

# Opioid Overdose Prevention for Law Enforcement and First Responders

Sponsored by the NC Office of EMS



# Overview

- The goal of this presentation is to help inform the public safety community of North Carolina on how to recognize and treat suspected opioid overdoses.

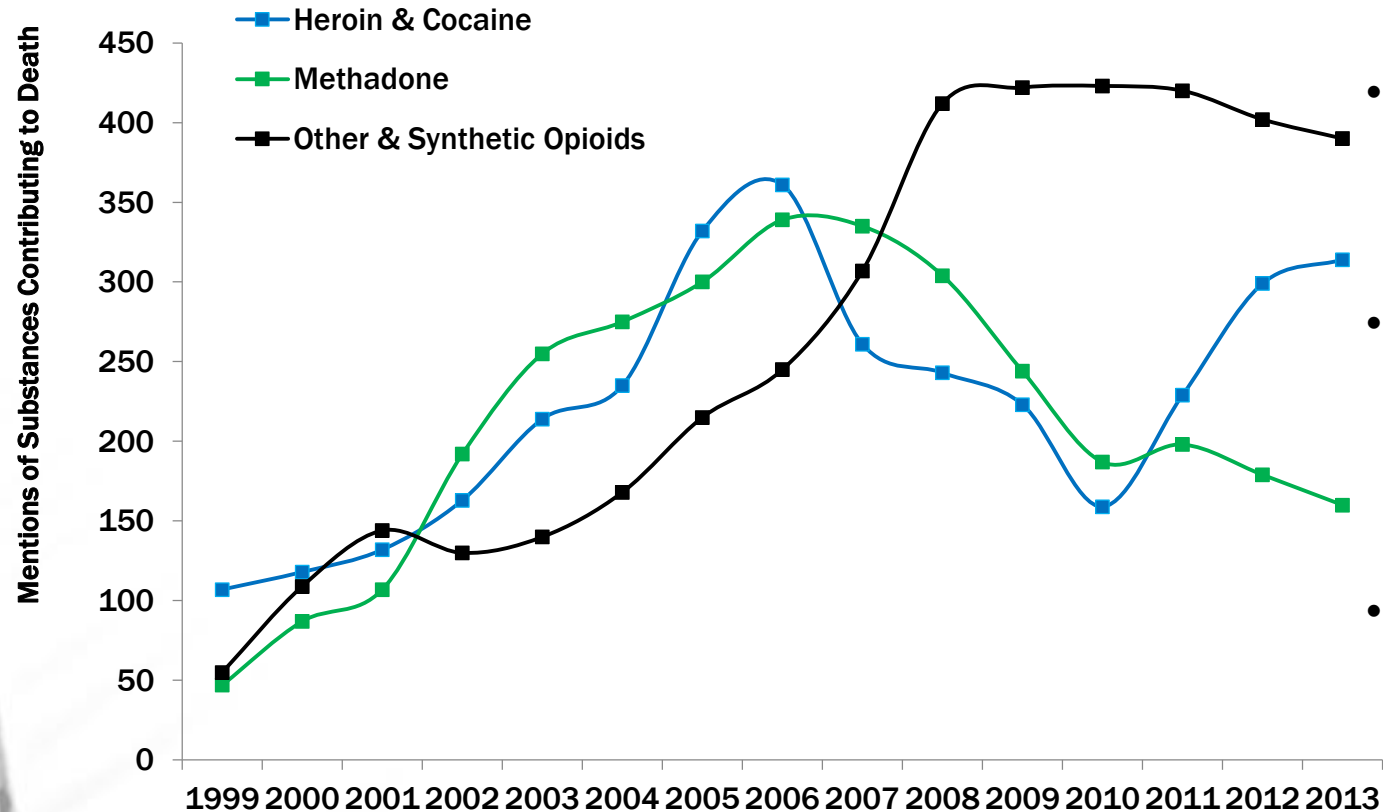


# Learning Objectives

- Background on naloxone programs in public safety
- Understand the Good Samaritan Law
- Identify characteristics of an opioid overdose
- Learn how to assist in treatment of suspected opioid overdose



