

NARCAN SAVES LIVES

Mira Friedman, MSW

Lead for Health Education and Clinic Support Services

Student Health and Wellbeing

mira@humboldt.edu

Narcan

Narcan is a brand-name nasal spray that contains the active drug naloxone.

Narcan is a medication that immediately reverses the effects of opioid overdose

Opioid overdose events where naloxone is administered are reversed at rates between 83%-100%

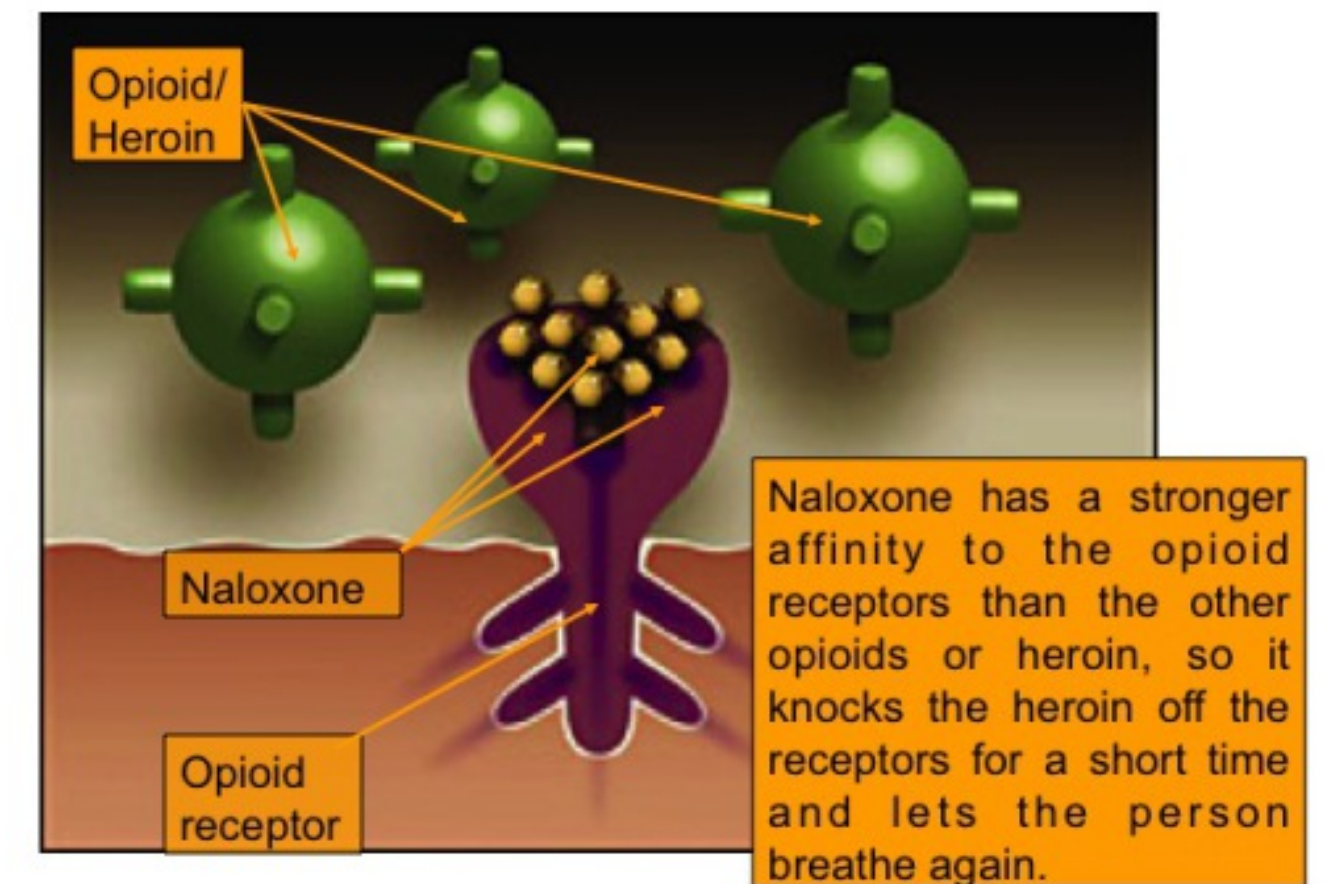


Naloxone is a safe, non-addictive medication that can reverse an overdose and save lives.

