

inspired

[to make healthy choices]

Volume 3 Issue 5 www.guideinc.org

Overdose Prevention

OVERDOSE DEATHS:

- In 2016, more than **64,000 Americans** died from drug overdoses and over half of those involved opioids.
(National Institute on Drug Abuse)
- In 2015, **Georgia** saw **1,307 drug overdose deaths**, and **900 of them (68%)** were due to opioids, including heroin. (Georgia Prevention Project)

The Georgia 911 Medical Amnesty Law offers "protection for **people who call 911** and seek medical assistance for someone experiencing a drug or alcohol-related overdose.

The caller and the victim cannot be arrested, charged or prosecuted for small amounts of drugs, alcohol or drug paraphernalia if the evidence was obtained as a result of seeking medical assistance."

(Georgia Overdose Prevention)

* **"Naloxone** is a prescription drug that can reverse the effects of opiod overdose and can be life-saving if administered in time." (CDC)

Georgia has a standing prescription **at all pharmacies** which ensures access to the Naloxone prescription for anyone who is at risk of an opioid overdose.

SIGNS OF A DRUG OVERDOSE

- Unresponsiveness
- Loss of consciousness
- Breathing is slow, shallow or has stopped
- Pinpoint pupils
- Gaspng, gurgling or choking sounds
- Slowed heartbeat/pulse
- Skin tone turns pale, blue or gray
- Body is limp
- Vomiting
- Inability to talk

IN AN OVERDOSE EMERGENCY SITUATION, FOLLOW THESE STEPS:

- Check for signs of an overdose (see above)
- Call 911
- Give rescue breaths
- Administer Naloxone*
- Stay until help arrives

(NOPE-RI and Help is Here Delaware)

Opioid overdoses are reversible. In a life-threatening situation, don't panic or run; call 911. You could help save a life.

"Inspired to Make Healthy Choices" Created by



GUIDE, Inc.