

How big is the problem of heroin overdoses?

Not only are people using heroin, they are also abusing multiple other substances, especially cocaine and prescription opioid pain relievers. Nearly all people who use heroin also use at least 1 other drug.

As heroin use has increased, so have heroin related overdose deaths. Between 2000 and 2015, the rate of heroin-related overdose deaths more than quadrupled, and more than 12,989 people died in 2015.



What is fentanyl?

Pharmaceutical fentanyl is a synthetic opioid pain reliever, approved for treating severe pain, typically advanced cancer pain. It is 50 to 100 times more potent than morphine.

It is prescribed in the form of transdermal patches or lozenges and can be diverted for misuse and abuse in the United States. In most recent cases of fentanyl related harm, overdose, and death in the U.S. are linked to illegally made fentanyl. It is often mixed with heroin and/or cocaine as a combination product with or without the user's knowledge to increase its euphoric effects.

Did you know?

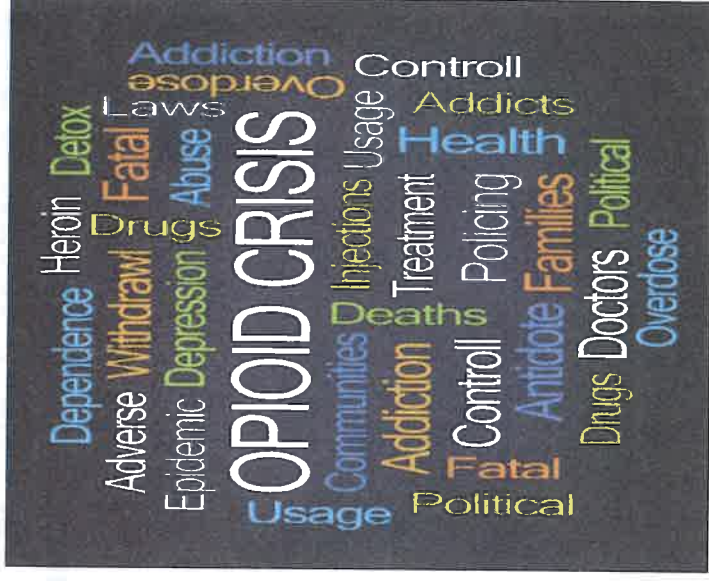
Good Samaritan Laws exist in many states. In the event of an overdose, these policies protect the victim and the person seeking medical help for the victim from drug possession charges.

DIAL 9-1-1 IMMEDIATELY every second counts.

Content source:
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Division of Unintentional Injury Prevention U. S. Department of Justice, Drug Enforcement Administration, DEA Investigative Reporting, January 2015. Dr. Carlos Tirado, assistant professor of psychiatry at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Austin.



Arfmann Marketing, LLC is an official licensee of the National Crime Prevention Council, © 2017 Arfmann Marketing, LLC. 888-209-4218.



MD Police & Correctional Training Commissions
MD Community Crime Prevention
6852 4th Street
Sykesville, MD 21784
410-875-3425