

# OVERDOSE ALERT - Posted May 23, 2021



**In the past 3 days, the Grey-Bruce Automatic Opioid Alert System has identified 6 Opioid Overdoses (non-fatal) in Grey and Bruce Counties. This is in addition to an ongoing trend of multiple overdoses within Grey and Bruce this year and last. Anecdotally there have been at least 10 fatal overdoses to date in 2021 (pending Coroner confirmation) - 2 of which occurred in the past 2 weeks. It is assumed that fentanyl or carfentanyl are involved. Descriptions of the suspected substances are not available, however, previous reports indicated substances of differing colors, grey, blue, yellow, pink, purple. All street drugs must be considered highly toxic, with fatal potential.**

Take extra caution by:

- Avoiding using alone. When using with someone else, avoid using at the same time. Call the OVERDOSE PREVENTION LINE at 1-888-688-6677 (NORS) if you must use alone
- Avoiding mixing different drugs. Mixing drugs, including alcohol, increases the risk of overdose.
- Going slow. Use smaller amounts and do test doses to check the strength of the drug.
- Knowing your tolerance. The current street supply may be toxic and fatal.
- Getting overdose prevention training and carrying a Naloxone kit.

Overdose is a medical emergency. Call 911 or go to the Emergency Department. The Good Samaritan Drug Overdose Act provides protection from simple possession charges when 911 is called for an overdose.

Naloxone is available for free from pharmacies and at the Grey Bruce Health Unit Mon-Fri 8:30 am - 4 pm, no appointment needed.

For those looking for support: Mental Health Crisis Line of Grey Bruce: 1-877-470-5200, ConnexOntario: 1-866-531-2600 or the Rapid Access Addiction Medicine Clinic: 519-376-3999.