

Opioid: QUICK FACTS



Signs of Opioid Overdose

An opioid overdose is life-threatening; it slows or stops breathing.

If you suspect an overdose, call 911 right away.

- Won't wake up or respond
- Slow, shallow, or no breathing
- Blue or gray lips/nails
- Pinpoint pupils
- Vomiting or gurgling sounds
- Unable to speak

Source: CDC



Drug Contamination

Street drugs may contain fentanyl or xylazine without you knowing, which greatly increases overdose risk. Free fentanyl and xylazine test strips are available through the NC Harm Reduction Coalition.

Fentanyl & Xylazine ("Tranq")

Fentanyl is a very strong opioid that is often mixed into street drugs and can cause overdose quickly—even in small amounts. Xylazine ("Tranq") is an animal tranquilizer sometimes mixed with fentanyl and has been confirmed in the Wake County drug supply. Xylazine does not respond to Naloxone, but Naloxone should still be given because opioids are usually involved.

Sources: CDC & NCDHHS



NC 911 Good Samaritan Law

North Carolina's Good Samaritan Law protects you and the person overdosing from being charged for small amounts of drugs when getting help.

The goal is to save lives without fear of arrest.

Source: NC Department of Health and Human Services



Naloxone

Naloxone (NARCAN®) is a safe, life-saving medication that can reverse an opioid overdose. It works quickly to restore breathing and has no potential for misuse. **Anyone can give Naloxone in an emergency.**

1. Peel back the package and hold the spray with your thumb on the bottom plunger.
2. Tilt the person's head back and insert the nozzle into one nostril.
3. Press the plunger to release the dose.
4. Step back for safety. **Call 911 and stay with the person.**
5. If there is no response in 2–3 minutes, give another dose.

Naloxone is available at pharmacies, community agencies (some provide it for free), and Naloxone vending machines at A Place at the Table, the Wake County Detention Center, and SouthLight.

Source: SAMHSA



What is Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT)?

Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) is a proven approach that combines medication with counseling and support to treat opioid use disorder.

Medications such as buprenorphine or methadone help reduce cravings and withdrawal symptoms, while naltrexone helps prevent relapse once a person is opioid-free.

- **MAT is safe, effective, and evidence-based.**
- It helps people stay in treatment longer, lowers the risk of overdose, and supports long-term recovery.



How to Get Help at SouthLight

SouthLight provides compassionate, confidential treatment for substance use and mental health.

Services include outpatient counseling, medication-assisted treatment, peer support, and more. No one is turned away for an inability to pay.

- Walk-in hours*
- Night clinic*
- Mobile clinic*
- Office-based opioid treatment (Raleigh, Durham, Fayetteville)*

*Check southlight.org for hours and locations.

You are not alone.
Help is here.

Call 919-787-6131

Visit southlight.org

or scan the QR code to connect with care.



 **SouthLight Raleigh Hub:**
2101 Garner Rd.

 **SouthLight Raleigh North:**
3117 Poplarwood Ct.

 **SouthLight Durham:**
1201 N. Roxboro St.

 **SouthLight Fayetteville:**
439 Ramsey St.

SouthLight

Restoring Lives, Renewing Hope