ADDICTION IS A DISEASE.
RECOVERY IS POSSIBLE.
TREATMENT IS AVAILABLE.

CALL BH Link
414-LINK
401-414-5465
HOW TO RESPOND TO AN OPIOID OVERDOSE

Signs of an overdose include:
- Tiny, pinpoint pupils
- Slow and shallow breathing
- Unconsciousness and/or unresponsiveness

1. Call 911
- Give your exact location as best you can.
- Say if the person is conscious (awake) or not.
- Say if the person’s breathing has slowed down or stopped.

2. Administer naloxone (Narcan®)
- Follow the directions for nasal or intramuscular kits. Naloxone typically wears off in 30-90 minutes.

3. Support breathing
- If the person is breathing again but still sedated, they don't need more naloxone. If the person is not breathing, perform rescue breathing and start CPR as directed by 911.
- Push hard and fast in the center of the chest to the beat of the classic disco song, “Stayin' Alive”.

4. Be prepared to give a second dose of naloxone
- If the person is not breathing after 2-3 minutes, give a second dose of naloxone.
- Put the person on their side with their body supported by a bent knee. This will help keep their airway clear and stop them from choking if they throw up.

DON’T BE AFRAID TO CALL 911

The Rhode Island Good Samaritan Law provides certain legal protection when you call 911 when someone is overdosing, whether you have drugs on you or not.

SAVE A LIFE. GET NALOXONE.

Naloxone (sometimes called Narcan®) is an antidote used to reverse an opioid overdose. Naloxone is available without a prescription at pharmacies across Rhode Island. Most insurers cover the cost of naloxone. You can also get free online naloxone training and request a naloxone kit free of charge. Learn more at PreventOverdoseRI.org.

SAFER DRUG USE PRACTICES

- Get naloxone. Teach friends and family the signs of an overdose and how to respond with naloxone.
- Help each other. Make sure someone is with you who can call 911 and administer naloxone in an emergency.
- Don’t mix drugs like benzos, alcohol, heroin, oxys, percs, or vikes.
- Not taking drugs for a while can lower your tolerance level. If you must restart, start low and go slow.
- Use fentanyl test strips. The very strong opioid fentanyl comes in pills, powders, and powder mixed with other drugs, especially cocaine and heroin. Fentanyl test strips are easy to use tests to see if your drugs have been mixed or cut with fentanyl. When you get your result, you can make the decision about what to do next.

Fentanyl

No Fentanyl