

OPIOIDS IN SUDBURY: THE TIME TO ACT IS NOW

In 2017,
the City
of Greater
Sudbury saw

86

Emergency
Department
Visits



34
PEOPLE

died as a
result of
opioid
overdose

Simple truths about overdose



It can happen to anyone. Anyone using prescription or street opioids can overdose: first time users, long-time users, older adults, young people etc.



Drug of choice, potency, frequency of use, route of administration and tolerance may increase risks of overdose.



Every person's use of opioids is unique. There is no formula for determining how much of a substance, or combination of substances will lead to an overdose.



A person's physical characteristics may play a role. These may include weight, health and tolerance/experience with substances.



Naloxone saves lives. Naloxone can reverse an opioid overdose.

Language matters



- *Speak* to the person first, before we talk about their substance use
- use language that expresses *care* and *concern*, rather than judgement
- convey *empathy* by using neutral body language
- use *person-focused language*, separating the behavior or illness from the person

For more information about opioids in our community, please visit: www.phsd.ca/cds.