

How to Respond to an Opioid Poisoning

S	Check responsiveness
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Speak to them or make noise 2 Squeeze their fingertips or the muscle between the neck and shoulder
Stimulate	If not responsive: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Call 9-1-1 2 Go to next step

Responsiveness means:

- Awake and alert **OR**
- Responds to questions **OR**
- Easy to wake up **OR**
- Minimal or no sedation

A	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Check if they are breathing normally 2 Check for a pulse (heartbeat) 3 Remove anything in their mouth 4 Insert airway (if trained and permitted)
	Airway
If not breathing normally: Go to next step	

Breathing normally means:

- Taking 10 or more breaths per minute **AND/OR**
- Oxygen saturation is more than 90% **AND**
- No unusual breathing sounds (e.g. gurgling)

V	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Lift chin and tilt head back 2 Give 1 breath every 5 seconds: Use a CPR face mask OR Bag-Valve-Mask with oxygen 3 Keep giving breaths until breathing normally
	Ventilate
If not breathing normally: Go to next step	

If at any time:

There is **NO PULSE**:

Start CPR with rescue breathing and compressions

They start breathing normally:

- Place them on their side
- Monitor breathing and responsiveness
- Repeat SAVE ME if they stop breathing or become unresponsive
- **STOP** giving naloxone when they are breathing normally – even if they are still unresponsive

E	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Check again if they are breathing 2 Check responsiveness 3 Check for a pulse
	Evaluate
If not breathing normally: Go to next step	

M	Give naloxone:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inject 1-2 ampoules (0.4-0.8 mg) into arm or thigh muscle OR • Give 1 intranasal spray (4 mg) in one nostril
Medicate	

Repeat step M & E until they are breathing normally

E	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Check breathing and responsiveness 2 If they are still not breathing normally 3-5 minutes after giving naloxone, give another dose 3 Keep giving breaths until they are breathing normally
	Evaluate & Support

The poisoning seems severe or complex:

- Inject 2 ampoules (0.8 mg) of naloxone immediately
- Then give 1 ampoule of naloxone every 2-4 minutes until they are breathing normally