# Background



- Prescription opioid pain medications account for the majority of overdose deaths.
- Most of these deaths were unintentional. Only 17% of these deaths were suicide attempts (2010).
- NC has a higher mortality rate for overdose than the US national average

# What is Naloxone?

- Naloxone is a non-addictive prescription medication that helps to block the effects of opiates on the body
- It has been used by EMS routinely for over 40 years
- There are no effects if an opiate has not been used
- Works quickly (1-3 minutes)





# Why Do LEO's and Responders Carry Naloxone?

- LEO's and FD's are typically the first to arrive on scene
- Often a feeling of helplessness while waiting for EMS arrival
- Help improve interactions with the public
- Assist in preventing opioid overdose deaths
- Decrease incidents of PTSD among public safety



# SB20 911 Good Samaritan/Naloxone Access Law

- The purpose of the law is to prevent the fear of prosecution from preventing someone calling 911 for the victim
- Witnesses to overdoses cannot be prosecuted for possession of small amounts of drugs, paraphernalia, or underage drinking
- Civil liabilities for doctors who prescribe Naloxone have been removed so that families, friends, and public safety can carry and administer this antidote
- Liability for those who administer Naloxone has also been removed
- Effective April 9, 2013

# Common Opiates

- Heroin
- Codeine
- Demerol
- Morphine
- Darvocet
- Fentanyl
- Dilaudid
- Methadone
- Opium
- Hydrocodone
- Oxycodone
- Vicodin
- OxyContin
- Tylenol 3
- Tylox
- Levorphanol
- Percocet
- Percodan



