

September 30, 2023

OPIOID/DRUG SAFETY UPDATE

On Friday September 29th, 2023, there was an increase in drug overdoses/poisonings reported through Report Bad Drugs and community partners, particularly in the Newmarket area. York Regional Police have issued a [media release](#) today with details on five calls for suspected opioid-related overdose/poisonings, with one death reported. York Region Public Health is continuing to monitor the situation and will update the community as additional information is received.

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)
- **Never use alone**
 - Whenever possible, 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).