

CALL 1-800-222-1222
FOR QUESTIONS
ABOUT MEDICATIONS

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.



DID YOU KNOW?

- 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



PRESCRIPTION DRUG EPIDEMIC



TEXAS POISON CENTER NETWORK

poisoncontrol.org

POISON
Help
1-800-222-1222

Call **1-800-222-1222** to reach your local poison center.

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, Oxycotton
 - 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.



Emergency. Information. Prevention.

**CALL US FIRST,
24 HOURS A DAY,
365 DAYS A YEAR!**

OUR SERVICES ARE FREE