

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.

### **Georgia's 9-1-1 Medical Amnesty Law**

#### **SIGNS OF AN OVERDOSE:**

- Unresponsive, unable to wake up
- Awake, but unable to talk
- Limp posture
- Face is pale and clammy
- Pinpoint pupils
- Blue fingernails and lips
- Blue, purple or gray skin tone
- Very slow, shallow, erratic breathing or no breathing
- Slow, erratic or no pulse
- Choking sounds or a snore-like gurgling noise (sometimes called the "death-rattle")

#### **NALOXONE**

is a life-saving medication to rapidly reverse the effects of an opioid overdose. In Georgia, you can purchase naloxone from your pharmacist without a prescription from your doctor.



## **Prevent & Treat Opioid Addiction**

#### **CARES WARM LINE**

Call or text: 1-844-326-5400

#### **GEORGIA CRISIS & ACCESS LINE**

Call: 1-800-715-4225

#### **GEORGIA POISON CENTER**

Call: 1-800-222-1222

Visit: [www.georgiapoisoncenter.org](http://www.georgiapoisoncenter.org)

#### **GEORGIA PDMP**

Visit: [dph.georgia.gov/pdmp](http://dph.georgia.gov/pdmp)

Call: 404-463-1517

#### **STOP THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC**

Visit: [dph.georgia.gov/stopopioidaddiction](http://dph.georgia.gov/stopopioidaddiction)

#### **OPIOID TREATMENT IN GEORGIA**

Visit: [FindTreatment.gov](http://FindTreatment.gov)

ACCESS YOUR PRESCRIPTION HISTORY BY COMPLETING THE RELEASE OF PATIENT PRESCRIPTION INFORMATION FORM AT [DPH.GEORGIA.GOV/PDMP](http://DPH.GEORGIA.GOV/PDMP)

# **GEORGIA'S RESPONSE TO REDUCING THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC**







IT ONLY TAKES  
A LITTLE  
TO LOSE  
A LOT

## Using Public Health Data to Respond to the Epidemic

- Every day, more than 130 Americans die from an opioid overdose.
- 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 Georgia.
- In 2018, more than 800 Georgians died from an opioid overdose.

**What are Opioids?** *Opioids are natural or synthetic chemicals that reduce feelings of acute and/or chronic pain.*

**Common opioids include:**

**PRESCRIPTION OPIOIDS** — hydrocodone, oxycodone, oxymorphone, codeine, morphine, methadone and fentanyl

**ILLEGAL OPIOIDS** — heroin

## How Can You Reduce the Risk of an Opioid Overdose?

- **Talk to your doctor** about how to take your medication.
- **Take the prescription as instructed** to avoid unintentional addiction and overdose.
- Only take medications prescribed for you by your doctor.
- **Do not share your medications** with anyone.
- **Safely store your medications** in a locked cabinet or medication lock box.
- **Never dispose of your medications** by pouring them down the drain, flushing them in the toilet, or simply throwing them away.
- To securely dispose of your prescription drugs, visit [stoprxabuseinga.org/prescription-drug-disposal/](https://stoprxabuseinga.org/prescription-drug-disposal/) to find your nearest Medication Drop Box location.

## PDMP: Partnering with Doctors and Pharmacists

- **The Georgia Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP)** is an electronic database used to collect, monitor and analyze the prescribing and dispensing of controlled substances (such as opioids, benzodiazepines and stimulants) by doctors and pharmacists.
  - Prescribers who have a DEA number are required to register in the PDMP.
  - Prescribers are required to check the PDMP before prescribing benzodiazepines and Schedule II narcotics or cocaine derivatives.
  - The PDMP helps improve patient safety by:
    - Improving clinical decision-making and patient care
    - Reducing misuse of controlled substances
    - Reducing inappropriate and overprescribing
    - Ensuring patient is not being prescribed a mix of medications that can cause an overdose
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