

January 4, 2023

OPIOID/DRUG SAFETY UPDATE

For the week of December 26th, 2022 to January 1st, 2023, there was a higher than expected number of calls to Paramedic Services for probable and suspect opioid overdoses. Additionally, two drug overdose-related deaths were reported and opioids have not been ruled out by the coroner.

If you have any additional information to share, including any concerns from the community with respect to emerging drug trends, connect with us at substance@york.ca.

Please exercise extreme caution when obtaining drugs from the unregulated supply.

Remember:

- **Carry naloxone**
 - Naloxone only works on opioids. However, naloxone should be administered to a person experiencing an overdose to reverse the effects of any opioids that may be present in the substance
 - Additional doses of naloxone may be needed to reverse an overdose as potent opioids are being found in the unregulated drug supply. Call 1-877-464-9675 X 76683 or email substance@york.ca to get naloxone kit(s)
- **Abuddy system is safer than using alone.** Use substances with someone else and take turns spotting for one another
 - If you're alone, consider reaching out to the **National Overdose Response Service** (1-888-688-6677). This service will support you over the phone and call 911 if needed
 - Visit your closest [Supervised Consumption Service](#)
 - If possible, follow the most up-to-date Public Health COVID-19 guidance at york.ca/covid19
- Before using, **ask others about what they are experiencing** with the same drug or batch

If you are feeling depressed, lonely, anxious, scared, angry, or have other mental distress, call **310-COPE** at

PUBLIC HEALTH
york.ca/opioids

1-855-310-2673 or (TTY)
1-866-323-7785.

Report a bad reaction to drugs or overdose concerns to [York.ca/ReportBadDrugs](https://york.ca/ReportBadDrugs).