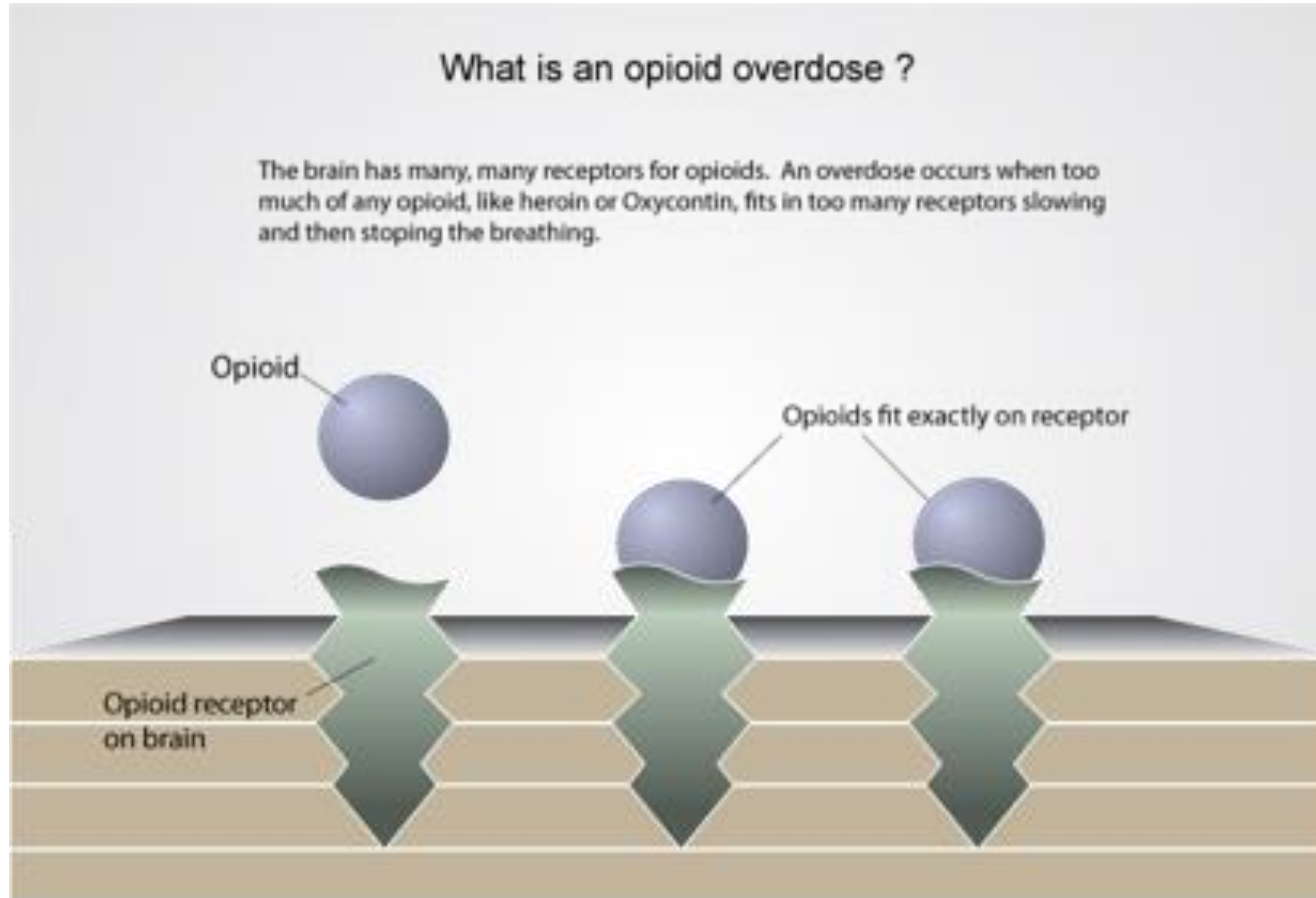


# Signs of Overdose

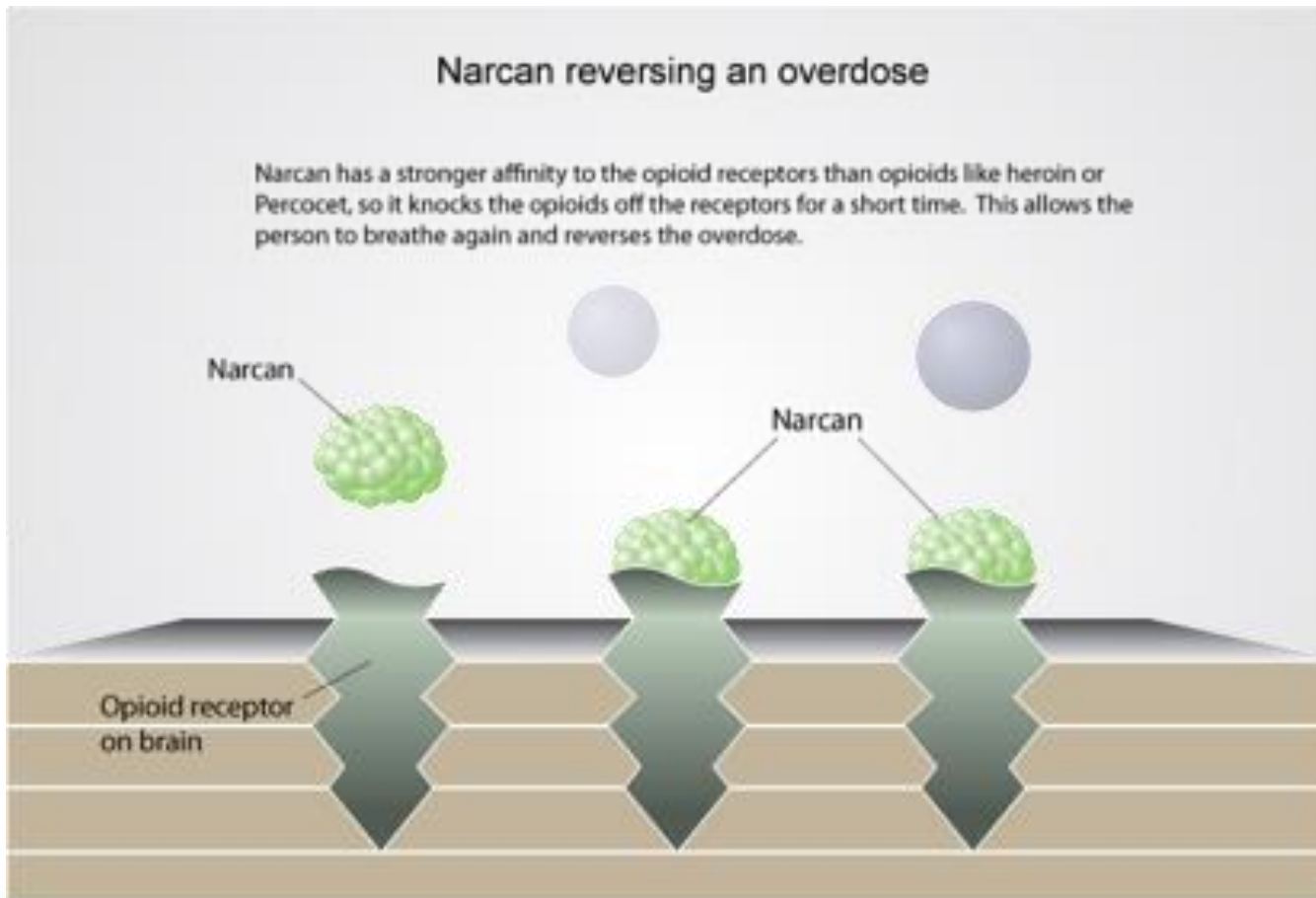
- Blue or pale skin
- Limp body
- Slow/Absent pulse
- Vomiting
- Very slow, irregular, or absent breathing
- Choking, gurgling, or snoring sounds
- Loss of consciousness



