended.*
- *Wanting to stop or cut down but not being able to.*
- *Spending a lot of time getting, using, or recovering from opioids.*
- *Having strong cravings or urges to use opioids.*
- **Struggling to meet responsibilities at work, school, or home.**
- *Continuing to use opioids even when it causes problems in relationships.*
- *Using opioids in dangerous situations, like while driving.*
- *Still using opioids even though they are likely causing or worsening physical or mental health problems.*
- *Needing more opioids to get the same effect (tolerance).*
- *Feeling sick (withdrawal) when not using or using opioids to avoid those symptoms.*

To meet the diagnostic criteria for OUD, a person must exhibit at least 2 of the listed symptoms within a one year time frame

What are the warning signs?



- Changes in behavior (extreme mood swings from joy to anger)
- Increased drowsiness
- Periodic flu-like symptoms (nausea, vomiting, sweating, shaking hands, etc)
- Makes poor decisions that put themselves or others in danger
- Avoiding contact with family and friends, become more withdrawn
- Isolation and secretive behavior
- Drop in grades or performance at work
- New financial difficulties
- Actively seeking out opioids (multiple doctors, buying from others)

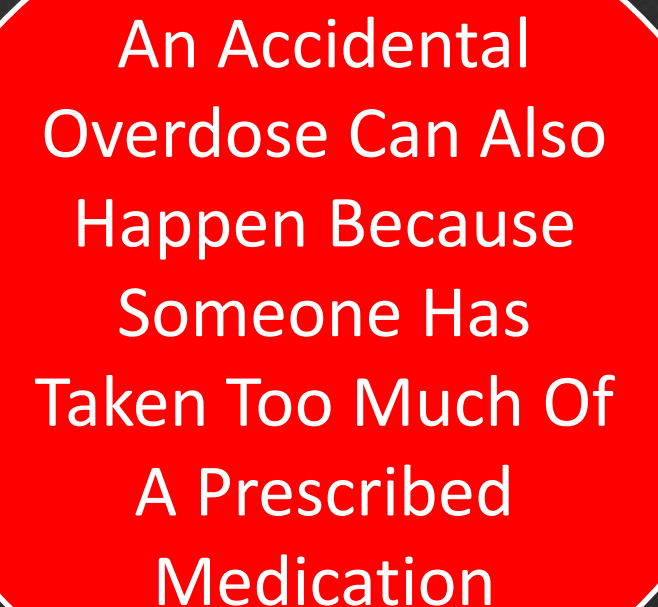
Why Opioids?

- Opioids are highly addictive, in large part because they activate powerful reward centers in your brain.
- Opioids trigger the release of endorphins.
- Endorphins muffle your perception of pain and give you a euphoric feeling . . . but only temporarily.



What is the
reason?

- Anxiety, Depression, Undiagnosed Mental Health
- Trauma, Mental and/or Physical Abuse
- Experimenting, Curious
- Peer Pressure, Everyone Is Doing It
- Enviromental/Exposure
- Constant Pain



An Accidental
Overdose Can Also
Happen Because
Someone Has
Taken Too Much Of
A Prescribed
Medication

2

Opioids including Fentanyl

Common Opioids



(Vicodin)

● Oxycodone
(OxyContin, Percocet)

● Codeine

● Morphine

● Fentanyl & Carfentanyl

what is fentanyl?

- It is a prescription drug used to treat severe pain, usually after surgery or in people with chronic pain. When prescribed it is given as a shot, a patch, or as a lozenge.
- Illegally used Fentanyl is made in a lab, normally in the form of a powder but can also be made as a liquid.
- It is a deadly synthetic opioid that is being pressed into fake pills or cut into heroin, cocaine, and other street drugs.

FENTANYL IS
50X

MORE POTENT THAN HEROIN

Carfentanil\$

100X

MORE POWERFUL THAN fentanyl

DEALAB TESTING REVEALS THAT

5 out of every 10 fake pills

WITH FENTANYL CONTAIN A POTENTIALLY

LETHAL DOSE

Fake pills often contain fentanyl and are more lethal than ever before. These pills are being sold through social media and there is no way to tell if they contain fentanyl or not.

