

IDENTIFYING A DRUG OVERDOSE



THE SYMPTOMS TO LOOK FOR:

PROBLEMS WITH VITAL SIGNS

- PULSE RATE
- RESPIRATORY RATE
- BLOOD PRESSURE

SKIN

TEMPERATURE:
HOT & DRY OR
COOL & CLAMMY

COLOR:
GREY & ASHEN



FINGER NAILS & LIPS MAY TURN BLUEISH/PURPLEISH

NOT AWAKE OR ORIENTED



- ★ INTENSE DROWSINESS OR SLEEPINESS
- ★ CONFUSION: UNABLE TO REMEMBER NAME, DATE, OR LOCATION
- ★ LOSS OF CONSCIOUSNESS OR COMA: UNABLE TO BE WOKEN UP

ABNORMAL OR LABORED BREATHING

- ▶ RAPID
- ▬ SLOW
- ▶ DEEP
- ▬ ERRATIC
- ▶ SHALLOW OR
- BREATHING HAS STOPPED ALTOGETHER



LISTEN FOR SOUNDS OF CHOKING OR SNORE-LIKE GURGLING



SEIZURES

STOMACH OR BOWEL PROBLEMS

- ABDOMINAL PAIN
- NAUSEA/VOMITING
- DIARRHEA

BLOOD

VISIBLE IN VOMIT OR IN BOWEL MOVEMENTS



WHAT TO DO IF YOU SUSPECT A DRUG OVERDOSE

CALL 911 IMMEDIATELY & COLLECT INFORMATION TO GIVE TO EMERGENCY RESPONDERS. ADMINISTER RESCUE BREATHS. FOR OPIOID OVERDOSE, ADMINISTER NALOXONE (NARCAN). NARCAN IS NOT HARMFUL IF ACCIDENTALLY USED FOR OTHER OVERDOSE TYPES. NARCAN IS ONLY EFFECTIVE FOR 20-90 MINUTES, SO SEEK IMMEDIATE MEDICAL ATTENTION BY DIALING 911

