



# Game Changer! How You Can Save a Life with Naloxone

***Pam Twilegar, NSC***

# Naloxone MythBusters: True or False?

Only people with an addiction can overdose.



Naloxone encourages people to take drugs



Multiple doses of naloxone may be needed to reverse an overdose



Giving someone naloxone will not harm them if they are not experiencing an opioid overdose.



# The Overdose Epidemic

# 80,391

People died from drug overdoses in 2024\*

- Leading cause of preventable death in the U.S.
- Almost half of adults in the U.S. say they personally know at least one person who died from a drug overdose



# Overdoses Are a Workplace Issue

## Workplace Unintentional Overdose Deaths 2011-2023

2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
73	65	82	114	165	217	272	305	313	388	464	525	512

Over 600% Increase Since 2011

- Workplaces are a microcosm of society
- Overdoses account nearly **10%** of all workplace deaths
- EMS was activated **over 42,000** times for suspected opioid overdoses in the workplace in 2022

# Cost Benefit of Addressing Substance Use

- Opioid use disorder cost the United States **\$4 trillion** in 2024
- Employers can save an **Average of \$8,500** for supporting each employee in recovery from substance use disorder



## NSC Employer Cost Calculator SUBSTANCE USE



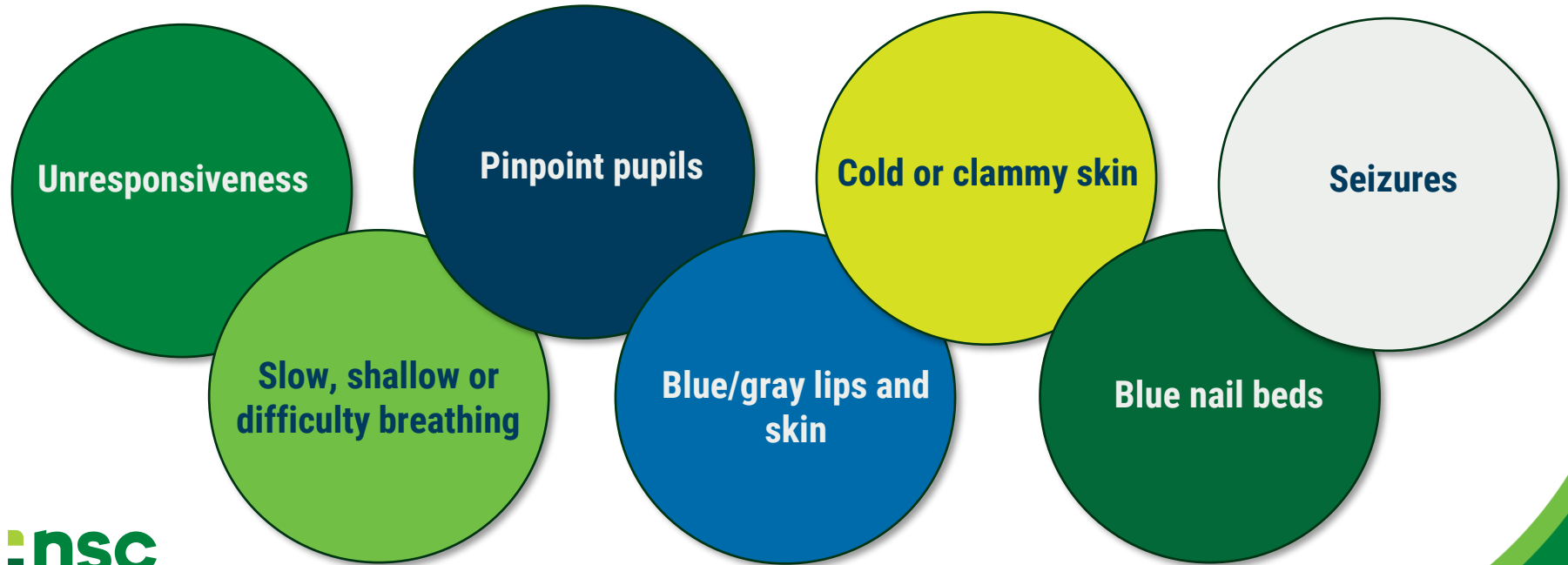
*Annual costs based on location in IL, 100 employees, & construction industry*

# What Are Opioids?

- Opioid drugs include legal prescription pain medicine and illegal drugs
- Common examples:
  - **Morphine**
  - **Oxycodone**
  - **Hydrocodone**
  - **Heroin**
  - **Fentanyl**



# Recognize the Signs of an Opioid Overdose



# Naloxone: An Overdose Preparedness Tool

- Naloxone temporarily stops an opioid overdose, allowing a return to normal breathing
- Easy to administer – anyone can save a life!
- ***Naloxone will not harm a person who is not having an opioid overdose***



## Steps to take

- Make sure the area is safe



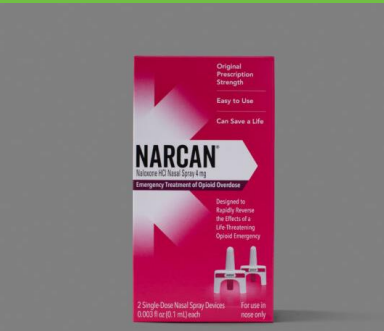
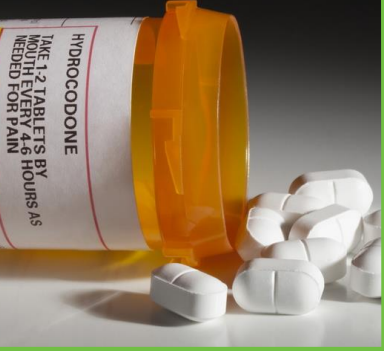
# What Happens After Naloxone?