ONE
PILL
CAN
KILL

www.dea.gov/onepill

counterfeit pills

OXYCODONE



REAL

FAKE

ADDERALL



REAL

FAKE

Risk factors for overdose

- History of overdose or a substance use disorder (SUD)
- Having sleep apnea or other sleep-disordered breathing
- Taking higher dosages of opioids
- Returning to a high dose after losing tolerance
- Taking benzodiazepines (Xanax, Klonopin, etc) with opioids
 - Approximately 38% of people with anxiety are prescribed Xanax or a similar benzodiazepine
- Having kidney or liver failure
- Being 65 years or older





**Don't Mix
Substances**

Talk about "polysubstance use". Whether intentional or not, mixing drugs or drugs with alcohol is never safe because the effects from combining drugs are often stronger, more unpredictable, and even deadly.

This can result in an accidental overdose.

Additionally, DO NOT take any medication that is not prescribed to you.

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opioid overdose &

life-saving narcana

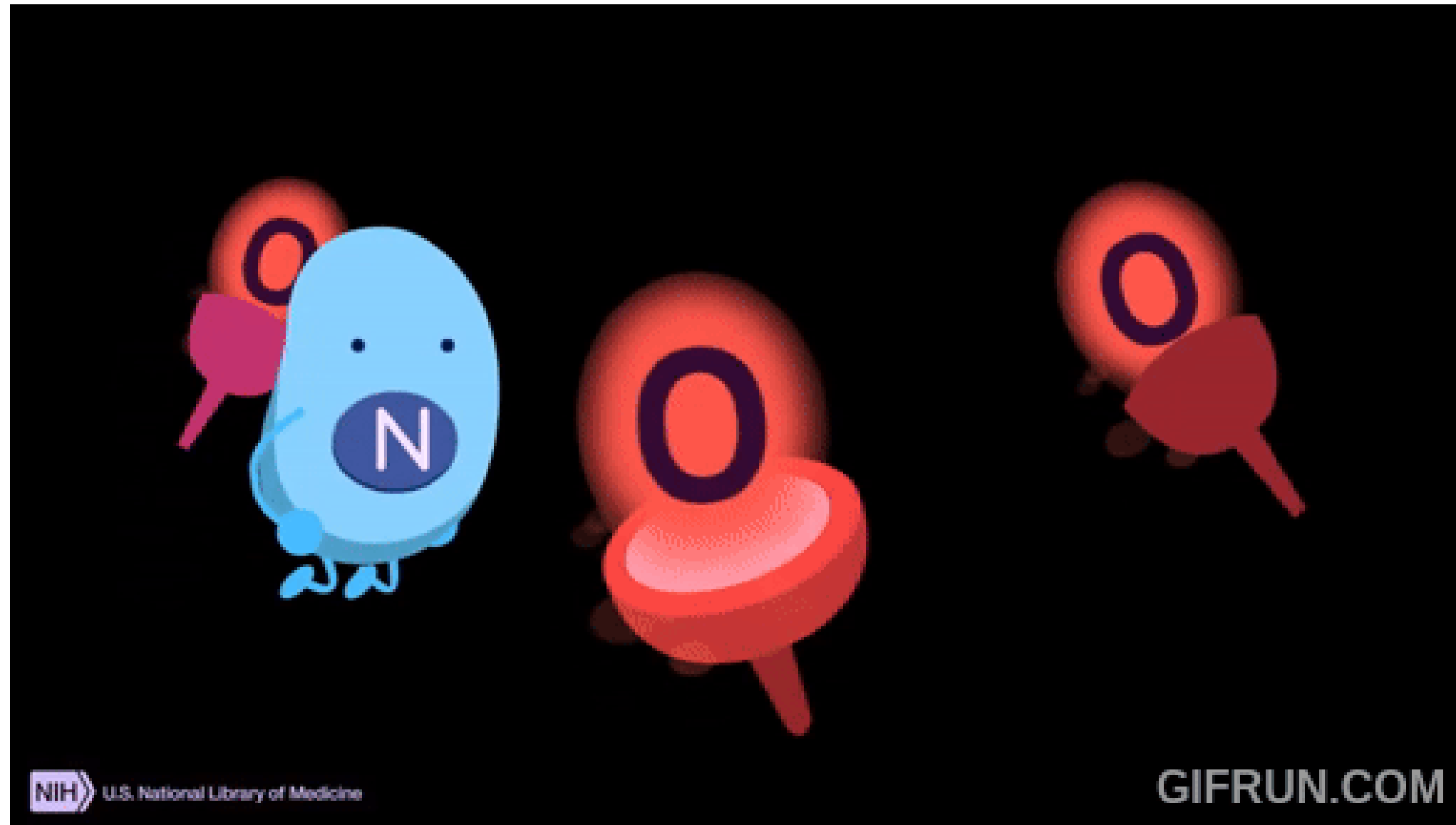
Did you know?

