



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

**Harford County  
Health Department**

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# Health Alert

## Drug Overdoses in Harford County

The Harford County Health Department is alerting the community of the opioid overdoses in Harford County. Opioids include drugs such as heroin, methadone, fentanyl, Percocet, OxyContin and Carfentanil. Carfentanil is 100 times more deadly than fentanyl.

### Signs of an overdose:

- Person is unresponsive
- Fingertips or lips turn blue or grey
- Breathing is slow, shallow or stops
- Gurgling or snoring noises

### What can you do if you see an opioid overdose?

- Call 911
- If you have naloxone, give the person naloxone and perform rescue breathing
- If no response after 2-3 minutes, give a second dose of naloxone
- Do not leave the person alone until help arrives
- If the person starts to breathe or become more alert, lay them in the recovery position.

### Remember the Good Samaritan Law– Save a life!

- If you provide help or assist a person experiencing a medical emergency due to alcohol or drugs, you are criminally immune from being charged, arrested and prosecuted from certain crimes.
- The police and the courts believe that saving a life is more important than a charge or an arrest.

### How can I lower my risk of an overdose?

- Carry naloxone with you at all times. Inform others where it is.
- If you haven't used it in a while, start slowly. You are at a high risk for overdose after leaving jail, hospitalization or coming out of treatment.
- Avoid mixing substances
- Be aware that drugs vary in purity and strength
- Don't use alone and always check up on each other
- Seek Treatment

### Where can I get treatment or information about Naloxone?

- Call the Harford County Health Department at 410-877-2340

For more information, visit the Harford County Health Department's website  
[www.harfordcountyhealth.com](http://www.harfordcountyhealth.com)  
And  
[beforeitstoolate.maryland.gov](http://beforeitstoolate.maryland.gov)