

Naloxone should be given to any person who shows signs of **opioid poisoning**.

1: Look for the signs

Opioid overdose is common with those who use heroin, oxycodone, hydrocodone, methadone, fentanyl, and morphine.

- Gurgling, gasping, snorting
- Blue lips or fingertips
- Unconsciousness
- Pale, gray skin
- Slow or no breathing.

If an overdose is suspected, **grind knuckles** into their sternum (breastbone).

2: Call 911

Just say “someone is unresponsive and not breathing.”

Be sure to give a specific address and description of your location.

3: Give naloxone

Naloxone is appropriate for ALL opioid overdoses, including fentanyl.

- **Lay** the person on their back.
- **Hold** naloxone spray with your thumb on the red plunger.
- **Insert** the nozzle in one nostril.
- **Press** the plunger firmly to give the person a dose.
- If they do not respond within **2-3 minutes**, give a second dose.
- With fentanyl overdoses, multiple doses may be required.
- The goal of naloxone is to restore breathing, not complete arousal.

4: Give CPR

Continue to provide resuscitation while naloxone takes effect.

Rescue Breathing

- **Clear** their mouth and throat of obstructions.
- **Tilt** their head back and pinch their nose closed.
- **Place CPR mask** over their mouth and nose.
- **Blow** slowly into the CPR mask valve.
- **Watch** for the person’s chest (not the stomach) to rise.
- **Remove** your mouth, allowing them to exhale.
- **Repeat** one breath every 5 seconds.

Chest Compressions

- **Press** hard and fast on the center of their chest.
- **Keep** your arms extended.

5: Monitor

Most people return to spontaneous breathing in 2-3 minutes.

- Naloxone effects may be short and overdose symptoms may return.
- Get them to an emergency department as quickly as possible.
- If naloxone doesn’t work, they most are not overdosing on an opioid.

The Good Samaritan Law protects you and the victim from drug possession charges.



Scan for a **how-to** video

Overdose Don'ts

- **DON'T slap the person.** If you cannot wake the person by shouting, rubbing your knuckles on the sternum, or light pinching, the person may be unconscious.
- **DON'T put the person into a cold bath or shower.** This increases the risk of falling, drowning, or shock.
- **DON'T inject the person with any substance** (e.g., saltwater, milk, stimulants). The only safe and appropriate treatment is naloxone.
- **DON'T try to make the person vomit drugs.** Choking or inhaling vomit can cause a fatal injury.