20% of Nebraska teens know of someone who has overdosed in the past year. 29% have heard of Narcan, however, only 10% know how to use Narcan.

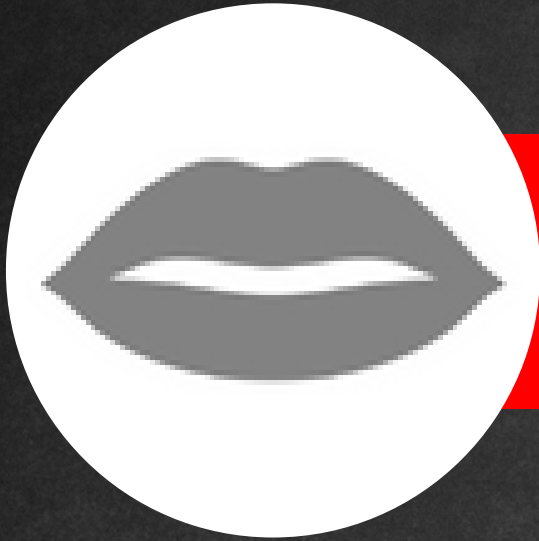
Key Facts About Nalox

- When a person experiences an opioid overdose, their central nervous system and respiration system are depressed, and breathing slows down or stops.
- Naloxone (aka NARCAN®) medication blocks these effects and reverses the effects of an overdose.
- If given to someone who has not taken opioids, it will not have any effect on them, since there are no opioids in their system to reverse. Naloxone also can't get a person high.

How does Naloxone work



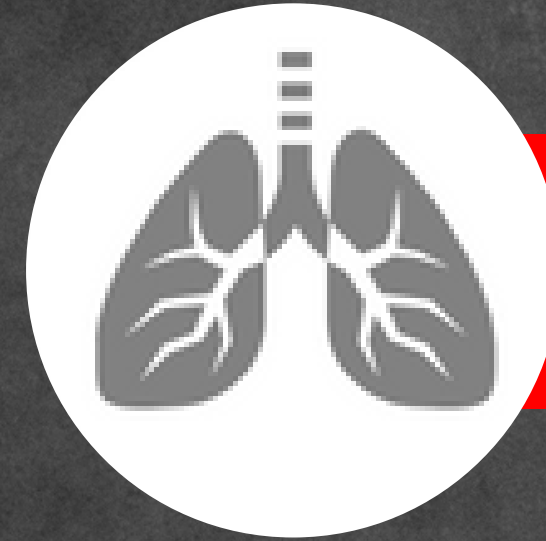
signs of an opioid overdose



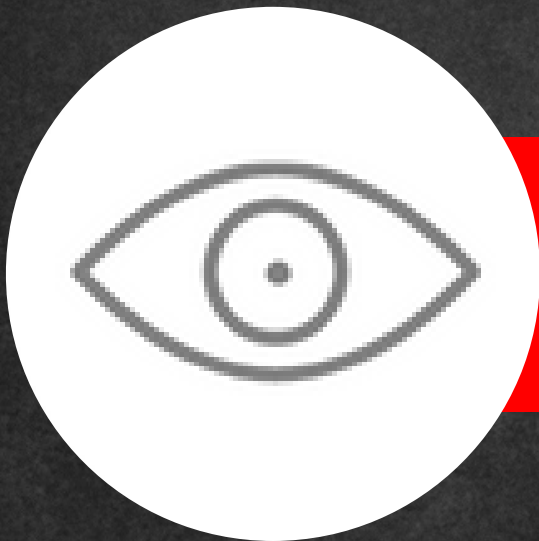
Blue lips, skin,
or fingernails



Unresponsive to
voice or touch



Slow, irregular,
or stopped
breathing



Pinpoint pupils



Choking sounds
or snore -like
gurgle



Slow heartbeat
or low blood
pressure

How To ...

respond to an opioid overdose



- ✓ Try to wake them up
- ✓ Call 911
- ✓ Give NARCAN®
- ✓ Recovery Position
- ✓ Wait 2-3 Minutes



