

Jan 30, 2021 – **OVERDOSE ALERT**



There have been 4 overdoses in the past 5 days, in Owen Sound. There have been at least 3 more in surrounding communities. No fatalities have been reported. Emergency intervention has been required. It is assumed that fentanyl or carfentanyl are involved, with no description of the substance yet. Some reports indicate opioid overdose with other prolonged symptoms, consistent with benzodiazepine contamination. 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 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.

