

# What you should know about naloxone

Naloxone is also known by its brand names, Narcan<sup>™</sup>, Evzio<sup>®</sup> and Kloxxado<sup>™</sup>. It is a medication called an “opioid antagonist,” used to counter the effects of an opioid overdose, such as fentanyl or heroin. Naloxone is easy to administer, making it ideal for treating an overdose in someone who has been prescribed opioid pain medication or who uses heroin or other street drugs.<sup>1</sup>

## Knowing the signs of an overdose<sup>2</sup>

- Heavy nodding
- No response when you yell the person’s name or rub the middle of the chest hard
- Blue lips or blue fingertips
- Slow breathing (less than one breath every five seconds) or no breathing
- Very limp body and very pale face
- Choking sounds or a gurgling, snoring noise

## Where to get naloxone

In addition to being a prescription medication, naloxone is now available over-the-counter in some states. To get your state’s naloxone access rules and resources, go to [safeproject.us](https://safeproject.us).

Visit your local pharmacy or go to [narcan.com](https://narcan.com) for more information and to find pharmacy request forms. Go to [naloxoneautoinjector.com](https://naloxoneautoinjector.com) to learn more about Evzio, and [kloxxado.com](https://kloxxado.com) for Kloxxado.

## How to test street drugs for fentanyl

Fentanyl test strips are inexpensive and typically give results within five minutes, which can be the difference between life or death. Even if the test is negative, take caution as test strips might not detect more potent fentanyl-like drugs, like carfentanil.<sup>3</sup>

**Fentanyl is a synthetic opioid 50–100 times more potent than morphine.<sup>3</sup>**

If you or someone you know is struggling with an opioid addiction, please call the Substance Use Disorder Helpline at **1-855-780-5955** for guidance and referral to treatment.

## How to use naloxone in an emergency<sup>1</sup>

In the event of an overdose, remain calm and follow these steps to quickly use naloxone in nasal spray form:

- 1** Lay the person on their back to receive a dose of NARCAN<sup>®</sup> Nasal Spray.

- 2** Remove NARCAN Nasal Spray from the box. Peel back the tab with the circle to open the NARCAN Nasal Spray.



- 3** Hold the NARCAN Nasal Spray with your thumb on the bottom of the red plunger and your first and middle fingers on either side of the nozzle.



- 4** Tilt the person’s head back and provide support under the neck with your hand. Gently insert the tip of the nozzle into one nostril until your fingers on either side of the nozzle are against the bottom of the person’s nose.



- 5** Press the red plunger firmly to give the dose of NARCAN Nasal Spray.

- 6** Remove the NARCAN Nasal Spray from the nostril after giving the dose.

**Important:** If no reaction in three minutes, give a second dose. Once naloxone is administered, dial 911 immediately, as the drug will wear off in 30 to 90 minutes.

1. [narcan.com](https://narcan.com)

2. How to prevent an overdose, [poison.org](https://poison.org)

3. Fentanyl Facts, Centers for Disease Control (CDC), [cdc.gov/stopoverdose/fentanyl/index.html](https://cdc.gov/stopoverdose/fentanyl/index.html)