

## What is an opiate?

- They come from the opium flower or made by a drug company
- Opiates slow down the nervous system, including your breath

## Opiates

### Purpose

To relieve pain

### Opiates includes

Heroin, Morphine, Codeine, Suboxone, Methadone, Oxycodone, (Oxycontin, Percodan, Percocet), and Fentanyl

## Opiates Differ

Drug	Duration	Potency
Heroin	6-8 hours	*****
Oxycontin	3-6 hours	*****
Fentanyl	2-4 hours	*****
Methadone	24-32 hours	****
Morphine	3-6 hours	***
Demerol	2-4 hours	**
Codeine	3-4 hours	*

## What is an opiate overdose?

- Person has too much of an opiate in their system, resulting in respiratory depression which causes the person to stop breathing
- Usually occurs 1-3 hours after the drug is used

## Who is at risk for overdose?

Experienced users, usually not “New User”

## When does overdose happen?

- 1-3 hours after use
- Relapse
- After periods of being clean new city/new neighborhood
- New dealer
- Different way of using

## **Why does an overdose happen?**

- Relapse
- Mixing drugs such as prescription drugs (opiates) and alcohol
- Physical Health- other illnesses
- Fluctuations in purity of the substances
- Some combinations can be DEADLY!**

### **•Top Overdose Risk Factors:**

- 1.Using drugs alone
- 2.Not knowing tolerance
- 3.Mixing drugs and alcohol
- 4.Physical health

## **Recognition of someone who is REALLY HIGH**

- Muscles become relaxed
- Speech is slurred/slow
- Sleepy looking
- Nodding
- Will respond to stimulation like yelling, sternal rub, pinching

## **Recognition of someone who is OVERDOSING**

- Deep snoring or gurgling
- Very infrequent or not breathing
- Pale, clammy skin
- Slow heart beat/pulse
- Blue lips and /or fingertips

## **Heavy nod, not responsive to stimulation Responding to an overdose**

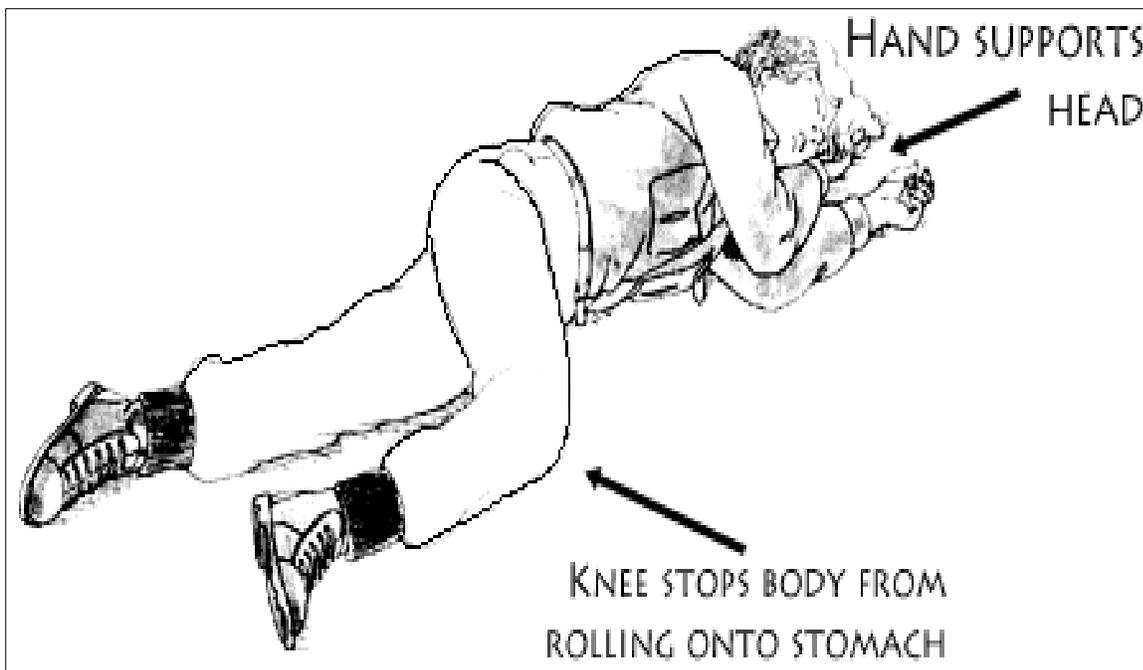
- Asses the signs
- Stimulation: call name loudly and sternal rub
- CALL 911
- Rescue Breathing
- Recovery position
- Narcan
- Stay with the person

## Tips in calling 911

- Stay Calm
- Have address and location ready- be specific
- Tell the dispatcher the person has collapsed and whether or not they are breathing – you do NOT have to say it's an overdose, HOWEVER if they ask, be honest you don't know

## Rescue Breathing

- Make sure there is nothing in the mouth
- Tilt the head back, lift chin, pinch nose
- Give a breath every 5 seconds
- Recovery Position**



## **What is Narcan**

- nasal spray
- reverses the effects of an opiate overdose
- safe and effective and has no potential for abuse
- Wakes the person who is overdosing in 3-5minutes and lasts 30-90 minutes
- It prevents the opiate from attaching to the part of the brain that is effected when too many opiates are used, causing the person not to breathe and eventually death!

**For More Information Please Contact**  
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