

COMMUNITY DRUG ALERT

December 6th, 2022

Toxic Drug Supply- Increase in drug poisonings including two drug-poisoning deaths

- From December 1st to 4th, we have received reports of an increased number of drug poisonings (overdoses) including two suspected drug-poisoning related deaths.
- Suspected substance is fentanyl and in some instances is reported to cause chest wall rigidity. Multiple doses of naloxone have been required.
- While waiting for Emergency Services to respond, keep extra naloxone on hand; if the person slips back into a drug poisoning (overdose) state, administer another dose.


IF SOMEONE OVERDOSES:

1. Call 911.
2. Administer naloxone if an opioid drug poisoning is suspected.
3. Perform rescue breathing and/or chest compressions.
4. Do not give any other substance(s) because this can make the drug poisoning worse.
5. If no improvements, continue to give naloxone 2-3 minutes apart until paramedics arrive.
6. If you have to leave the person unattended, put them in the recovery position.

IF USING SUBSTANCES:

- Never use substances alone. If using with a friend, do not use at the exact same time or use the National Overdose Response Service (NORS) at 1-888-688-6677.
- Try a small amount first and use less drugs when your tolerance may be lower.
- Avoid mixing substances – do not use other downers (e.g. benzos, alcohol, and other opioids).
- Have naloxone ready and know how to use it.
- Use at the Consumption & Treatment Services (CTS) site at 150 Duke Street West (Open 7 days a week, 9am-9pm, 8:30pm last call).
- Anyone who is involved in a drug poisoning including the person needing help and anyone at the scene is protected from simple possession charges if you call 911 by the Good Samaritan Drug Overdose Act.

RESOURCES

Get a Naloxone Kit	Get Alerts	Get Support
<p>Naloxone kits and harm reduction supplies are free and available for pickup across Waterloo Region.</p> <p>For pickup at public health or a community partner location, visit regionofwaterloo.ca/harmreduction or call 519-575-4400.</p> <p>For other locations in Waterloo Region and across Ontario, visit Ontario.ca/naloxone.</p>	<p>Follow us on Twitter for overdose alert updates: @DrugStrategyWR.</p> <p>To sign up to receive alerts, visit waterlooregiondrugstrategy.ca or scan the QR code with a mobile device.</p> 	<p>Call Here 24/7 for addiction, mental health, and crisis services anytime for support.</p> <p>1-844-437-3247 1-844-HERE247 here247.ca.</p>

Media Request Inquiries:

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