

Patient Education on Naloxone and Fentanyl Testing

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Opioids

In 2022, of the 541 overdose deaths in Utah, 74% of those deaths involved an opioid. Prescription opioids are responsible for 38% of unintentional and undetermined drug overdose deaths

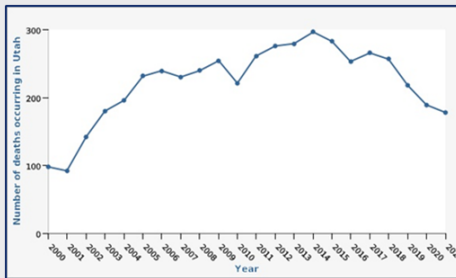


Fig 1: Poisoning - Prescription opioid deaths by year, Utah, 2000-2021

SXS of an overdose

- Small, pinpoint pupils
- Blue/purple fingernails & lips
- Won't wake up, limp body
- Shallow or stopped breathing
- Faint heartbeat
- Gurgling, choking noise

Language to Minimize Stigma

OPIOIDS DO NOT DISCRIMINATE!

Terms such as prescription opioid misuse and substance use disorder should be used to help minimize stigma. Always keep the patient at the center of the language used.

References

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4. The Controversy Behind Naloxone and How One Utah Group Promotes Its Usage to Save Lives | University of Utah Health. healthcare.utah.edu. Published May 11, 2016. Accessed February 13, 2024. <https://healthcare.utah.edu/the-scope/all/2016/05/controversy-behind-naloxone-and-how-one-utah-group-promotes-its-usage-save>.
5. Utah Naloxone - Home. www.utahnaloxone.org. <http://www.utahnaloxone.org/>.
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Naloxone (Narcan®)

Naloxone reverses the effects of opioids, including heroin. It can be administered intranasally or intramuscularly.

MOA: Pure competitive opioid receptor antagonist (μ , κ , and δ), therefore inhibiting toxic and clinical effects of opioids. Naloxone does not produce physical or psychological dependence.

Carrying Naloxone is no different than carrying an EpiPen®. Studies have shown that bystanders have been present in more than 1 of 3 overdose incidents.

It is important to emphasize the importance of Naloxone in households with opioids as they are a cause of unintentional and intentional overdoses by household members.



Free CDC
Naloxone Training



Utah
Naloxone

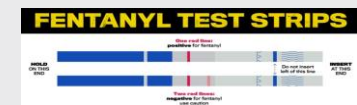
Fentanyl & Testing

Fentanyl is a synthetic opioid that is 50x stronger than heroin and 100x stronger than morphine. It is often illicitly added to heroin and methamphetamines.

Fentanyl overdoses increased between 2020-2022 and 86% of overdoses included 1 other drug. In 2021, the rate of accidental or undetermined fentanyl overdoses was 2x higher in men than in women.

Testing & Resources

It is important to know that drugs laced with fentanyl cannot be seen, tasted or smelled. FTS (fentanyl testing strips) is a way to help prevent accidental fentanyl overdoses. It should be assumed that opioids not obtained from a pharmacy are likely laced with Fentanyl.



FTS Resources in Utah

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