



Anne Arundel County Department of Health Alert: **Drug Overdoses**

Annapolis, MD (April 13, 2017)–The Anne Arundel County Department of Health is aware of six drug overdoses that occurred in the County within the past 24 hours.

So many overdoses in a short period of time often indicate that the illegal or prescription drugs currently being sold are very potent and are more likely to cause an overdose.

If you are with someone who overdoses, call 911. Administer naloxone.

Signs of **OVERDOSE:**

- Person is not responsive
- Fingertips or lips turn blue or grey
- Breathing is slow, shallow or has stopped
- Person is gurgling or making snoring noises

What can you do if you see an opioid overdose?

- Call 911
- If you have naloxone, give the person naloxone and perform rescue breathing
- If no response after 2- 3 minutes, give a second dose of naloxone
- Do not leave the person alone. Help will arrive.
- If the person starts to breathe or becomes more alert, lay the person in the recovery position: put the person slightly on the left side so that their body is supported by a bent knee with their face turned to the side and bottom arm reaching out to stabilize the position.

Remember the Good Samaritan Law – Save a life!

- If you provide help or assist a person experiencing a medical emergency due to alcohol or drugs, you are criminally IMMUNE from being charged, arrested and prosecuted from certain crimes. (Ann. Code Md. CR §1-210)
- The police and the courts believe that saving a life is more important than a charge or an arrest.

Where can I get free naloxone?

On <http://www.aahealth.org/programs/heroin/naloxone-training>, there is a calendar listing all public naloxone training. Naloxone is available from your doctor, nurse practitioner or pharmacy if you have received the training.

Where to get treatment?

Call the Anne Arundel Substance Use Treatment and Referral Line: 410-222-0117

If you have any questions, call Sandy O’Neill at Anne Arundel County Department of Health: 410-222-7165

If you would like to join our mailing list for these alerts, please email: hdmcna22@aacounty.org