

WAYS HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS CAN PREVENT OVERDOSE

6 SIMPLE STEPS FOR LIFESAVING IMPACT

STEP 1

Ask about overdose

Experiencing previous overdose is the greatest risk factor for subsequent overdose.^{1,2}

STEP 2

Prescribe buprenorphine

Individuals on MOUD have a lower risk of overdose and overdose-related mortality.³

STEP 3

Provide naloxone & fentanyl test strips

High coverage of naloxone is associated with a reduction in overdose.⁴ Fentanyl test strips can be used to quickly check for the presence of fentanyl in drugs

STEP 4

Watch for abstinence

Recent release from abstinence-based treatment or incarceration are associated with increased rates of overdose mortality.⁵

STEP 5

Screen for polysubstance use & avoid benzodiazepines

Polysubstance use, especially benzodiazepines, are associated with increased rates of overdose mortality.⁶

STEP 6

Get educated on xylazine

Xylazine has been increasingly detected in overdose deaths in Maryland.⁷

READY TO TAKE ACTION?

Our team of addiction medicine experts are here to help.

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Maryland Addiction Consultation Service

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