

How to Use This Naloxone Kit



Make the Call. Be Prepared to Help

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.

You can save a life.

Additional Resources:

If you or someone you care about is experiencing a substance use or mental health crisis, there are 24/7 local resources to help.

Call or text **988** or chat **988lifeline.org** to connect with a trained crisis counselor, or go to BH Link's Walk-In Triage Center at 975 Waterman Ave. in East Providence. Hablamos español

Visit [PreventOverdoseRI.org](https://www.preventoverdoseri.org) for information on local harm reduction, treatment, and recovery support services.

Get to Know Naloxone

How do I know if I should use naloxone?

If you think someone is experiencing an opioid overdose, it does not hurt to give naloxone.

Naloxone reverses the effects of opioids such as heroin, methadone, morphine, opium, codeine, hydrocodone, oxycodone, and fentanyl. It does not reverse the effects of other types of drugs like alcohol, xylazine, or stimulants like cocaine. If the person has taken mixed drugs and an opioid is involved, the person will likely start breathing but continue to be sedated from the other drugs.

Can naloxone be harmful?

Serious side effects of naloxone are very rare.

The most common side effect is opioid withdrawal, since naloxone reverses the effect of opioids. Common opioid withdrawal symptoms include aches, irritability, sweating, runny nose, diarrhea, nausea, and vomiting.

If you think someone is experiencing an overdose, give them naloxone. It can save them from brain damage or even death.

Where can I get naloxone?

You can get a kit from a local pharmacy without a prescription, though there may be a co-pay depending on your insurance. To learn more, visit [preventoverdoseri.org/get-naloxone](https://www.preventoverdoseri.org/get-naloxone)

PREVENT OVERDOSE RI

Understand Overdose

How do I know if it's an overdose?

To reverse an overdose, you have to know what one looks like.

Look for these signs:

Tiny, pinpoint pupils



Slow and shallow breathing



Unconsciousness and/or unresponsiveness



If someone is experiencing an opioid overdose and is given naloxone, they should wake up in two to three minutes.

If the person does not wake up in three minutes or loses consciousness again after 30 – 90 minutes, give them a second dose of naloxone. Stay with the person until help arrives.

How to Respond to an Overdose

1

Check for responsiveness



Call their name and rub the middle of their chest with a closed fist.

2

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.

- 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.

3

Administer naloxone



the label may say "Narcan"

Follow the directions for nasal or intramuscular naloxone kits. Naloxone typically wears off in 30-90 minutes.

4

Support breathing



- If the person is breathing again but is 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".

5

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 in the recovery position with their body supported by a bent knee. This will help keep their airway clear and stop them from choking if they throw up.