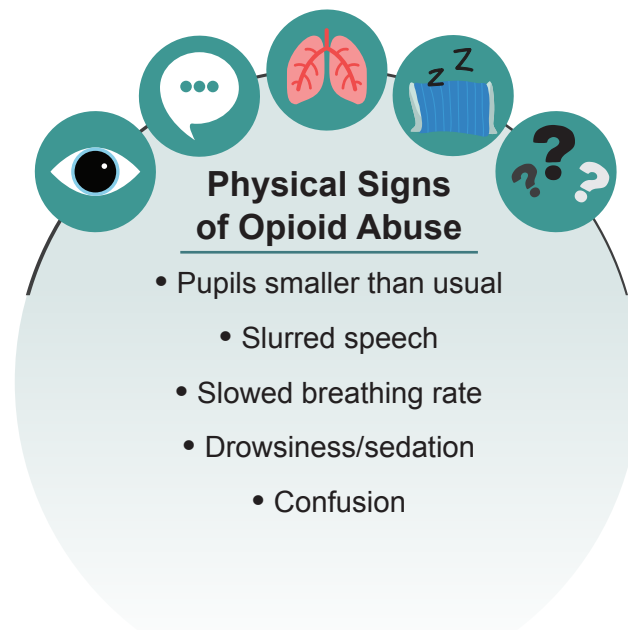
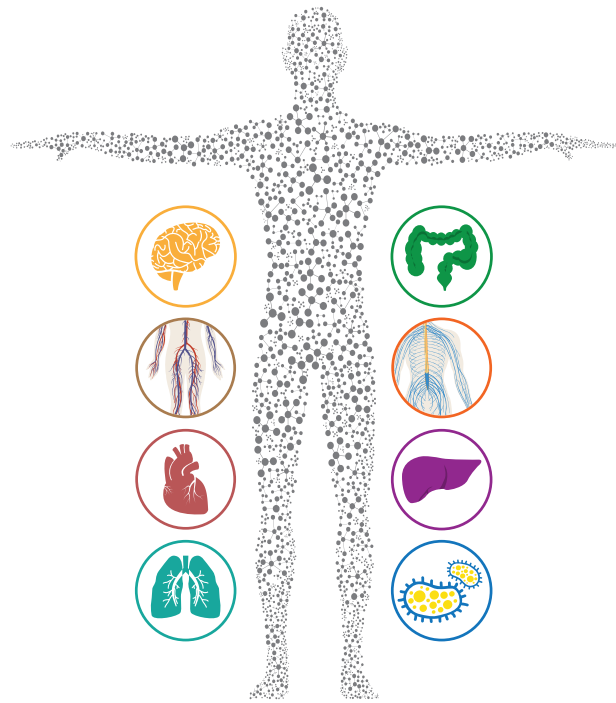


WHAT ARE OPIOIDS?

Opioids are drugs that relieve pain by binding to opioid receptors in the brain, spinal cord and other areas. These drugs include hydrocodone (e.g., Vicodin and Percocet), Codeine, Oxycontin and related drugs. Opiates can affect the brain, blood, heart, lungs, digestive system, nervous system, immune system and liver. When abused, even a single large dose can cause overdose and death. Regular or longer term use of opioids can lead to physical dependence and, in some cases, addiction.



Source: American Academy of Family Physicians



KNOW

YOUR PAIN MEDS

Preventing prescription drug abuse and creating opioid abuse awareness in Nevada

KnowYourPainMeds.com

The site provides information on Nevada's Prescription Monitoring Program, opioid antagonists (drugs that can counteract an opioid overdose) and alternatives to opioids for sufferers of chronic pain.

KNOW
YOUR PAIN MEDS

Sponsored by the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners, Nevada State Board of Pharmacy and Nevada State Board of Nursing.



KnowYourPainMeds.com



YOUR HEALTHCARE PRACTITIONER'S RESPONSIBILITY IS TO TREAT PAIN BOTH SAFELY AND EFFECTIVELY

All prescribing healthcare practitioners are required to be licensed in the state of Nevada by the appropriate licensing board. These boards are charged with ensuring their respective licensees are practicing within their legal mandate and are empowered to sanction a licensee who deviates from these legal mandates.

All opioid prescribing healthcare practitioners must possess a valid controlled substance license from the Nevada State Board of Pharmacy and must be registered with the Nevada Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP).

The PMP allows a practitioner to view and monitor a patient's prescription activity as well as allowing licensing boards to monitor and view a practitioner's prescribing activity.

If you have concerns regarding the prescribing of opioids by a healthcare practitioner, you are encouraged to contact the appropriate licensing board which can be found at: www.knowyourpainmeds.com.

KnowYourPainMeds.com

YOU MAY FILE YOUR MEDICAL CONCERN FOR THE FOLLOWING PROFESSIONS:



Medical Doctor or Physician (MD)



Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (DO)



Physician Assistant Supervised by MD



Physician Assistant Supervised by DO



Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN)



Dentist or Oral Surgeon



Pharmacist

WHAT IS AN OPIOID ANTAGONIST? HOW CAN IT SAVE YOUR LIFE?

An opioid antagonist is a drug that can rapidly reverse the effects of an overdose from a prescription opioid drug or an illegal drug such as heroin and can be administered as an auto-injection or nasal spray.

WHAT IS NALOXONE?

Naloxone is the generic name for an opioid antagonist and can be lifesaving when administered immediately to a person who is experiencing an opioid or heroin-related overdose. After Naloxone has been administered, effects can dissipate within 30 to 90 minutes so it is crucial to contact emergency medical assistance and/or 911.

HOW CAN YOU OBTAIN NALOXONE?

You may obtain Naloxone for yourself, a family member or friend and can administer in case of an opioid or heroin overdose emergency. Remember to follow included instructions and store Naloxone in a safe place.

- Your practitioner can provide a prescription for Naloxone.
- Your pharmacy may dispense Naloxone without a prescription.

A NATIONAL TREND WITH LOCAL IMPACT

Nationally, drug overdoses now exceed car crashes as the leading cause of death with more than 47,000 in 2015. Among those 47,000 deaths, more than half of those were opioid-related (prescription and illicit). According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), that is an increase of 137 percent from 2000.

Closer to home, the CDC also reported that the Clark County, Nevada mortality rate from drug overdoses and opioid poisonings were 50 percent and 70 percent higher, respectively, comparable to national rates from 2012 to 2014.

Finally, in 2015, 465 residents died from opioid use – largely owed to prescription painkillers and heroin.

