

November 25, 2020 – **OVERDOSE ALERT**



A Local Hospital is reporting recent overdoses consistent with Opioid overdose, however after suboxone administration, the condition continues to deteriorate. Symptoms include; decreased level of consciousness, stiffness, seizure like activity, psychosis like behaviour, temperature elevation and dehydration. A black substance being claimed as fentanyl, seen in males in their 30s. This is likely a result of a currently unknown drug. Please see the attached information for details on a similar warning from September in neighbouring jurisdictions.

Harm Reduction advice includes:

- Avoiding using alone. When using with someone else, avoid using at the same time. Call the OVERDOSE PREVENTION LINE at 1-888-853-8542 if you must use alone
- Avoiding mixing different drugs. Mixing drugs, including alcohol, increases the risk of overdose.
- Going slow. Use smaller amounts and do test doses to check the strength of the drug.
- Knowing your tolerance. The current street supply may be toxic and fatal.
- Getting overdose prevention training and carrying a Naloxone kit.

Overdose is a medical emergency. **Call 911 or go to the Emergency Department.** The **Good Samaritan Drug Overdose Act provides protection from simple possession charges when 911 is called for an overdose.**

Naloxone is available for free from pharmacies and at the Grey Bruce Health Unit Mon-Fri 8:30 am - 4 pm, no appointment needed.

For those looking for support: Mental Health Crisis Line of Grey Bruce: 1-877-470-5200, ConnexOntario: 1-866-531-2600 or the Rapid Access Addiction Medicine Clinic: 519-376-3999.