*SOMEONE CAN GO BACK INTO AN OVERDOSE WITHIN 30 MINUTES,
EVEN IF NARCAN IS ADMINISTERED

ADMINISTER NARCAN

LAYPERSON FLAT 

PEEL

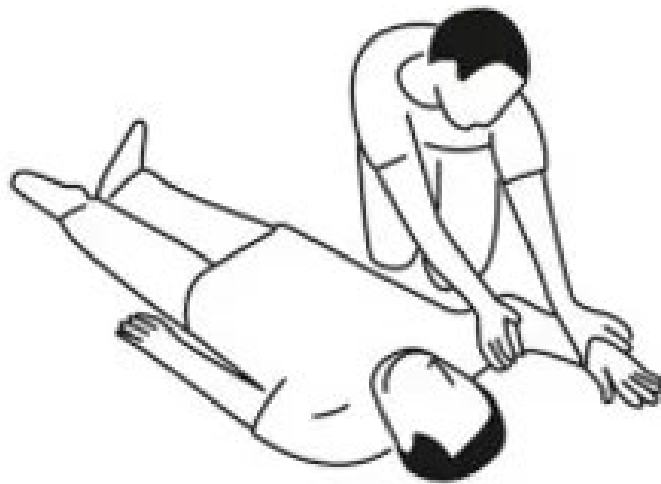
PLACE

PRESS

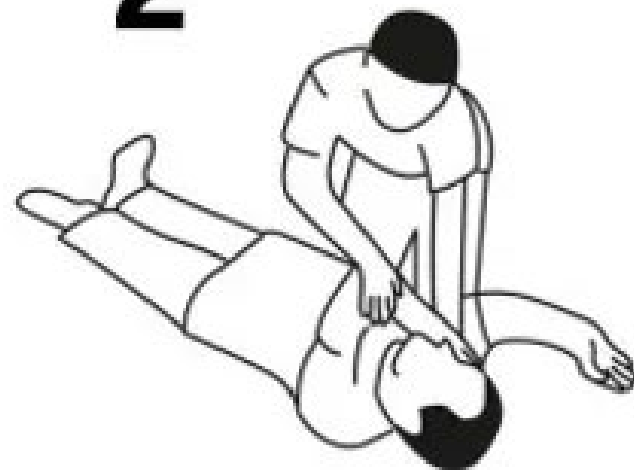
*NARCAN WILL NOT HURT SOMEONE WHO IS NOT HAVING AN OPIOID OVERDOSE

RECOVERY POSITION

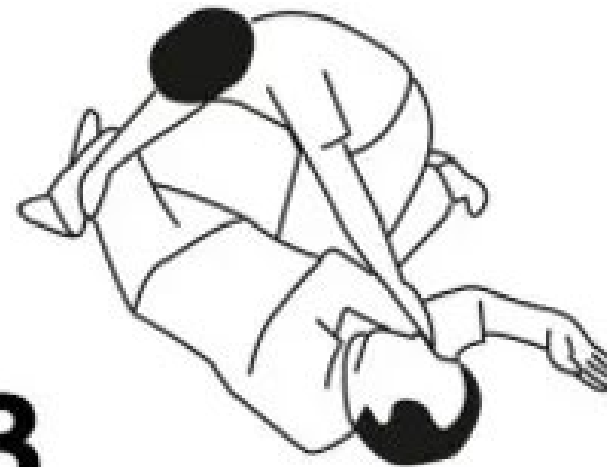
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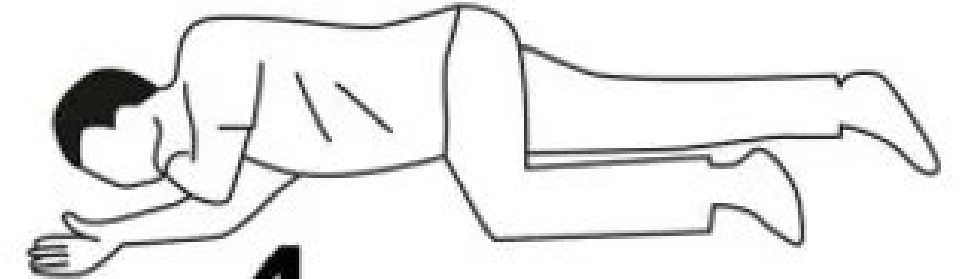
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3



4



wait 2-3 minutes

check breathing again

IF STILL NOT AWAKE, ADMINISTER ANOTHER
DOSE OF NARCAN IN THE OTHER NOSTRIL

stAY UNTIL EMERGENCY H

gOODSAMARTIANLAW

The Good Samaritan Law protects individuals from criminal and civil liability (with some limitations) if they actively respond to a crisis where the person cannot verbalize consent to treatment/intervention. This law encourages citizens to assist in cases of overdose without fearing criminal prosecution.