When someone is overdosing on opioids the medicine essentially knocks the drugs off the brain's receptors.

Narcan is safe for pregnant people, children and pets.

Naloxone reversing an OD



Opioids occur naturally in plants.

An opioid is broadly defined as any synthetic, semisynthetic, or natural drug which acts on the brain's opioid receptors.

Examples: Codeine, Vicodin, Heroin, Morphine, Fentanyl

Fentanyl

100 times stronger than morphine
50 times stronger than heroin



A fatal dose, for most people, is around 2 milligrams.

Multiple doses of narcan are often needed to reduce an overdose when fentanyl is present.

Fentanyl

Fentanyl is being mixed into all kinds of drugs including ecstasy, cocaine, methamphetamines, heroin, and even cannabis.

Fentanyl is commonly found in what appear to be prescription pills for pain, sleep, or anxiety that are sold or shared from sources other than legitimate pharmacies.

In the United States, Fentanyl overdose fatalities were 2,666 in 2011 and spiked to 31,335 in 2018.

6 out of every 10 counterfeit prescription pills tested by the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency lab in 2022 contained fentanyl.

It's cheap to manufacture and easy to transport because it only takes a minuscule amount to get a strong drug effect.

Dr Candy Stockton, M.D.

Humboldt County Public Health Officer

**70 overdoses related to
fentanyl in Humboldt
County in 2022**

Who do you think is overdosing?

“They were between 22 and 74 years old.

One only completed eighth grade,
but some had master’s degrees.”

“A few had never worked, but the rest worked in nearly every sector of our community.

A few were unhoused, but many died in their own homes.

Eleven were married.”

“They included essential workers,
first responders, and veterans.

They represent 11 different cities and
towns in Humboldt County.”

Everyone is affected by overdose as loved ones and friends are left behind.

Opioid overdoses can happen

When a patient misunderstands the directions for use, accidentally takes an extra dose, or deliberately misuses a prescription opioid.

With recreational drug use.

If a person takes opioid medications prescribed for someone else.

If a person mixes opioids with other medications, alcohol, or over-the-counter drugs.

Additional Risk Factors

Using alone

Changes in the drug supply

History of previous overdose

Reduced tolerance after incarceration, detox, rehab, hospitalization,
and/or sporadic patterns of drug use

Signs of a potential overdose

Person does not wake or respond to loud voice

Breathing is not normal, very slow, or has stopped

Pin-point sized pupils

Change in color of face and lips

Gurgling sounds

Does not respond to knuckle rub on sternum

Responding in moments of crisis

Clear the air way

Give one dose narcan nasal spray

Call 911

Additional sprays every 2 to 3 minutes
until they begin breathing normally again

Stay with the person until help arrives

Narcan

SAFE TO USE EVEN IF SOMEONE DID NOT TAKE AN OPIOID

Store at room temperature

Opioid overdose events where naloxone is administered are reversed at rates between 83%-100%

Better to use an expired Narcan than none at all

California Law and Narcan

AB 472

"Good Samaritan Law"- protects people who call 911 at the scene of an overdose from prosecution for possession of usable amounts of controlled substances

AB 635

Protects doctors and other licensed professionals who prescribe or distribute naloxone

Please...

Lock up medications and any recreational drugs

Properly dispose of any unused medications

Learn about recovery and support services like
Waterfront, Aegis, and Providence's Substance Use Navigator

Talk about Narcan

If prescribed an opioid ask your provider for Narcan

Narcan and fentanyl test strips on Campus

Vending machines (SAC & Nelson Hall)

Peer Health (RWC 127)

Oh Snap Student Food Programs (RWC 122)

Check It (Forbes 151)

Health Center

Testing drugs using fentanyl test strips

Although not 100% effective, it is a harm reduction tool

Narcan can also be obtained from the Humboldt County Public Health Department
& Humboldt Area Center for Harm Reduction

https://youtu.be/xa7Xoo_QKWk?t=30

YOU CAN
SAVES LIVES

THE
ONLY
THING
NALOXONE
ENABLES
IS BREATHING.

Resources

www.rxsafehumboldt.org

www.harmreduction.org

www.neverusealone.com

www.naloxoneforall.org

Mira Friedman, MSW

Lead for Health Education and Clinic Support Services

Student Health and Wellbeing

mira@humboldt.edu