

#### IN CASE OF EMERGENCY, CALL





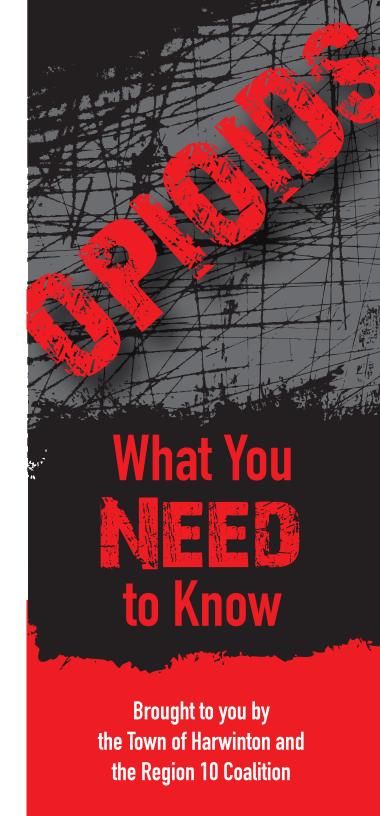






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## WHAT ARE OPIOIDS?

Opioids include prescription medications used to treat pain such as morphine, codeine, methadone, fentanyl as well as illegal drugs such as heroin. They work by binding receptors in the body to diminish the perception of pain, but can also impact mood, slow breathing and can be highly addictive.

## WHO IS AT RISK FOR OUD:

- Individuals having been discharged from emergency care following an overdose
- Individuals who use opioids for long term management of chronic pain
- Individuals with a history of substance use or mental health disorders who are prescribed opioids
- Individuals who have been prescribed opioids following a surgery

### WHAT CAN I DO TO HELP?

- Properly dispose of unwanted or unused medications
- Ask your doctor about potential for abuse when being prescribed medications
- Lock medications in safe storage area

# WHERE CAN! DISPOSE OF UNWANTED MEDICATION?

National Drug Take Back days are held each year at the end of April and October - keep an eye for announcements and information on Harwinton's plans for these events Torrington Police Department: 24 hour access to a drop box.

## **HOW DO DROP BOXES WORK?**

Prescription Drop Boxes are monitored and secured boxes where you can dispose of unwanted or unused medications. This disposal service is free and anonymous, with no questions asked.

You can search for a local drop box by visiting: https://takebackday.dea.gov/

#### SIGNS OF AN OVERDOSE

- Small, constricted "pinpoint pupils"
- Falling asleep or loss of consciousness
- Slow, shallow breathing
- Choking of gurgling sounds
- Limp body
- Pale, blue, or cold skin













- Increased risk of overdose:
- Combining opioids with alcohol or certain other drugs
- Taking daily high dosages of prescription opioids
- Taking more opioids than prescribed
- Taking illicit or illegal opioids, like heroin
- Certain medical conditions such as sleep apnea, or reduced kidney or liver function
- Age greater than 65 years old

#### WHAT IS NARCAN?

Naloxone, also known as Narcan, is a prescription medication that reverses opioid overdoses. It is impossible to abuse Narcan as its only job is to reverse opioid overdoses. Narcan is only effective on opioids (heroin, OxyContin, Vicodin, fentanyl, etc.). Individuals given Narcan who have not overdosed on opioids will not be harmed. Individuals dependent on opioids who are given Narcan will experience opioid withdrawal. In any overdose situation, 9-1-1 should be called.

#### **LOCAL RESOURCES**

Nearest 24 Hour Drop Boxes:

Torrington PD
Canton PD
Thomaston PD
Bristol PD

#### 2-1-1

2-1-1 connects callers, at no cost, to critical health and human services in their community.

Wheeler Clinic
McCall Center for Behavioral Health
Charlotte Hungerford Hospital
Greenwoods Counseling Referrals
Region 10 Coalition
Town of Harwinton