NALOXONE (NARCAN®, EVZIO®)

KEY FACTS
• About 48,000 drug overdose deaths in the U.S. involved opioids in 2017.
• According to the CDC, prescriptions for naloxone doubled from 2017 to 2018, even then only one naloxone prescription was dispensed for every 70 high-dose opioid prescriptions.

GEORGIA KEY FACTS
• At least two Georgians die daily from opioid-involved overdoses.
• From 2010 to 2018, the number of opioid-involved overdose deaths increased by 70%.
• In 2018, more than 800 Georgians died from an opioid overdose.
• EMS transports an average of 20 patients with a suspected opioid overdose every day.

NALOXONE is a medicine that temporarily stops the effect of opioids. This helps a person start breathing again and wake up from an opioid overdose. Naloxone (the generic name) is also sold under the brand names Narcan® and Evzio®. There are three types of naloxone available: injectable; auto-injectable; and prepackaged nasal spray.

In Georgia, you can purchase naloxone from your pharmacist without a prescription from your doctor. Not all pharmacies carry naloxone, so call ahead to determine if your pharmacy stocks naloxone.

For instructions on how to administer naloxone, please visit: https://harmreduction.org/issues/overdose-prevention/overview/overdose-basics/responding-to-opioid-overdose/administer-naloxone/

PREVENTING OVERDOSES
Georgia clinicians are encouraged to co-prescribe naloxone to at-risk patients who:
• Receive high-dose opioid prescriptions
• Take opioids with benzodiazepines
• Have a history of substance use disorder
• Misuse prescription opioids
• Use illicit drugs--either opioids or drugs potentially contaminated with opioids

SIGNS OF AN OVERDOSE
• Unresponsive, unable to wake up
• Awake, but unable to speak
• Limp body
• Face is pale or clammy
• Pinpoint pupils
• Blue fingernails and lips
• Blue, purple or gray skin tone
• Slow, shallow, erratic or no breathing
• Slow, erratic or no pulse
• Choking sounds or snore-like gurgling (sometimes called “death rattle”)

GEORGIA’S 9-1-1 MEDICAL AMNESTY LAW
If you witness or suspect an overdose, Georgia law protects you. Don't run. Call 9-1-1. Stay with the person until help arrives.

TALK TO SOMEONE ABOUT OPIOID MISUSE
• CARES Warm Line: 1-844-326-5400 (Call or Text)
• Georgia Crisis & Access Line: 1-800-715-4225
• FindTreatment.gov