

FORSYTH COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH OVERDOSE PREVENTION



In the United States there has been a significant increase in deaths resulting from prescription opioids (painkillers) and heroin.

WHAT ARE OPIOIDS? Opioids include illegal drugs such as heroin, as well as prescription medications used to treat pain such as morphine, codeine, methadone, oxycodone (OxyContin®, Percodan®, Percocet®), hydrocodone (Vicodin®, Lortab®, Norco®), fentanyl (Duragesic®, Fentora®), hydromorphone (Dilaudid®, Exalgo®), and buprenorphine (Subutex®, Suboxone®).

In 2014, [47,055](#) overdose deaths occurred. Overdose deaths were the leading cause of accidental deaths, surpassing motor vehicle crashes. [2014 US Unintentional Injury Deaths by Age Group](#)

North Carolina is not immune to this epidemic and it continues to spread. In Forsyth County alone, opioid deaths have increased by **780%** from 1999-2014.

North Carolina and Forsyth County is addressing this [opioid epidemic](#) head-on. This page offers information for community members, pharmacies, first responders and healthcare professionals who can help us confront this public health crisis.



THE U.S. OPIOID EPIDEMIC

More than 78 Americans die each day from an opioid overdose. Since 1999 overdose deaths have quadrupled with over 500,000 lives lost. 2014 claimed more deaths from overdoses than any other year in history.

Overdose is not the only risk related to prescription opioids. Misuse, abuse, and opioid use disorder (addiction) are also potential dangers.

- In 2014, almost 2 million Americans abused or were dependent on prescription opioids.
- As many as 1 in 4 people who receive prescription opioids long term for noncancer pain in primary care settings struggles with addiction.
- Every day, over 1,000 people are treated in emergency departments for misusing prescription opioids.

[Understanding the Epidemic](#)

["Chasing the Dragon: The Life of an Opiate Addict," a documentary aimed at educating students and young adults about the dangers of addiction](#)

What is Naloxone?

Naloxone is a prescription medicine that reverses an opioid overdose. Opioids include heroin and prescription pain medications such as Vicodin, Percocet, OxyContin and morphine..

Naloxone will only reverse an opioid overdose, **it does not prevent deaths caused by other drugs** such as benzodiazepines (e.g. Xanax®, Klonopin® and Valium®), bath salts, cocaine, methamphetamine or alcohol.

Naloxone is safe and effective, medical professionals have been using it for decades. Naloxone is also known as Narcan®. Narcan® is the brand name of Naloxone and it is administered intranasally.

[Naloxone and Overdose Prevention FAQs](#)

How does Naloxone work?

Naloxone is an antidote for opioid medications. Opioids can slow or stop a person's breathing, which can lead to death. Naloxone helps the person wake up and continue breathing.

An overdose death may happen hours after taking drugs. If a bystander acts when first noticing a person's breathing has slowed, or will not wake up, it is time to call 911 and start rescue breathing (if needed) and administer Naloxone.

[Do you know the signs of an opioid overdose?](#)

[Recognizing signs of an overdose](#)

[Opioid Overdose Toolkit for your Phone!!! Download App!!](#)

[How to administer Naloxone \(INTRAMUSCULAR\)](#)

[How to administer Naloxone \(INTRANASAL\)](#)

[Hoja de Información del Paciente sobre Naloxone \(INTRAMUSCULAR\)](#)

[Hoja de Información del Paciente sobre Naloxone \(INTRANASAL\)](#)

Increasing Naloxone Access in North Carolina

In June, 2016, the State Health Director of North Carolina signed a [standing order](#) (statewide prescription) to authorize any pharmacist practicing in the state and licensed by the North Carolina Board of Pharmacy to dispense naloxone to any person who voluntarily requests naloxone and is:

1. At risk of experiencing an opiate-related overdose
2. A family member or friend of a person at risk of experiencing an opiate-related overdose
3. In the position to assist a person at risk of experiencing an opiate-related overdose
4. [Pharmacies in Forsyth County that offer Naloxone](#) (use zoom feature on map to see pharmacy locations)

How am I am protected if I administer Naloxone?

Effective April, 2013, the Good Samaritan law began protecting lay people in North Carolina who are able to access, carry and administer naloxone to reverse the effects of an opioid/opiate overdose. North Carolina's Good Samaritan law ([SB20](#)) provides immunity from civil and criminal liability for people who administer or dispense naloxone. Under a standing order written by a healthcare provider (with prescriptive authority) or a pharmacy covered under the State Health Director's Standing Order anyone who is at risk for an opioid/opiate overdose, or anyone in a position to assist someone experiencing an overdose, can seek naloxone.