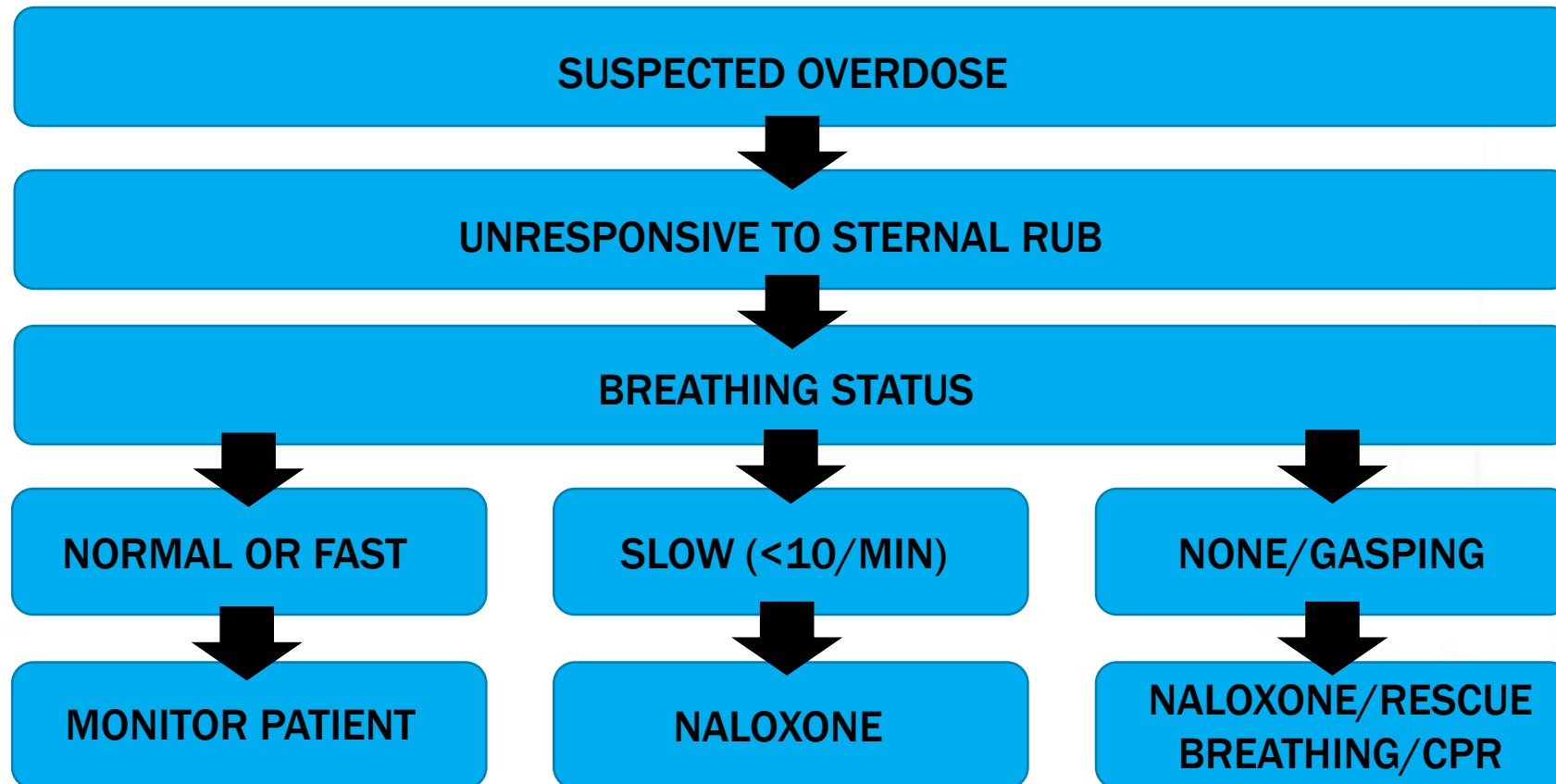
# What Happens in an Overdose?



