

# NALOXONE - Be Prepared For An Opioid Emergency

## WHO IS AT RISK OF OPIOID OVERDOSE?

- People who use prescription opioids, in particular those taking higher doses
- People who use any type of opioids in combination with other sedating substances such as benzodiazepines or alcohol
- People with opioid dependence, in particular following reduced tolerance following detox, rehab, release from prison, breaks in treatment or stopping treatment
- People who inject opioids

## WHAT ARE THE SIGNS OF OPIOID OVERDOSE

- **UNCONSCIOUS OR NOT RESPONDING:** Not waking up or responding to voice commands or touch. Shake their shoulders. Speak clearly in both ears.
- **APPEARANCE:** Blue/grey skin and lips. Clammy. Very small pinpoint pupils
- **BREATH:** Very slow or irregular breathing or no breathing at all. May also be a rasping or snoring sound

## HOW TO RESPOND

- Call 999 ask for an ambulance and give location
- Let them know if the person is:
- **UNCONSCIOUS BUT BREATHING** – Administer Naloxone and put them in the recovery position
- **UNCONSCIOUS AND NOT BREATHING** – Administer Naloxone and start CPR
- Stay with the person
- **DO NOT** walk the person round, put in shower/bath, slap them etc

## HOW NALOXONE WORKS

- Reverses the effects of opioid drugs but starts to wear off after 20 to 30 minutes
- Only works on opioid drugs (safe to use if you are unsure what has been taken)
- Give a dose every 2-3 minutes until either person comes round OR Emergency services arrive and take over OR there is no Naloxone left

## FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTION LEAFLET PROVIDED WITH YOUR KIT

### PRENOXAD INJECTION

- Keep sealed until ready to use]
- Twist cap off syringe and twist on the needle
- Inject into outer thigh or upper arm muscle
- Give one dose at a time, repeat every 2-3 minutes if no response
- Place in original yellow box between injections and after use place in a sharps bin
- More info - [http://www.prenoxad injection.com/hcp/abt\\_naloxone.html](http://www.prenoxad injection.com/hcp/abt_naloxone.html)

### NYXOID NASAL SPRAY

- **DO NOT TEST THE SPRAY FIRST – THERE IS ONLY ONE DOSE IN EACH NASAL SPRAY** (Box contains 2 kits)
- Tilt head back
- Put the nasal spray into the nostril and press the plunger until it clicks
- If no response after 2-3 minutes open another kit and give another dose of Nyxoid in the other nostril
- More info - <https://www.nyxoid.com/uk>

**IF YOU HAVE TO USE A KIT OR IT IS OUT OF DATE – REMEMBER TO GET ANOTHER ONE**