

A Parent's Guide To:

Opioids

Know the Facts

Drug overdose is the **leading cause** of unintentional death in the U.S.

 94%
of unintentional overdoses in Connecticut were due to **OPIOIDS**.

31 deaths per 100,000 are caused by Opioids in Connecticut. This is more than double the national average of **14 deaths per 100,000**.

Recognizing Opioids

Opioids come in, and can be administered in, many ways. Knowing what to look for can help you identify someone who might struggle with a substance use disorder.

By Mouth

These types of opioids can be found in the form of pills and syrups.



Intranasal

One way to consume opioids is through the nose, usually by crushing pills into a fine powder.

Transmucosal

Opioids can be absorbed through the skin in the mouth, and are sometimes taken as a "lollipop".



Through the Skin

Opioids can be consumed through medicated patches on the skin.

Intravenous

Needles can be used to inject a liquid form of opioids.



Signs of Use & Withdrawal

- Tools are needed for use, look out for:
 - Tightly rolled papers or dollars
 - Spoons with burn marks
 - Small pieces of wet cotton
 - Needles

- Symptoms of Use or Withdrawal
 - Tiredness
 - Weight loss
 - Moodiness
 - Isolation
 - Anxiety
 - Irritability

Steps to Take In Case of An Overdose

1

CALL 911. If you have been using; do not worry, you are protected by the Good Samaritan Law and will not face repercussions.

2

Try to wake them up. Yell their name, rub your knuckles into their chest or upper lip, and try pinching the back of their arm.

3

Administer Naloxone or Narcan as soon as possible. If the first dose doesn't seem to work, give it to them again in three minutes.

4

Provide rescue breathing until an ambulance arrives.

5

Roll them on to their side into a rescue position.

6

Be calm and understanding. This is a scary situation for everyone involved.

Recovery

Outpatient Treatment

Can be in-home or at a doctor's office but focuses on reducing or eliminating use of substances.

Intensive Outpatient Treatment

In-home treatment that occurs several times a week. This type of treatment keeps the person's support system in place.

Residential Treatment

Treatment outside of the home and community, focuses on changing the environment and providing skills to be successful.

For more information contact us on Facebook or Instagram:
enorwichpreventioncouncil