Once the person starts breathing again, they might experience:

- Disorientation
- Confusion
- Headache
- Nausea

What responders can do:

- Talk calmly & gently
- Move hazards out of the way
- Reassure the person that they are safe
- Comfort the person & explain what is happening

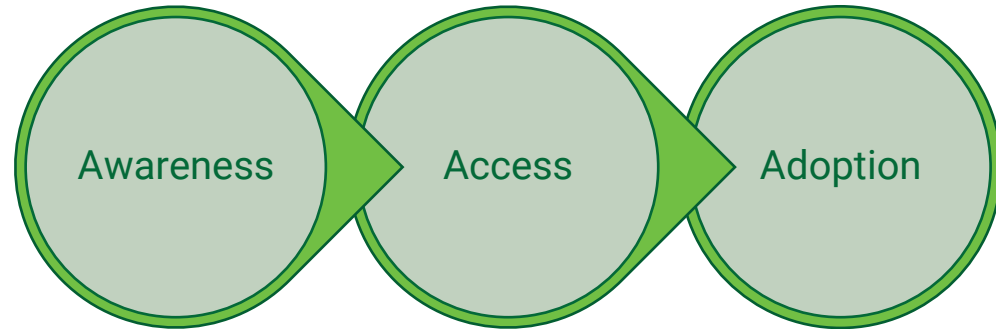


# RespondReady™

an nsc program

## WORKPLACE™

NSC aims to reduce overdose deaths in worksites by supporting the access of naloxone, related training and support resources in workplaces through:



[nsc.org/respondready](https://nsc.org/respondready)

# Related NSC Resources

**CONNECT 2 PREVENT**  
an86 program

**LESSON: Introduction to Opioids**

As you learn about opioids and addiction, you may recognize signs of use or misuse in yourself or others (friends, family, co-workers). You may also recognize the need for mental health support. Whenever you are ready, help is available. Contact your Employee Assistance Program (EAP), your health insurance, your doctor, local public health department or call one of the national helplines. You can reach SAMHSA's National Helpline, (800) 662-HELP (4357) (also known as the Treatment Referral Routing Service), via text message: 435748 (HELP4U), or TTY: (800) 487-4889. This helpline is a confidential, free, 24-hour-a-day, 365-day-a-year, information service, in English and Spanish, for individuals and family members facing mental and/or substance use disorders. This service provides referrals to local support groups and community-based organizations that can help you find the services and treatment you need. For more information, visit [www.samhsa.gov](https://www.samhsa.gov) or call 1-877-477-4273.

**EDUCATION**

Welcome to our first weekly lesson! We're starting with the basics: what are opioids, why are they dangerous and why is there an opioid epidemic? Understanding more about opioids can help you and your family feel more confident and comfortable as we move forward in the next lessons and as we learn more about how we can support ourselves, our teenagers, our family, friends, communities and workplaces.

So what is an opioid, anyway? Opioids are a group of drugs originally developed to help people recover from injuries and surgery and to manage chronic or acute pain. Opioids are made from naturally occurring chemicals in poppy plants. Prescription drug companies also discovered ways to make opioid drugs by creating synthetic (human-made) versions of the chemicals naturally found in poppy plants. There are many types of opioid drugs. Most were developed legally for people who were sick or injured. Natural and synthetic opioid drugs all work similarly in the body.

[nsc.org/connect2prevent](https://nsc.org/connect2prevent)

**NSC Employer Cost Calculator**  
**SUBSTANCE USE**

[nsc.org/drugsatwork](https://nsc.org/drugsatwork)

**NEW! Impairment Recognition and Response Training for Supervisors**

Fatigue Alcohol Stress  
Cannabis Opioids Mental Distress

... can result from many factors – all of which can affect safety, employee wellbeing and your bottom line.

Are you prepared to address it?

... NSC eLearning course, **Impairment Recognition and Response Training for Supervisors**, uses six key steps to train frontline supervisors, safety professionals and managers to recognize and properly respond to the different types of workplace impairment.

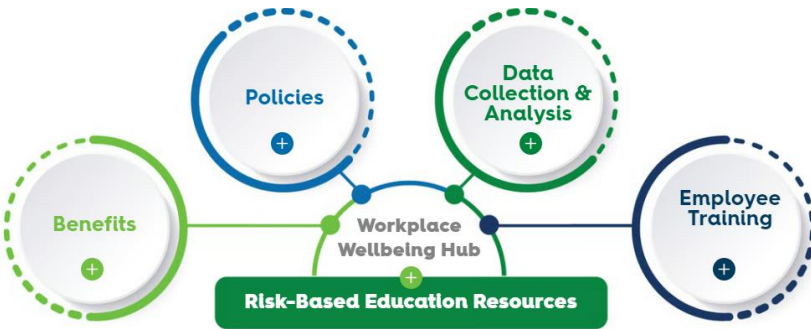
Visit  
[nsc.org/ImpairmentTraining](https://nsc.org/ImpairmentTraining)  
to learn more.

**nsc**  
National Safety Council

[nsc.org/impairmenttraining](https://nsc.org/impairmenttraining)

“Wellbeing means building safe workplaces that are also **engines for health and wellness**, that show workers that they matter, that their work matters, and that have the resources and support necessary to be safe and flourish.”

-Surgeon General



**NOW AVAILABLE!**  
[nsc.org/wellbeinghub](https://nsc.org/wellbeinghub)

Includes actionable tools including a benefits checklist, sample policies, a guide to how to collect and use EAP data and more!



**Save lives, from the  
workplace to anyplace.™**

[respondready@nsc.org](mailto:respondready@nsc.org)

**Thank you!**

# Citations

- [https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/products/databriefs/db491.htm#Key\\_finding](https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/products/databriefs/db491.htm#Key_finding)
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