On August 1, 2015 Clarifying the Good Samaritan Law ([SB154](#)) was signed. The law states that a person who seeks medical assistance for someone experiencing a drug overdose **cannot be considered in violation of a condition of parole, probation, or post-release, even if that person was arrested. The victim is also protected. Also, the caller must provide his/her name to 911 or law enforcement to qualify for the immunity.**



Local Treatment Resources:

Crisis Services for Forsyth County are managed by: [Cardinal Innovations Healthcare](#)

Cardinal Innovations Healthcare Crisis Line

[Cardinal Innovations Healthcare Crisis Line](#) is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Customer Service Specialists will assist you to find a crisis provider that is well-matched with your needs. Your local number is: **1-800-939-5911**.

If you already have a service provider, call them first. Providers who know you are usually best prepared to assist you in a crisis.

ARCA - Addiction Recovery Care Association, Inc.

[The Addiction Recovery Care Association, Inc.](#) better known as ARCA, is a place where a family-focused environment and highly skilled staff work together to create an atmosphere that fosters recovery from alcohol and drug dependency.

Have Support Come to You...

Daymark Recovery Services 24-Hour Crisis Hotline - 1-866-275-9552

Crisis situations are often best resolved at home. Mobile Crisis Teams are available 24 hours a day in all counties. Professional counselors will speak with you and your family during a visit. They have an average response time of 2 hours. This service is provided by [Daymark Recovery Services](#)

Go To A Crisis Center...

[Daymark Recovery Services](#)

725 Highland Ave, Winston-Salem NC 27101
336-607-8523 - Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

[Monarch](#)

4140 N. Cherry St, Winston-Salem, NC 27105
336-306-9620 - Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Physicians:

[The Opioid Epidemic by the Numbers](#)

[CDC Prescribing Resources](#)

[Guidelines for prescribing opioid for pain](#)

[Full Text Opioid Prescribing Guidelines](#)

[US Surgeon General - Turn the Tide RX](#)

[Prescription Drug Monitoring Program](#)



START LOW. GO SLOW.

www.cdc.gov

GUIDELINE FOR PRESCRIBING
OPIOIDS FOR CHRONIC PAIN

Pharmacists:

[What pharmacists need to know for Naloxone distribution under North Carolina's Standing Order](#)

[North Carolina's Standing Order for Naloxone](#)

[Prescription Drug Monitoring Program](#)



Parents:

[How teens abuse medicine](#)

[List of commonly abused drugs](#)

[Opioid Overdose Toolkit for your phone!!! Available on Apple App Store or Google Play](#)

[Parents Cheat Sheet on Navigating the Opioid Epidemic](#)

Forsyth County Medication Drop Locations:

<p>Kernersville Police Department 134 E Mountain Street Kernersville, NC 27284 Access is available 24 hours, 7 days a week Police Non-Emergency - 336-996-3177 Click here for directions</p>	<p>South Park Family Pharmacy 1215A W. Clemmons Rd, Winston-Salem, NC 27127 336-293-4755 Hours - Monday-Friday: 9:00 am – 6:00 pm and Saturday: 9:00 am – 1:00 pm Click here for directions</p>
<p>Coming Soon! Winston-Salem Police Department 725 North Cherry Street Winston-Salem, NC 27101 (336) 773-7700</p>	

MEDICATION DROP BOX LOCATIONS OUTSIDE OF FORSYTH COUNTY

<p>King Police Department 100 West King Street King, NC 27021 (336) 944-6878 Click here for directions</p>	<p>Walnut Cove PD 208 West Third Street Walnut Cove, NC 27021 (336) 591-7121 Click here for directions</p>
<p>Yadkin County Sheriff's Office 210 East Hemlock Street Yadkinville, NC 27055 (336) 849-7800 Click here for directions</p>	<p>High Point Police Department 1009 Leonard Avenue High Point, NC 27260 (336) 883-3224 Click here for directions</p>
<p>Stokes County Sheriff's Department 1012 Main Street Danbury, NC 27016 (336) 593-8787 Click here for directions</p>	<p>Greensboro Police Department 300 S. Swing Road Greensboro, NC 27409 (336) 373-2637 Click here for directions</p>

Alternatively, how can I safely dispose of medications?

[FDA Safe Disposal of Medication Instructions](#)

