

# Opioids and Teen Suicide

## DID YOU KNOW?

- Self-harm by poisoning is the 2nd leading cause of ER visits among youth ages 10-24. (CDC)
- Teens who misuse prescription drugs are 3X more likely to attempt suicide compared to teens who do not misuse prescription drugs.  
(JAMA Pediatrics)

**The Georgia 911 Medical Amnesty Law (Good Samaritan Law) gives "limited immunity 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)

## Opioid overdoses can be reversible.

In a life-threatening situation, don't panic or run; call 911.

**You could help save a life.**

**IF YOU SUSPECT AN OPIOID OVERDOSE, FOLLOW THESE STEPS:**

### A.C.T.

- A** ADMINISTER NALOXONE (Narcan)\*
- C** CALL 911
- T** TRUST THE GOOD SAMARITAN LAW

## SIGNS OF A DRUG OVERDOSE

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

\*Naloxone (Narcan) is a life-saving drug that can reverse the effects of opioid overdose if administered in time. It can be obtained from Georgia Overdose Prevention or any Georgia pharmacy without a prescription.



**D·B·H·D·D**

Georgia Department  
of Behavioral Health &  
Developmental Disabilities



# REDUCE ACCESS to SAVE LIVES

**Almost 7% of all adolescent suicides are due to poisoning.** (CDC, 2019)

## Keep teens safe by:

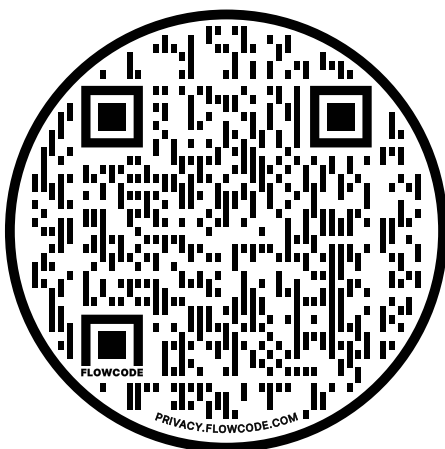
- ✓ Monitoring and securing medications in your home.
- ✓ Properly disposing of prescription drugs.



**police  
departments  
pharmacies  
college  
campuses**

Many community locations like these have drop boxes where unused & unwanted prescriptions can be disposed (excluding liquids, inhalants and needles).

## Disposal Locations

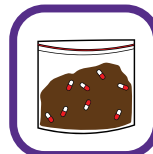


[www.guideinc.org/takeback](http://www.guideinc.org/takeback)

## CAN'T GET TO A DROP BOX? FOLLOW THESE STEPS:



**Mix** drugs with a substance such as dirt, cat litter or coffee grounds.



**Place** the mixture into a disposal container with a lid or a sealable plastic bag.



**Throw** away the sealed mixture in your household trash.



**Scratch out** all personal information from the prescription container's label before recycling or disposing of it.