



Tips for Narcan (Naloxone-generic name)

Distribution

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If you have 10 minutes to explain Narcan to someone, mention...

- Narcan is SAFE even if you don't know what the medical emergency is. If it's a heart attack, another non opioid overdose, or something else. Give Narcan even if you are not sure.
- Don't play detective and try to figure out WHAT substance someone has used. It may not be an opioid but it still may have a strong unknown opioid in it (like fentanyl).
- Narcan FIRST, then call 911, unless you can yell to someone else to call or do it on speaker phone while giving Narcan.
- Narcan is safe to use on kids, pregnant people, even pets.
- Narcan wears off after 30-90 minutes, meaning if someone took a strong or time released opioid, the person could slip back into overdose. Don't leave the person alone. If 911 isn't called, be present with more Narcan in case.
- If nothing happens after the first dose, keep an eye on your person and give another dose after 3 minutes in the OTHER nostril.
- NEVER leave them on their back or stomach unless you are giving CPR or rescue breaths. If they vomit they could choke or drown on it.
- Don't let it freeze. It's a liquid and won't spray out if it's frozen.
- It's unhappy in heat 104 degrees and above, so try not to leave it in the car for prolonged periods of time.

If you only have 2 minutes to explain Narcan to someone, mention...

- 1) Don't try to "play detective" and determine what the medical emergency is or what drugs they took. When in doubt, START WITH NARCAN. It's SAFE for everyone.
- 2) Tilt head back, put Narcan into nose, push plunger. If they're not breathing, then give rescue breaths. If breathing, put it on their side in the recovery position.
- 3) If they're not responsive in 3 minutes, give the 2nd dose in an alternate nostril.
- 4) Important of calling 911 and protection given to OD victim/people involved via [Good Samaritan Law](#)

Tips for Fentanyl Test Strip (FTS) Distribution

- 1) FTS are a TOOL, but not something to rely on in lieu of Narcan. If you are using any drugs or around people that are, HAVE NARCAN PRESENT.
- 2) Fentanyl isn't evenly distributed throughout products, like the chips in a chocolate chip cookie. Therefore, shaving off part of a pill to test is not best practice.
- 3) Unless you are getting a pill from a pharmacy directly, you should be testing it.
 - a) To most accurately test a **PILL**:
 - i) You can test the entire pill by crushing it and diluting it into a bottlecap of water. Once liquid, stir with a test strip for 15 seconds.
 - ii) To test half a pill, follow the same directions but do half of the pill and a little less water.

RESULTS:

POSITIVE FOR FENTANYL:

ONE LINE = FENTANYL IS PRESENT in what you just tested. Remember by: 1 finger held up means to WAIT. Assess. Is there Narcan? Do we even **want** to use this? Am I alone?

NEGATIVE FOR FENTANYL

TWO LINES = FENTANYL IS NOT PRESENT IN WHAT YOU JUST TESTED. Remember by: 2 thumbs up, you're *probably* good to go. But still have Narcan on hand, don't use alone, go slow, etc.

- iii) A negative test strip does not mean that fentanyl is not still present in your supply. If you tested part of a supply, it could still be in the other part.