



Drug Alert

**Increase in drug poisonings
June 20, 2024**



**Northwestern
Health Unit**

www.nwhu.on.ca

What is it? Over the last 2 weeks, Dryden saw increased reports of drug poisonings (overdoses).

Sold as/in: Type of drugs used is unknown. Based on the response to Naloxone, opioid substances present.

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). Multiple doses of Naloxone being given.

Side Effects: Many community agencies have been reporting drug poisonings requiring multiple doses of Naloxone. Drug poisonings can be fatal!

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