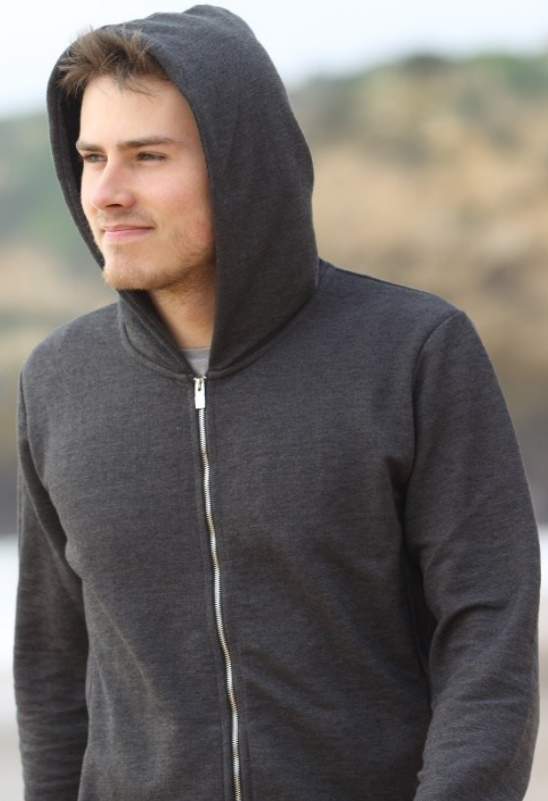


CHANGE

the SCRIPT

INFORMATION PACKET

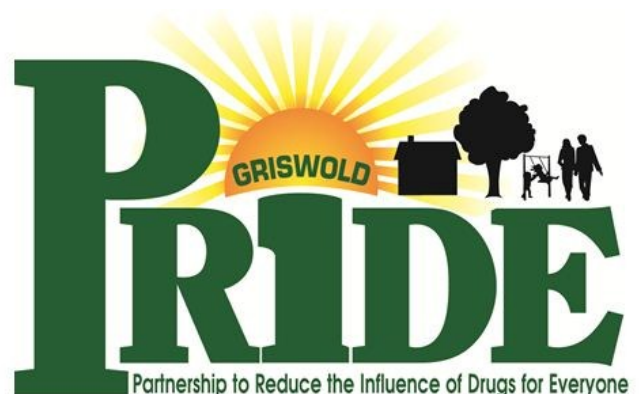


Opioid and Prescription Drug abuse is a serious public health issue that can be faced effectively with the right resources.

- **Change the Script** is a program that connects everyone whose lives are affected by the prescription drug crisis: healthcare professionals, treatment professionals, and the general public.

- **Change the Script** offers resources to help rewrite the story about how we deal with this issue, including prevention measures, treatment and recovery programs, prescriber education, safe storage and disposal information, and much more.

**For Resources go to:
www.drugfreect.org**



**Naloxone has a
serious side effect:
IT SAVES LIVES.**



Know what to do

An overdose of opioids requires immediate emergency medical treatment.

If you suspect someone has overdosed on opioids, call 9-1-1 immediately.

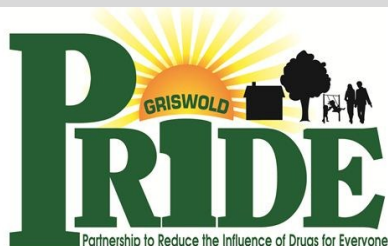
In CT, naloxone (Narcan) is available to keep on hand in case of an opioid overdose.

**If you're not on a first name basis
with Naloxone, you should be.**

- **Naloxone (or Narcan)** quickly reverses the deadly effects of a narcotic overdose.
- **It can easily be administered** by anyone with a simple autoinjector or nasal spray.
- **In Connecticut, you don't even need approval from a doctor** to administer Naloxone, and you're protected from prosecution under the state's Good Samaritan laws.
- **If you know someone in danger of an opioid overdose**, talk to your physician or pharmacist about gaining access to Naloxone.

Signs of an overdose:

- Loss of consciousness
- Unresponsive to outside stimulus
- Awake, but unable to talk
- Breathing is very slow and shallow, erratic, or has stopped
- For lighter skinned people, the skin tone turns bluish purple, for darker skinned people, it turns grayish or ashen.
- Choking sounds, or a snore-like gurgling noise
- Vomiting
- Body is very limp
- Face is very pale or clammy
- Fingernails and lips turn blue or purplish black
- Pulse (heartbeat) is slow, erratic, or not there at all



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**Before OPIOIDS
have the
last word,**

**CHANGE
the SCRIPT**



Know what to look for

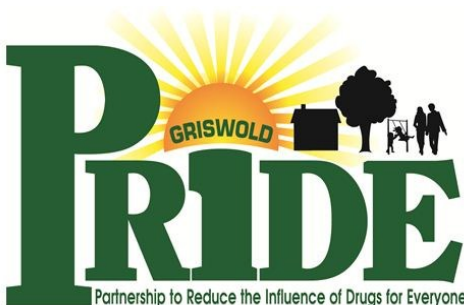
The signs and symptoms of opioid use disorder can be physical, behavioral, and psychological.

Symptoms of opioid abuse:

- Poor coordination
- Drowsiness
- Shallow or slow breathing
- Nausea, vomiting
- Constipation
- Physical agitation
- Slurred speech
- Pin point and fixed pupils
- Sleeping more or less than normal
- Mood swings
- Euphoria (feeling high)
- Irritability
- Depression
- Lowered motivation
- Anxiety attacks
- Poor decision making
- Abandoning responsibilities

Red Flags of opioid abuse:

- Money, change, credit cards, and small items missing
- Spoons missing
- Frequent and unnecessary trips out of the house
- Frequent and unexpected guests at the house
- Lack of personal hygiene
- Long-sleeved clothing, to cover arms/track marks, even in the hottest weather/conditions
- Burn holes in everything
- Pinprick holes and blood stains on clothing
- Lying/secretive behavior
- Missed school or work
- Sunglasses at night or inside
- Appetite and weight loss
- Paraphernalia: needles/needle caps; tiny black elastic bands; hollowed-out or disassembled pens; straws; small empty baggies (clear or colored; wax, plastic or paper); alcohol prep pads or wrappers; cotton balls; small pieces of cotton fiber—like from a cigarette filter



**For Resources go to:
www.drugfreect.org**

Home Medicine Inventory Card

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CHANGE the SCRIPT

For Resources go to:
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