# How Naloxone Works



# When to use Naloxone





# Common Routes of Administration

- Auto-Injector (EVZIO)
- Intranasal (IN)



# Auto-Injector Packaging

**Evzio**  
naloxone HCl Injection, USP  
0.4mg auto-injector

**1**  
PULL OFF  
**RED** Safety  
Guard

**2**  
Place **BLACK**  
END Against  
Patient's  
**OUTER THIGH**  
Then **PRESS**  
**FIRMLY** For  
**5 SECONDS.**

**FOR OPIOID  
EMERGENCIES**

**SEEK EMERGENCY  
MEDICAL ATTENTION**

**NEEDLE END**

**KEEP FINGERS AWAY  
FROM BLACK END**

**After Use:**

- Replace outer case
- Ensure proper disposal
- Refill prescription

**Each 0.4 mL contains:**

- 0.4 mg naloxone hydrochloride
- 3.34 mg sodium chloride
- Water for injection

**ips**  
Enabled with

**kaléo**  
Richmond, VA 23219

EXP: MM/YYYY  
123456789012  
Lot: MA006

FOR SINGLE USE INJECTION  
**SEE OTHER SIDE FOR  
USE INSTRUCTIONS**

DRUG VIEWING  
WINDOW

*Replace if solution is  
discolored, cloudy, or  
contains particles.*





# Auto-Injector Administration

**Step 1.** Pull EVZIO from the outer case. See Figure B.

**Figure B**



**Do not** go to Step 2 (Do not remove the **Red** safety guard.) until you are ready to use EVZIO. **If you are not ready to use EVZIO, put it back in the outer case for later use.**

# Auto-Injector Administration

**Step 2.** Pull off the **Red** safety guard. See Figure C.  
To reduce the chance of an accidental injection, do not touch the **Black** base of the auto-injector, which is where the needle comes out.

**Figure C**



If an accidental injection happens, get medical help right away.  
**Note:** The **Red** safety guard is made to fit tightly. **Pull firmly to remove.**

# Auto-Injector Administration

**Step 3.** Place the **Black** end of EVZIO against the outer thigh, through clothing, if needed. **Press firmly** and hold in place for 5 seconds. See Figure D.

