

Naloxone (Opiate Specific)

Naloxone (Narcan™): is an opiate antidote. When a person is overdosing on an opioid, breathing can slow down or stop, and it can be very hard to wake them from this state. Naloxone is a prescription medicine that blocks the effects of opioids and reverses an overdose (stopoverdoseil.org).



Naloxone is a non-addictive prescription medication, and **only works if a person has opioids in their system**; the medication has no effect if opiates are absent. (harmreduction.org)

Naloxone can reverse overdose if the user is overdosing on opiates **ONLY**. All drug overdoses (alcohol included) need immediate medical assistance.

Naloxone is safe and easy to use. To learn how to use Naloxone please visit the following training websites:

<http://prescribetoprevent.org/patient-education/videos/>
<http://www.getnaloxonenow.org/flashbystander.aspx>

This is an initiative of the Delaware County Heroin Task Force, Delaware County District Attorney, Jack Whelan, Delaware County Council, and the Partners for Success Coalition.

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Help Prevent the Abuse of Prescription Drugs.



The 5 Rules of Safe Prescription Medication Use



- 1 Take only as prescribed.
- 2 Do not share medications.
- 3 Safeguard all medications.
- 4 Properly dispose unused medication immediately.
- 5 Know the signs - Dial 911.

WARNING: PRESCRIPTION MEDICATIONS
ARE NOW MORE FREQUENTLY ABUSED THAN
COCAINE, HEROIN, AND METH COMBINED.

For more information, call the Delaware
County Office of Behavioral Health at
610-713-2365 or
visit www.co.delaware.pa.us

For immediate crisis involving individuals with
mental health and/or drug and alcohol issues,
call 1-855-889-7827.

Call 911 in cases of emergency.

1. Take Only As Prescribed

- Take all prescription medications only as prescribed by a doctor or pharmacist.
- Only take prescription drugs under the care of a pharmacist or doctor.
- Do not mix or combine prescription medications with other prescription or over-the-counter drugs unless specified by a doctor or pharmacist. Do not mix or combine prescription drugs with alcohol, or illicit drugs.
 - Combining certain medications may alter the effect of each drug and may increase the risk of overdose and death.
 - Mixing alcohol with certain drugs is dangerous and unpredictable. Alcohol magnifies the impact of many commonly used medication and can increase the risk of overdose.

2. Do Not Share Medications

- Do not share prescription medications with people whom they are not intended for.
- Prescription drugs are prescribed skillfully, by a doctor, according to weight, height, & brain chemistry of a specific person.
- All drugs effect each persons body in a different way—what may work for you may be harmful to someone else.
- It is a federal crime to share your prescription medications.

3. Safeguard ALL Medications

Think about this! What would you do if someone gave you ten \$100 bills? You would keep it safe ! Tucked away in your wallet or drawer. Do the same with your medication—lock it up and keep it safe!

LOCK YOUR MEDS!

If you must keep prescription medication—lock them up to keep them out of unwanted hands.

Steps to safeguarding your medications:

1. **Assess**—do I need this medication?
2. **Discard**—if you no longer need your prescription medication, dispose of it at any of Delaware County’s permanent drug drop box locations.
3. **Count**—how much medication you have left and make note of the number. Keep track as you continue taking the medication.
4. **LOCK THEM UP!**—all medication that is kept and counted should be locked up (see options for lock up below)



If you are in need of a PillPod to lock your medication, please call 484-444-0412.

PillPods are FREE courtesy of the Delaware County Heroin Task Force.

4. Properly Dispose of Unused Medications

- Dispose of your unused, unwanted, or expired medications at one of the many locations in Delaware County
- Locations can be found by visiting: www.co.delaware.pa.us

5. Know the Signs: Dial 911

A drug overdose occurs when a person accidentally or intentionally misuses any drug or combination of drugs and/or alcohol in amounts that result in direct physiological harm.

Signs and Symptoms of an Opiate Overdose: “The Opiate Triad”

Pinpoint Pupils (extremely small pupils)

*Unconscious/
Blue in Color
(does not respond
to name, loud
noises, or painful
stimulation)*



*Respiratory
Depression (snoring
or struggling to
breathe; may have
blue lips, face, and
hands)*

If you see anyone displaying the signs of a drug overdose, place them in the recovery position (see below), and dial 911 immediately!

