

January 26, 2024

Opioid/Drug Safety Update

For the week of January 15 to 21, 2024, there was one alert this week and the number of calls to Paramedic Services for suspect opioid overdoses was slightly higher than expected. Additionally, there was one overdose-related death this week.

If you have any additional information to share, including any concerns from the community with respect to emerging drug trends, connect with us at substance@york.ca.

Remember:

- **Carry naloxone**
 - Naloxone only works on opioids. However, naloxone should be administered to a person experiencing an overdose to reverse the effects of any opioids that may be present in the substance
 - Additional doses of naloxone may be needed to reverse an overdose as potent opioids are being found in the unregulated drug supply
 - Call 1-877-464-9675 X 76683, email substance@york.ca or visit ontario.ca/naloxone for a list of partner agencies and community pharmacies that carry naloxone
- **Never use alone**
 - Whenever possible, use substances with someone else and take turns
 - If you're alone, consider reaching out to the **National Overdose Response Service** (1-888-688-6677). This service will support you over the phone and call 911 if needed
 - Visit your closest [Supervised Consumption Service](#)
 - If possible, follow the most up-to-date Public Health COVID-19 guidance at york.ca/covid19
- **Before using, ask others about what they are experiencing with the same drug or batch**

If you are feeling depressed, lonely, anxious, scared, angry, or have other mental distress, call 310-COPE at 1-855-310-2673 or (TTY) 1-866-323-7785.

PUBLIC HEALTH

york.ca/opioids

21-5318

Report a bad reaction to drugs or overdose concerns to York Region Public Health at York.ca/ReportBadDrugs

 York Region

TWO STEPS TO HELP

SAVE A LIFE OPIOID OVERDOSE

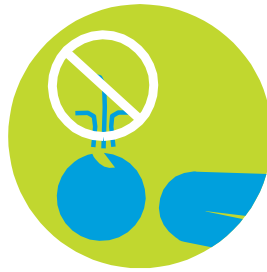
DURING COVID-19

STEP 1 :

Look for signs of an OVERDOSE



Not moving and
can't be woken



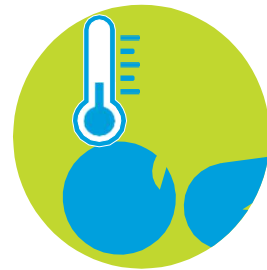
Slow or not
breathing



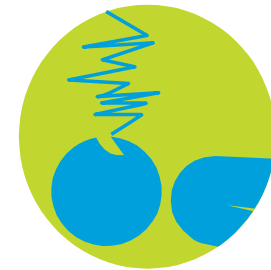
Blue or purple lips
and nails



Tiny pupils



Cold or clammy skin



Choking, gurgling
sounds or snoring

Substance Use Prevention and Harm Reduction

Visit: york.ca/opioids or

Call: 1-877-464-9675 ext. 76683

TTY: 1-866-512-6228

Email: substance@york.ca


York Region

STEP 2:

Follow these steps when giving NALOXONE



Tap and shout



Call **911**



Give naloxone: 1 nasalspray*
or injection into arm or leg



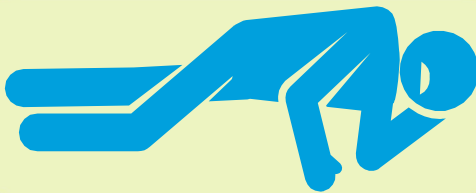
Perform Chest Compressions
Rescue breathing may
be considered**



Is it working?
YES



NO improvement? Give naloxone
again, continue chest compressions**
and check in 2 - 3 minutes



**PUT PERSON IN RECOVERY
POSITION (LEFT SIDE)**

IF: they begin breathing on their own or if
you have to leave them alone.

*GIVING NASAL NALOXONE DURING COVID-19 DOES NOT PRODUCE AEROSOLS.

**FOR RESCUE BREATHING: TO REDUCE THE RISK OF INFECTIONS FROM RESPIRATORY SECRETIONS, INCLUDING INFLUENZA AND COVID-19, USE THE BREATHING BARRIER IN EACH KIT. UP-TO-DATE VACCINATIONS MAY ALSO HELP REDUCE BUT NOT COMPLETELY ELIMINATE THE RISK OF TRANSMISSION OF INFECTION.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

York Region Public Health Substance Use Prevention and Harm Reduction program:

substance@york.ca or 1-877-464-9675 ext. 76683

Report Bad Drugs: york.ca/reportbaddrugs

Connex Ontario: connexontario.ca or 1-866-531-2600