

...continued

The casualty will NOT KNOW that they have been rescued from an overdosed state once they regain consciousness and may therefore be unaware of the on-going danger to them. The casualty may become agitated or even aggressive. The casualty may also want to use drugs to overcome the (almost inevitable, but temporary) withdrawal symptoms they are feeling. The casualty may even want to leave the scene BEFORE the ambulance arrives.

If a casualty regains consciousness/wakes up BEFORE the ambulance arrives, the helper should:

- Explain to the casualty what has happened. Tell the casualty that they overdosed, could not be woken/were having breathing problems etc.
- Offer reassurance, explaining that they have been given Prenoxad Injection to help restore their breathing and save their life
- Explain to the casualty that the withdrawal symptoms they are experiencing (if this is the case) are temporary and will gradually ease within the next hour or so. Also explain that this is because the Prenoxad Injection will wear off and that they are in danger of going back into overdose during this time
- The casualty should be told not to use any drugs, including alcohol
- Tell the casualty that it is extremely important that they are seen by the ambulance crew when they attend

## How can you access Naloxone?

- Naloxone can be administered by anyone once trained, including service users and friends and family.
- We offer training days across Torbay Drug and Alcohol Services in the following venues:
  - The first Monday of each month, at 3pm until 4pm at Walnut Lodge, Walnut Road, Chelston, Torquay, TQ2 6HP (call 01803 604330 to book)
  - Wednesdays drop in between 1-5pm at Shrublands House, 8 Morgan Avenue, Torquay, TQ2 5RS

This document can be made available in other languages and formats. For more information telephone 01803 219700



[www.tsdhc.nhs.uk](http://www.tsdhc.nhs.uk)



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## Naloxone Information Leaflet

This leaflet provides a general overview of what naloxone is, and how it can be accessed

NALOXONE  
PROJECT

— SAVES LIVES —

If you have any questions please contact either:

**Walnut Lodge 01803 604330**  
**Open Mon, Tues, Fri 9-5**  
**Wed 9-7 and Thurs 11-5**

Or

**Shrublands House**  
**01803 291129**  
**Open Mon-Fri between 9 and 1**  
**and 1.30 and 5**

*Working with you, for you*

## What is Naloxone?

Naloxone is an antidote used to reverse the effects of opioid drugs like heroin, morphine and methadone if someone overdoses.

Every year over 1000 people die from heroin overdoses which may have been prevented if Naloxone was used.

It should only be administered when a person has overdosed and should always be in conjunction with calling 999.



## An overdose

- How do you know if someone has overdosed?

When a person is unconscious, not responding, has pinpoint pupils, not breathing correctly (snoring) and has a blue tinged mouth, toes or nose.

- What not to do if you suspect an overdose?

Do not try and get them to walk around, take a cold bath or slapping/hurting someone to bring them around.

- What should you do if you see someone who has overdosed?

Firstly call 999. Next, check to see if the person is unconscious. Now check their airway and see if they are breathing or not. Secondly, either get them into the recovery position if breathing, or begin CPR if not. Lastly, administer the Naloxone. Further information will be given in training.



Partners in Care

## Administering Naloxone

