Saving addicts life in opioid overdose

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List of drug that are abused

- Drugs most often associated with this term include
- alcohol, amphetamines, barbiturates, benzodiazepines, cannabis, cocaine, hallucinogens, methaqualone, and opioids.
- Opioids top the list of drugs that cause overdose-related deaths.



Opioid addiction

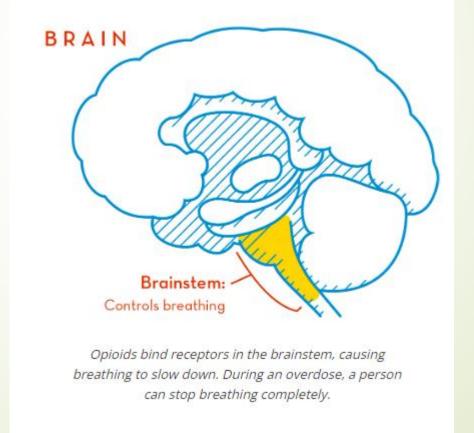
- Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) officially declared a public health emergency in 2017.
- 48,006 people overdosed on opioids in 2020.
- At least 71.8% and as many as 80% of overdose deaths involve opioids.
- Overdose (OD) deaths involving opioids increased 519.38% from 1999 to 2019.
- 68.0% of all OD deaths are attributed to synthetic opioids.
- Fentanyl and fentanyl analogs are a factor in 19.8% of all overdose deaths.
- 0.7% of hospital births are cases of neonatal opioid withdrawal (NOW) syndrome.

Opioid Subcategories

- Natural opioids include morphine and codeine.
- Semi-synthetic opioids include oxycodone, hydrocodone, hydromorphone, and oxymorphone.
- Methadone is a synthetic opioid that is usually categorized on its own in official data.
- Synthetic opioids other than methadone include tramadol and fentanyl.
- Heroin is an illegally manufactured synthetic opioid made from morphine.

How does Opioid work!!

Opioids bind to receptors in the area of the brain that controls breathing, blocking the signals that tell the body to inhale and exhale. If the dose is too high, breathing stops altogether, quickly leading to death.



How does Opioid work!!

Opioids are particularly dangerous because tolerance to the drug's effects builds at different rates in different areas of the brain. In areas that feel pain or pleasure, tolerance builds after as few as 2-3 doses. But tolerance to opioids' effects on breathing builds more slowly. Over time, the dose needed to relieve pain or cause pleasure comes closer to a lethal dose. Tolerance is also lost quickly. Many overdoses happen when a person stops drug use for a time, then starts again with the same dose they used before.

Recognize the signs and symptoms of an overdose, including:

- difficulty. walking. talking. staying awake.
- blue or grey lips or nails.
- very small pupils.
- cold and clammy skin.
- dizziness and confusion.
- extreme drowsiness.
- choking, gurgling or snoring sounds.
- slow, weak or no breathing.

How to save the life of overdosed on opioid

- Try to wake the person up. Loudly call their name or rub your knuckles on their sternum. Check their eyes; pinpoint pupils are a telltale sign of opioid overdose.
- Try to keep the person conscious and sitting up.
- Turn an unconscious person on their side so they don't choke on vomit.
- Stay with the person. They might not "sleep it off."
- Give naloxone, if available.
- Naloxone is a medication that blocks the effects of opioid drugs. It restores breathing and saves lives. From 1996 to 2014, naloxone was used by everyday people to reverse more than 26,000 overdoses in the United States.