NALOXONE

- Naloxone is a medicine designed to quickly reverse opioid overdose.
- It can very quickly restore normal breathing to a person whose breathing has slowed or stopped as a result of overdosing with heroin or prescription opioid pain medications.
- FDA-approved formulations of naloxone include:
  - Injectable (If available, nose spray attachment can be used)
  - Prepackaged Nasal Spray NARCAN®

- Naloxone is commonly used by paramedics, emergency room doctors, and other specially trained first responders.
- Friends, family members, and others in the community may administer auto-injector and nasal spray formulation of naloxone to someone who has overdosed.
- In Texas, some pharmacies may distribute naloxone without a prescription.

Prescription drug misuse has become a large public health problem.
Misuse can lead to addiction, and even overdose deaths.
After marijuana and alcohol, prescription drugs are the most commonly misused substances in the U.S. for ages 14 and older.
More than half of the drug overdose deaths in the United States each year result from prescription drug misuse.
The most common substances related to poisonings in Texas are pain relievers, including opioids.
Each year Texas poison centers receive thousands of calls regarding Xanax® and other sedatives, in teenagers.

Know when to call 911
Call 911 when you see signs of distress
- Unconsciousness
- Difficulty breathing
- Difficulty swallowing
- Seizures or convulsions
- Chest pain
- Getting worse quickly

Prevent poisonings & abuse by storing medicines in a safe place & disposing of any unwanted or unused medicines.

POISON CENTER
1-800-222-1222
Rx OPIOIDS

- Prescription (Rx) opioids are highly addictive pain relievers with an origin similar to that of heroin. Opioids can cause a high and are often abused, leading to overdose deaths.

- Common opioids
  - Fentanyl (Duragesic®)
  - Hydrocodone (Vicodin®, Norco®)
  - Oxycodone (OxyContin®)

- Known as
  - Hillbilly Heroin
  - Oxy, OC, Oxy-cotton
  - Happy Pills
  - Vikes

- Health effects
  - Pain relief
  - Drowsiness
  - Nausea & Constipation
  - Euphoria (high) & Confusion
  - Slowed breathing
  - Death

- Fentanyl
  - Fentanyl is a synthetic opioid pain reliever that is used for severe pain due to injury, surgery, or cancer.
  - Fentanyl is much more potent than heroin and morphine. Since it is stronger, smaller doses of fentanyl can cause overdose.
  - Fentanyl is often mixed with heroin or cocaine which can make them much more dangerous.
  - Fentanyl and closely related compounds such as carfentanyl are being sold as heroin, cocaine, and are even being made to resemble prescription tablets.

Rx SEDATIVES

- Prescription (Rx) sedatives (tranquilizers, depressants) are medicines that slow brain activity & are often used to treat anxiety and sleep problems.

- Common sedatives
  - Zolpidem (Ambien®)
  - Diazepam (Valium®)
  - Alprazolam (Xanax®)

- Health effects
  - Drowsiness & slurred speech
  - Poor concentration
  - Confusion & dizziness
  - Problems with movement and memory
  - Lowered blood pressure
  - Slowed breathing

- Taking sedatives with other sedatives, opioids, or alcohol increases the effect and dangers of both substances.

Rx STIMULANTS

- Prescription (Rx) stimulants are medicines that increase alertness, attention, energy, blood pressure, heart rate, and breathing rate.

- Common stimulants
  - Dextroamphetamine (Dexedrine®)
  - Methylphenidate (Ritalin® and Concerta®)
  - Amphetamines (Adderall®)

- Known as
  - Skippy
  - The Smart Drug
  - Vitamin R
  - Speed
  - Uppers

- Health effects
  - Increased alertness, attention & energy
  - Increased blood pressure & heart rate
  - Narrowed blood vessels
  - Increased blood sugar
  - Opened-up breathing passages

- In high doses, stimulants can cause dangerously high body temperature, irregular heartbeat, heart failure & seizures.
- Long-term abuse of stimulants can lead to heart problems, psychosis, anger, and paranoia.