

On August 31, 2016, the Office of Behavioral Health recognizes International Overdose Awareness Day

This is a global event held on August 31st each year and aims to raise awareness of overdose and reduce the stigma of a drug-related death. It also acknowledges the grief felt by families and friends remembering those who have met with death or permanent injury as a result of drug overdose.

What is an overdose?

An overdose means having too much of a drug (or combination of drugs) for your body to be able to cope with. There are a number of signs and symptoms that show someone has overdosed, and these differ with the type of drug used. All drugs can cause an overdose, including prescription medication prescribed by a doctor. It is important to know your correct dosage, what drugs definitely should not be mixed, and know to seek help if you feel you are not in control of your drug use.

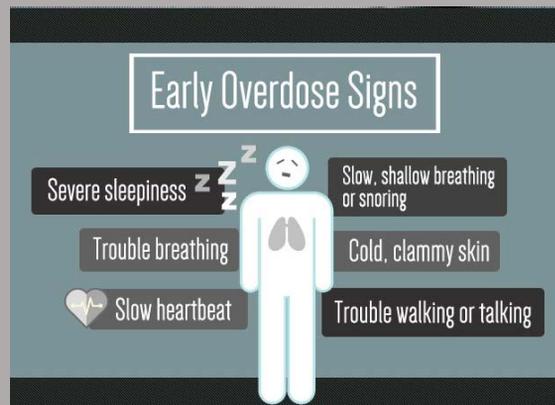
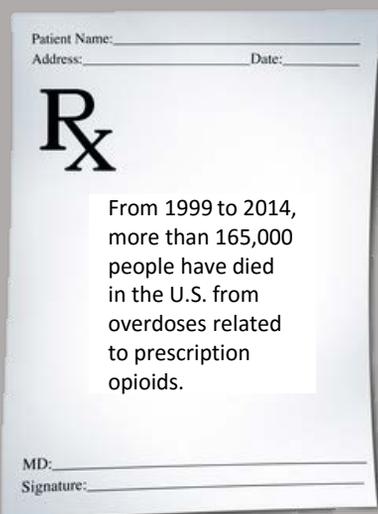


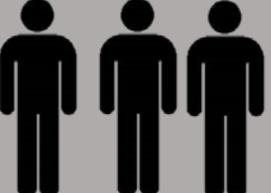
Among those who died from prescription opioid overdose between 1999 and 2014, overdose rates were highest among people aged



25 – 54

The most common drugs involved in prescription opioid overdose deaths include:





120
Average of
deaths per day

In the United States, 43,982 people die every year from drug overdose.

More people died from drug overdoses in 2014 than in any other year on record.

DID YOU KNOW?

In Louisiana, **777** people died from drug overdose in 2014.



Every day, over **1,000** people are treated in emergency departments for misusing prescription opioids.

WHAT IS NALOXONE?

Naloxone is the treatment of choice to reverse the potentially fatal respiratory depression cause by opioid overdose.



FIVE ESSENTIAL STEPS FOR FIRST RESPONDERS

- Step 1:** Call for HELP (DIAL 911)
- Step 2:** Check For Signs of Opioid overdose
- Step 3:** Support The Person's Breathing
- Step 4:** Administer Naloxone
- Step 5:** Monitor The Person's Response

This information is presented to you by the Louisiana Department of Health, Office of Behavioral Health, Prevention and Wellness section.

Additional Resources

- 1.) Opioid Overdose Prevention Toolkit: <http://store.samhsa.gov/shin/content//SMA16-4742/SMA16-4742.pdf>
- 2.) Injury Prevention and Control : Opioid Overdose: <http://www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/data/index.html>