



Drug Alert

Increase in drug poisonings

April 22, 2024



Northwestern
Health Unit

www.nwhu.on.ca

What is it? Over the weekend, there were increased reports of drug poisonings (overdoses).

Sold as/in: Type of drugs used is unknown. Based on the response to Naloxone, opioid substances present. Some have reported meth, blue down, green down.

Risk: There may be new drugs in the region laced with opioid drugs. Any drug being used may have strong opioids that can cause poisoning (overdose).

Side Effects: Unusual pattern of extreme drowsiness among users of meth in Dryden. In Kenora, "Blue and Green Down" (fentanyl) and a "zombie like walk" more typically seen with "tranq" or xylazine, together with having no recollection of what they took.

What does an overdose look like?

- slowed/irregular or no breathing
- loss of consciousness
- low blood pressure and heart rate
- drowsiness
- confusion
- slurred speech
- blurred vision
- pin point pupils or rolled back

Ways to stay safe

Try not to use alone

- Buddy up with someone you trust.
- Don't use at the same time. Make sure the other person is okay before you use.

Carry Naloxone and know how to use it

- Visit Northwestern Health Unit for a kit & refresher on how to save a life.
- If you think someone is overdosing, give Naloxone!

If you must use alone, have a safety plan

- Get someone to check on you in person or by phone.
- Download the lifeguard app - it could save your life!
- Call NORS before you use 1-888-688-NORS (6677).

See a health care provider if:

- you have a wound - left untreated, it could lead to amputation.
- you need to talk about an overdose or other experience.
- you need other health care.

Call 911 if you think someone is overdosing!

Call Northwestern Health Unit for more information:

Toll free 1-800-830-5978