If you give EVZIO to an infant less than 1 year old, pinch the middle of the outer thigh before you give EVZIO and continue to pinch while you give EVZIO.

**Figure D**



**Note:** EVZIO makes a distinct sound (click and hiss) when it is pressed against the thigh. This is normal and means that EVZIO is working correctly. Keep EVZIO firmly pressed on the thigh for 5 seconds after you hear the click and hiss sound. The needle will inject and then retract back up into the EVZIO auto-injector and is not visible after use.

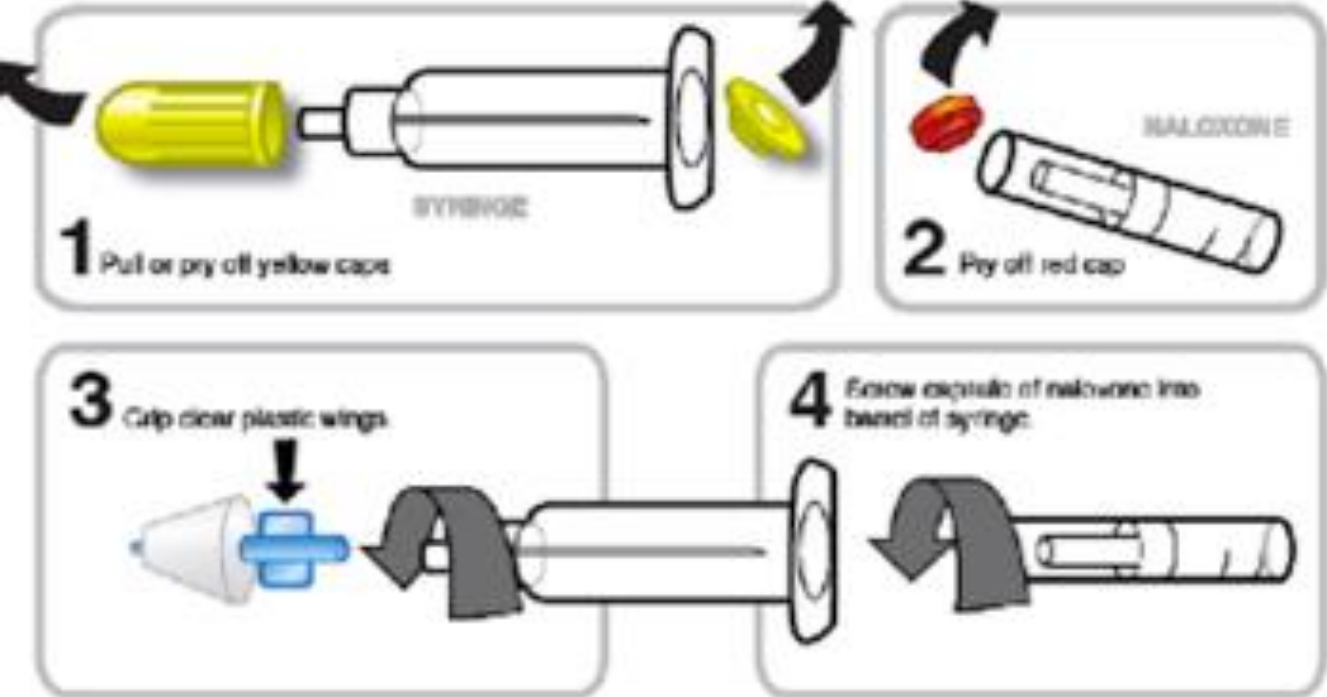




# Naloxone Assembly



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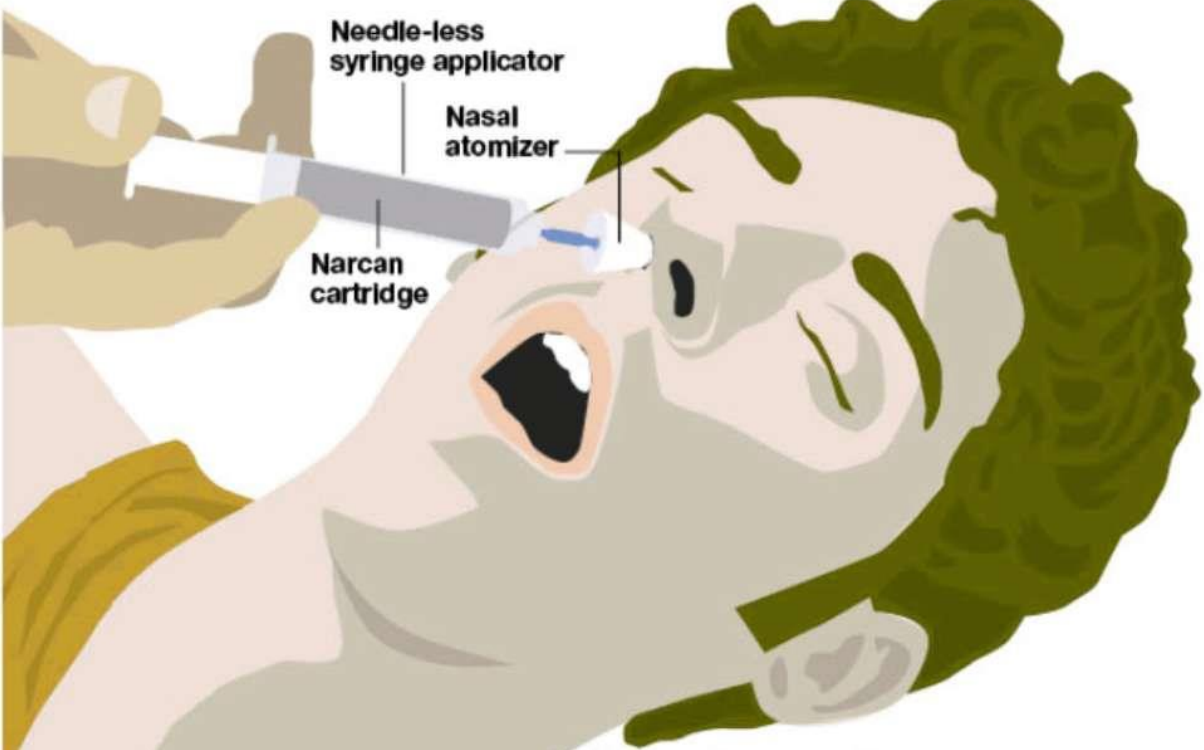


# How to Use Naloxone

- Assemble kit
- Wipe the nose clear if necessary
- Keep the head tilted backwards slightly with one hand
- Insert atomizer into one nostril
- Gently, but firmly, spray half (1mL) into the nostril
- Spray the remainder into the other nostril



# Naloxone Administration



# Special Considerations

- Always keep scene safety as your top priority
- Make sure EMS has been activated and keep them updated
- If the patient does not have a pulse, immediately begin CPR along with administration of Naloxone
- If the patient is gasping or is not breathing, initiate CPR/rescue breathing as necessary in addition to Naloxone administration
- Naloxone is quick acting (1-3 minutes) and typically lasts 30-90 minutes



# Special Considerations

- A repeat dose may be necessary in some cases
- As the patient begins to awaken, they are often nauseated, vomiting, and combative, due to rapid withdrawal
- If they do begin to vomit, help roll them to their side and monitor their airway
- There is no effect on the patient if Naloxone is given and they have not used opiates





# Examples of Naloxone Kits



**Questions?**





# Special Thanks to our Partners



# Sources

- <https://www.communitycarenc.org/>
- <http://www.evzio.com>
- <http://www.ncga.state.nc.us/Sessions/2013/Bills/Senate/HTML/S20v7.html>
- <http://www.nchrc.org/>
- <http://www.projectlazarus.org/>