Opioid Safety

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What are opioids?

Opioids are a class of drugs commonly used to treat pain.
What are opioids?

**Prescription**
- Morphine
- Fentanyl
- Oxycodone
- Hydrocodone
- Methadone
- Tramadol

**Illicit**
- Heroin
- Opium

**OTC/Herbal**
- Loperamide
- Kratom
Governor Ducey Declares Statewide Health Emergency In Opioid Epidemic

News Release
June 5, 2017

As the number of opioid overdoses and deaths increase at an alarming rate, we must take action.”

PHOENIX — Governor Doug Ducey today signed an emergency declaration to address the growing number of opioid deaths in our state.

Newly released data from the Arizona Department of Health Services shows in 2016, 790 Arizonans died from opioid overdoses — an average of more than two people per day. The trend shows an alarming increase of 74 percent over the past four years. Today’s declaration by the governor directs the Arizona Department of Health Services to rapidly respond to this public health emergency.

BACKGROUND

- 431 million opioid pills were prescribed in 2016
- Enough for every Arizonan to have a 2.5 week supply
- 74% increase in opioid deaths in Arizona since 2012
- Drug overdoses responsible for more deaths than car crashes in Arizona
National Overdose Deaths
Number of Deaths Involving
Other Synthetic Opioids (Predominately Fentanyl)

Source: National Center for Health Statistics, CDC Wonder
Opioid Epidemic

Real Time Opioid Data

For the first time, statewide opioid data is available in real time. Check out the details of the five categories of data we are now collecting.

Data range: June 15, 2017 – March 28, 2019

- 2,781 suspect opioid deaths
- 19,732 suspect opioid overdoses
- 1,315 neonatal abstinence syndrome
- 42,352 naloxone doses dispensed
- 12,082 naloxone doses administered
What are the effects of opioids?

- Analgesia
- Euphoria
- Drowsiness
- Constipation
- Nausea
- Miosis
What happens in overdose?

- Drowsiness
- Miosis
- Unresponsive
- Respiratory depression
- Respiratory arrest
Responding: Calling 911

- Tell dispatcher exactly where you are
- Tell them what you see:
  “Not breathing, unconscious, turning blue, etc.”
- Tell paramedics what you know about the drugs the person may have been using
A person in Arizona cannot be charged or prosecuted for drug possession if:

- The person was seeking medical help for someone else they believed was overdosing
- Drugs or paraphernalia are discovered as a result of the request for medical assistance
Treatments in overdose

**Naloxone**
- Intramuscular
- Intranasal
- Intravenous

- Different response in naïve vs chronic opioid users
Arizona Naloxone Laws

• Arizona has a standing order for naloxone

• Any individual can purchase naloxone from any pharmacy in Arizona, no prescription necessary

• Any person may administer naloxone to a person who is experiencing an opioid-related overdose
Responding: Narcan

- Administer one dose
- If not breathing, rescue breaths
- Should work within 3-5 minutes; if it doesn’t, give 2nd dose
- Narcan can wear off within 30-90 minutes
  - Overdose could reoccur!
- Transfer care to EMS
- 911 should always be called first!
Tolerance vs Dependence vs Addiction

- **Tolerance** - the capacity of the body to endure or become less responsive to a substance

- **Dependence** - a state in which an organism functions normally only in the presence of a drug

- **Addiction** - The inability to consistently abstain from an action or substance that leads to impairment in behavioral control, craving, diminished recognition of significant problems with one’s behaviors and interpersonal relationships, and a dysfunctional emotional response
## Recommendations

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| **Reduce Opioid Deaths** | Enact legislation that impacts opioid deaths by reducing illicit acquisition and diversion of opioids, promoting safe prescribing and dispensing, decreasing the risk of opioid use disorder, and improving access to treatment | - By June 2018, complete 100% of action items in Legislative Action Plan  
- Legislation is passed that contains 100% of high impact priorities |

| **Improve Prescribing and Dispensing Practices** | Establish a Regulatory Board work group to identify prescribing trends and discuss enforcement issues  
Establish a task force to identify specific improvements that should be made to enhance the Arizona Controlled Substances Prescription Monitoring Programs (CSPMP) | - By December 2017, complete 100% of the action items in the Regulatory Board Action Plan  
- By September 2018, complete 100% of the action items in the CSPMP Improvement Action Plan |

| **Reduce Illicit Acquisition and Diversion of Opioids** | Meet with leaders of law enforcement and first responder agencies to expand Angel Initiative and other OUD diversion programs and assist the DEA with filling vacancies in the DEA Tactical Diversion Squad | - By November 2017, complete 100% of items in Law Enforcement Action Plan  
- Number of law enforcement precincts participating in the Angel Initiative  
- Percent of vacancies on the DEA Tactical Diversion Squad |

| **Improve Access to Treatment** | Require all undergraduate and graduate medical education programs to incorporate evidence-based pain management and substance-use disorder treatment into their curriculum | - By September 2018, complete 100% of action items in the Medical School Curriculum Action Plan  
- By October 2017, 75% of programs have been approached to discuss curriculum proposal |

| | Create a call-in line resource to provide consultation to prescribers seeking advice about prescribing opioids and caring for patients with opioid use disorder | - By April 2018, complete 100% of the action items in the Call Service Action Plan  
- By June 2018, complete 100% of the action items in the Peer Support Action Plan  
- By June 2018, complete 100% of action items in the Insurance Parity Action Plan  
- By November 2017, complete 100% of items in Federal Barrier Action Plan  
- By February 2018, complete 100% of actions items in the Correctional Facilities Action Plan |
A LINE WAS BORN
OAR Line

• Created in response to Arizona Opioid Epidemic Act
• Statewide, run by Arizona’s two poison centers
• Staffed by trained pharmacists and nurses
• Open 24/7, free, confidential
Services

- Referrals for medication assisted treatment or pain specialists
- Concerns about the use of opioids
- Safe use of opioids for acute or chronic pain
- Education about naloxone
- Questions about opioid use during pregnancy and breastfeeding
Questions?

ARIZONA
Poison and Drug Information Center

1-800-222-1222