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
- Gasp, 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.
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.

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

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

Disposal Locations

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.

www.guideinc.org/takeback