

OVERDOSE ALERT - Posted June 14, 2021

Update June 17



Today, June 17th, 2021, four more non-fatal overdoses have been reported via the "Report A Dangerous Drug" process. These overdoses occurred over the past 3 days. This in addition to the June 14th, 2021 alert where four non-fatal Opioid Overdoses were reported in Grey and Bruce Counties, including the city of Owen Sound. Preliminary reports indicate a substance identified as Fentanyl that is purple in colour is responsible for some of these overdoses. Some reports are now indicating symptoms that may be the result of the presence of other substances, potentially benzodiazepines. All street drugs must be considered highly toxic, with fatal potential. More than 3 Overdoses in a 48 hour period triggers an alert.

Take extra caution by:

- Avoiding using alone. When using with someone else, avoid using at the same time. Call the OVERDOSE PREVENTION LINE at 1-888-688-6677 (NORS) if you must use alone
- Avoiding mixing different drugs. Mixing drugs, including alcohol, increases the risk of overdose.
- Going slow. Use smaller amounts and do test doses to check the strength of the drug.
- Knowing your tolerance. The current street supply may be toxic and fatal.
- Getting overdose prevention training and carrying a Naloxone kit.

Overdose is a medical emergency. Call 911 or go to the Emergency Department. The Good Samaritan Drug Overdose Act provides protection from simple possession charges when 911 is called for an overdose.

Naloxone is available for free from pharmacies and at the Grey Bruce Health Unit Mon-Fri 8:30 am - 4 pm, no appointment needed.

For those looking for support: Mental Health Crisis Line of Grey Bruce: 1-877-470-5200, ConnexOntario: 1-866-531-2600 or the Rapid Access Addiction Medicine Clinic: 519-376-3999.