Storage

How Do I store Narcan Nasal Spray?

Store at Room Temperature or Refrigerate, between 36 F to 77 F

- Do Not Freeze
- Avoid Excessive Heat Above 104 F
- Protect From Light
- Best Stored in Bag or Pocket, not in Glove Box
- 4 Year Shelf Life

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PHARMACIES

VENDING MACHINES
In Some Areas
(other grant funding)

FIND NARCAN[®] NEAR YOU



YOUR LOCATION

www.stopodne.com

Order Online

- Easy process
- Arrives within 7 days
- Discreet Package



STOP OVERDOSE NEBRASKA
Help Save A Life



**ORDER
NO-COST
NARCAN
HERE!**



Be prepared to save a life.

Get no-cost NARCAN® Nasal Spray so you
can help reverse an opioid overdose.

This project is funded 100% from the Nebraska State Opioid Response grant (5H79T1085774-02, \$4,649,735) through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, contracted through the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Behavioral Health.

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stigma

stig·ma

noun

noun: stigma; plural noun: stigmas; plural noun: stigmata

1. a set of negative or unfair beliefs that a society or group of people have about something.
2. "One of the major obstacles to persons seeking treatment for addiction is the ***stigma*** attached to the disease."

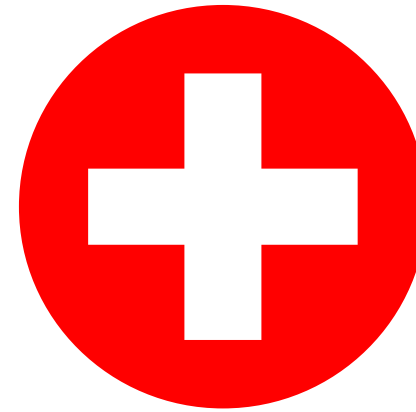
HOW TO HELP END S



Treat people with dignity &
listen without judgment.



Speak up when you see
any kind of stigma.



Understand that it's a
medical illness.



Change the words you use
and avoid labels.

~~Words~~ matter

instead of say this:

Addict, junkie, druggie

Person with a substance use disorder

Drug abuse

Drug use/misuse

Ex-addict, clean

Person living in recovery

Drug offender

Person arrested for a drug violation

Relapse

Reoccurrence/setback

Stayed clean

Maintained recovery

Take the pledge

It encourages compassion over judgment, supports recovery journeys, and strengthens our community. By speaking out, we break down harmful stereotypes, promote better access to treatment, and let everyone feel seen, heard, and supported.



Scan Me

Substance Use Disorder is not a moral failing, it is a disease that can happen to anyone.

stopodne.com

- Online Ordering
- Find a Pharmacy
- Parent Resources
- Videos
- Treatment Centers
- Downloads

Narcan Lockbox & Stigma Reduction Campus Readiness and Needs Assessment

Key Findings:

- **Moderate concern, strong support:** The average concern level was 2.95 out of 5, with 56% of respondents supporting public Narcan lockboxes.
- **Training gaps, but high interest:** While 53% have not received Narcan training, 82% are willing to, with a preference for online and video-based formats.
- **Top lockbox locations:** Residence halls, academic buildings, and wellness centers were identified as the most appropriate sites.
- **Key barriers:** Sustainability, cost, and potential misuse remain the biggest challenges.
- **Stigma remains a barrier:** Most respondents agree that stigma limits access to overdose prevention resources. Importantly, there was broad disagreement with the idea that Narcan availability encourages drug use.
- **Preferred messaging:** Fact-based, myth-busting, and public health-focused messaging were strongly favored.
- **Campaign support:** 59% support stigma-reduction campaigns, while others expressed openness but emphasized the need for leadership buy-in and alignment with Narcan lockbox initiatives.

Questions?

Contact Information:

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STOP OVERDOSE NEBRASKA
————— *Help Save A Life* —————

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