

# STOP OVERDOSE



Overdose deaths in North Dakota increased from 20 deaths in 2013 to 61 deaths in 2015.

CDC/NCHS, National Vital Statistics System, Mortality



Law Enforcement Departments carry naloxone in the US.

<http://www.nchrc.org/law-enforcement/us-law-enforcement-who-carry-naloxone/>

## NALOXONE is a prescription medication that temporarily reverses an opioid overdose

Law Enforcement carrying naloxone reduces the time between opioid overdose symptoms and effective intervention. Especially for law enforcement in rural areas, administering naloxone before Emergency Medical Services arrives could save a life.

### SIGNS OF OPIOID OVERDOSE

- ✓ Unresponsive or minimally responsive, with a pulse
- ✓ Breathing is slow or has stopped (agonal breathing, respiratory arrest)
- ✓ Face is clammy to touch or has lost color
- ✓ Constricted pupils
- ✓ Fingernails or lips are blue or purple
- ✓ Vomiting
- ✓ Slow heartbeat and/or low blood pressure

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. SAMHSA Opioid Overdose Prevention Toolkit. HHS Publication No. (SMA) 16-4742. Rockville, MD: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, 2016.



For more information, visit  
[prevention.nd.gov/stopoverdose](http://prevention.nd.gov/stopoverdose)

Created in partnership with the Reducing Pharmaceutical Narcotics in our Communities Task Force



# WHEN RESPONDING TO AN OVERDOSE

- 1 Ensure scene safety and personal protection
- 2 Confirm appropriate resources are responding
- 3 Perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR)
- 4 Administer naloxone
- 5 Monitor response

**Department Policy:** Law Enforcement agencies can develop policies and procedures to address officers administering naloxone

**Storage:** Naloxone should be kept as close to room temperature as possible and out of direct sunlight

**Expiration:** 18-24 months

**Safety:** Naloxone has no side effects and causes no harm even when administered to a person not overdosing on opioids

**Liability:** North Dakota law protects anyone who receives, possesses, or administers naloxone under North Dakota Century Code 23-01-42



Naloxone administration causes rapid opioid withdrawal which may result in the patient becoming agitated, irritable, or restless. Most patients respond to naloxone by returning to spontaneous breathing within 3-5 minutes of administration. Patients should be observed for re-emergence of overdose symptoms as often times naloxone does not last as long as the substance causing the overdose.

## LAW ENFORCEMENT STRATEGIES TO PREVENTING OVERDOSE DEATHS

- Encourage department policies and procedures for administering naloxone
- Use naloxone to reverse an overdose
- Be familiar with and educate community members about overdose prevention
- Advocate for the availability of effective opioid addiction treatment in the community
- Promote safe disposal of unused medications by encouraging use of local Take Back locations. For locations in your community, visit [takeback.nd.gov](https://www.bja.gov/naloxone)

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