

OVERDOSE ALERT



Date: November 2nd, 2021

Increase in Overdoses and One Suspected Overdose Death

- Over the past weekend (October 29-31) emergency services in Waterloo Region have responded to 21 overdose related calls, including one suspected overdose death.
- There are no reports of a specific colour of substance circulating. Unexpected reactions include extreme drowsiness and lethargy even after naloxone is administered. Local community, including frontline workers suspect that benzodiazepines may be in our local drug supply, this is not confirmed by data at this time. Substances may be stronger than expected and/or contain substances that cause unexpected reactions. Dangerous drugs continue to circulate locally causing an increased risk of overdose.
- Please be careful and stay safe. Use at the Consumption & Treatment Services (CTS) site at 150 Duke Street West (Open 7 days a week, 9am-9pm, 8:30 last call) or use with someone you trust. Keep naloxone with you and know how to use it.

IF SOMEONE OVERDOSES:

1. Call 911
2. Administer naloxone if an opioid overdose is suspected
3. Do not give stimulants (e.g. crystal meth) as this can make the overdose worse
4. Continue to assist victim until paramedics arrive
5. The victim should accompany paramedics to hospital

IF USING SUBSTANCES:

- Never use substances alone
- Try a very small amount first
- If you use with a friend do not use at the exact same time
- Avoid mixing substances
- Have naloxone ready. Know how to respond to an overdose.

GET FREE NALOXONE

Naloxone kits are free and available for pickup at locations across Waterloo Region. For pickup at public health or a community partner location, click [here](#) or call 519-575-4400. For other locations in Waterloo Region and across Ontario, click [here](#).

Spokesperson for this alert: Waterloo Regional Police Services

Visit us at www.waterlooregiondrugstrategy.ca

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