

# What is Naloxone?

Naloxone is a lifesaving medication that can reverse opioid overdoses.

The different forms of naloxone include the nasal spray, popularly known as the brand name *Narcan*, and intramuscular injections.

Both are equally effective methods.



We offer intramuscular naloxone at our syringe exchange.

If you would like a detailed training on how to use naloxone, or in-depth understanding of opioid overdoses, please visit us at our syringe exchange or contact us. Thank you!

## Contact Us

NorthPoint Health & Wellness Center  
Harm Reduction and Testing Services  
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612-267-0305

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**NORTHPOINT**  
Health & Wellness Center



# Naloxone

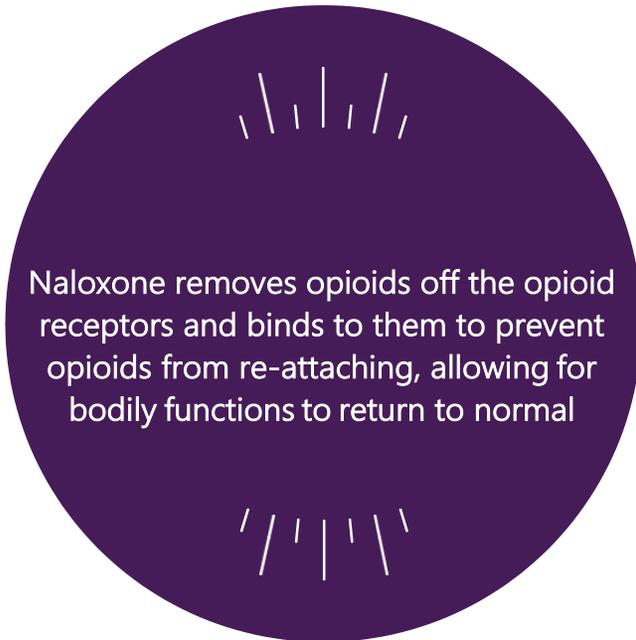
An Opioid Overdose Reversal Medication

# Opioid Overdoses

In our bodies, we all have cells called opioid receptors that opioids (*like heroin, fentanyl, oxycontin, etc.*) attach to.

When an opioid overdose occurs, our opioid receptors become overwhelmed by the opioids attaching to them. As a result, important bodily functions like breathing will slow down or even stop.

*If we are not breathing, our brain is not receiving oxygen, who can result in brain damage or death.*



## Naloxone saves lives!

But it's important to be honest about the fact that certain populations are dying from opioid overdoses at a higher rate than others.

In Minnesota, there are racist policies specifically impacting Black and Indigenous Minnesotans. Black people are dying at 2x the rate of white people when it comes to overdose mortalities, and Indigenous folks in Minnesota, like Dakota and Anishinaabe folks, whose land we currently occupy, are dying at 7x the rate of white people.

This is all rooted in how Black and Indigenous folks have been historically and are currently treated by the systems that govern our lives in the United States. It is vital that we address this disparity, one way we can address it is by increasing training and access to naloxone!

## We Keep Us Safe

One thing that we can do to address this disparity is to become equipped with naloxone, and the knowledge on how to use it!

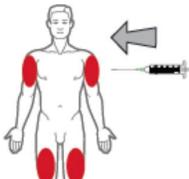
### SIGNS OF AN OVERDOSE

- Slow or stopped breathing
- Unconscious
- Cold and clammy skin
- Pinpoint pupil
- Lighter skin folks will have a blueish appearance, blueish lips, skin, and fingertips
- Darker skin folks will have a gray and ashen appearance

### STEPS TO REVERSE AN OPIOID OVERDOSE

- Assess the status of the individual and try to stimulate them for a response
- Call for an ambulance
- Administer naloxone
- Perform rescue breaths
- Stay and assist

### How to Administer Naloxone

-  1. Remove cap from naloxone vial to reveal rubber seal.
-  2. Turn vial upside down. Pull plunger to draw up entire liquid.
-  3. Inject straight into the muscle of upper arm, thigh, or buttocks at 90-degree angle
-  4. Wait 2 minutes in between each dose of naloxone and continue until they regain consciousness or medical assistance arrives.