



Types of Toxic Drug Poisoning and How to Identify Them

Opioid Poisoning

What is an Opioid?

They are a type of depressant that slow the body down and have a sedative effect, creating a feeling of euphoria and calmness in the individual taking the substance.

Common Opioids: heroin, fentanyl, oxycodone, codeine, morphine, methadone and hydromorphone.

Symptoms of Opioid Poisoning:

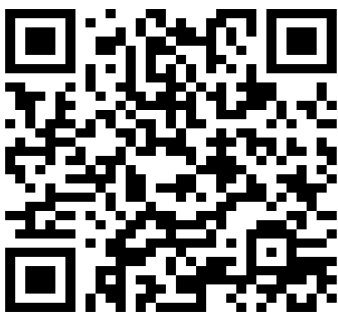
- Non-responsive: *The person will not move and cannot be woken up*
- Slow or no breathing
- Making Sounds: *Choking, gurgling or snoring.*
- Blue lips and Nails
- Cold or Clammy Skin
- Dilated pupils

Benzodiazepine and The Toxic Drug Crisis:

Benzodiazepines (benzos) have been found in drug supplies at an alarming rate. Benzo's create a sedative effect and when combined with opioids, the risk of toxic drug poisoning rises.

Benzo's do not respond to naloxone! Continue to provide rescue breaths until paramedics arrive and when in doubt always follow the SAVE ME Steps.

Scan the QR Code for information on using Naloxone!



If you suspect someone has been poisoned by toxic drug supply follow the SAVE ME steps below!

Follow the **SAVE ME** steps below to respond.



If the person must be left unattended at any time, put them in the recovery position.



Stimulate

Unresponsive? **CALL 911**



Airway



Ventilate

1 breath every 5 seconds



Evaluate



Muscular Injection

1 mL of naloxone

Continue to provide breaths until the person is breathing on their own



Evaluate 2nd dose?

If no response after 3-5 minutes give another injection

Toxic drug poisoning can be traumatic for both the person responding and the person who was poisoned. Always reach out for support and do not use substances alone!

Tsow-Tun-Le-Lum Society (cultural support and counselling): 1-888-403-3123

KUU-US Crisis Line Society: Adults and Elders at 250-723-4050 | Children and Youth at 250-723-2040 | Toll-Free at 1-800-588-8717

Stimulant Poisoning

What is a stimulant?

A stimulant is used to speed the body up and give the individual energy. Stimulants are often referred to as “uppers”.

Common Stimulants:

Amphetamines, crystal meth, cocaine, MDMA, Ritalin and caffeine.

Symptoms of Stimulant Poisoning:

- Rigid, jerking limbs or seizures
- In and out of consciousness
- Fast pulse or chest pains
- Psychological distress
- Skin feels hot/sweating

How to respond:

- Call 911
- If the heart has stopped provide chest compressions
- Apply a cold compress, have them drink water and remain calm

Scan the QR code for Supervised Consumption Sites in the Interior Region



Scan the QR code for Harm Reduction sites across the Interior Region



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