

OPIOID OVERDOSE ACTION PLAN

How to respond to someone who has overdosed on heroin or other opioids

SIGNS OF OVERDOSE

Not responding
Shallow or no breathing
Blue lips or fingernails
Snoring or gurgling



to any of the signs above proceed to the Action Plan

OVERDOSE ACTION PLAN

CHECK FOR DANGER

Uncapped needles, sharp objects, bystanders etc. Make sure the environment is safe

CHECK FOR RESPONSE

Call the person's name. Shake their shoulders vigorously or rub their chest with your knuckles



If there is no response, or poor response,

SEND FOR HELP

Dial 000 and ask for an ambulance



CLEAR THE PERSON'S AIRWAY

Check their breathing

Watch for their chest rising Look, listen and feel for 2 breaths in 10 seconds.



IF THEY ARE NOT BREATHING

or their breathing is slow or abnormal

Put them on their back, clear and open their airway, pinch their nose and give two rescue breaths

IF THEY ARE BREATHING NORMALLY

Put them in the recovery position and monitor them until



IF THEY ARE STILL NOT BREATHING GIVE NALOXONE

Remove Naloxone mini-jet from package, unscrew the cap and screw on needle.





Inject the entire contents into muscle of the upper arm or thigh and even through clothing in an emergency.



Note the time given,

Continue rescue breathing—
1 breath every 5 seconds

NALOXONE
WON'T
HARM
A PERSON,
AND IT MAY
SAVE
THEIR
LIFE

IF THERE IS NO RESPONSE

Inject another dose of Naloxone in 2–5 minutes.



Note the time given, continue rescue breathing

If you are worried give another dose at any time.

If the person is breathing normally, then put them in the recovery position and monitor them.
Ensure that their airway is clear and open.

If still no response, commence CPR
30 compressions, then 2 breaths; repeat

Whilst care has been taken in preparing the content of this material, the Pharmacy Guild of Australia, its employees and related parties cannot accept any liability—including for any loss, damage or injury—resulting from reliance on the content, or the accuracy, currency or completeness of the material. Produced by Angelo Pricolo and Luke Mitchell