



Harm Reduction Services
& Recovery Resources

Xylazine

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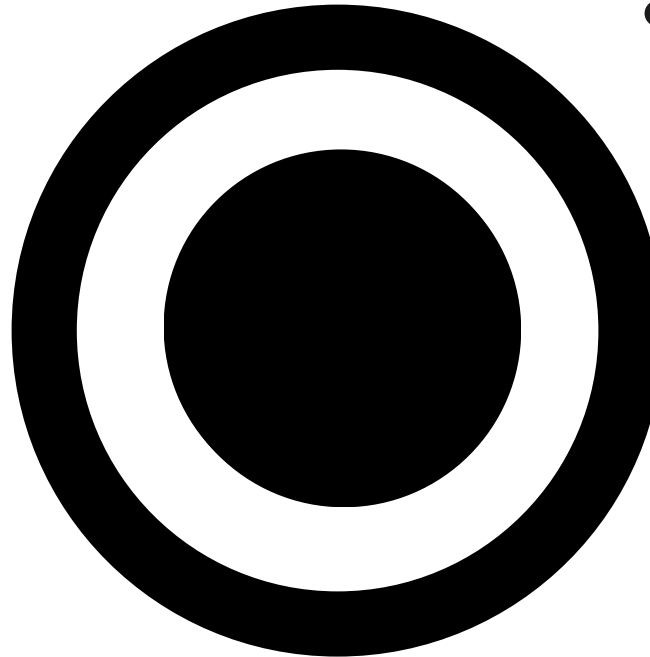
Xylazine is a tranquilizer for large animals, meant to be used by veterinarians. It's now being made on the black market and cut into the illicit opioid drug supply, usually heroin and fentanyl.

Xylazine causes a heavy sedation, and can increase the risk of overdose.

Effects of Xylazine:

Xylazine is in the opioid drug supply in Georgia. Effects can vary depending on many factors.

- Mental and physical disorientation / confusion.
- Dizziness and loss of balance.
- Memory blackouts or a feeling of losing time.
- Dry mouth / cotton mouth.
- Wounds that look different (sometimes black), that can spread and worsen quickly. Get help if this happens.



What You Need To Know

Xylazine is an animal tranquilizer that is mixed into opioids, like fentanyl and heroin.

Always give Narcan/naloxone if you suspect an overdose!

Even though Narcan/naloxone doesn't work on the xylazine, **it absolutely will work on the opioid it's cut into!!!**

People experiencing an overdose involving xylazine may remain unconscious or unresponsive EVEN AFTER receiving Narcan/naloxone.

If the person is breathing, but is still sedated, do not administer more Narcan/naloxone! Stay with them to make sure they keep breathing and stay safe.

Remember that Narcan/naloxone helps restore breathing!

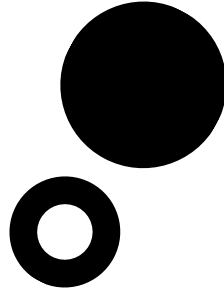


Overdose Response:

Overdoses involving xylazine make people more sedated/sleepy.

Signs of overdose include:

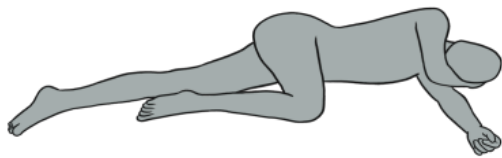
- Slow, shallow, or no breathing
- Choking, gurgling, or snoring sounds
- Blue-colored lips or nails
- Slow heart rate
- Tiny pupils if opioids present



Remember – if they are breathing normally, then they do NOT need more Narcan/naloxone!

What To Do:

- 1 Check for breathing. Give sternum rubs to see if they wake up.
- 2 If they are unresponsive, give Narcan/naloxone. If breathing is regular, skip to step 4!
- 3 Give rescue breaths. Re-administer Narcan/naloxone every 2 minutes until they are breathing.
- 4 Once breathing again, place in recovery position (pictured below). Place padding under bony areas.



- 5 Keep checking that they are breathing. Call 911 for EMS if appropriate.
- 6 Stay with them to ensure they are okay, Narcan/naloxone wears off after 30-40 minutes.



How To Stay Safer:

Xylazine can come on quickly and can be very strong especially shortly after using.

- Secure belongings before using in case of a memory blackout.
- Be in a comfortable seated position before using, in case you lose consciousness.
- Avoid using alone, if you can. Have someone around you to watch your breathing. Alternate using with trusted friends.
- When using, especially when trying a new batch, start low and go slow. Even the same batch can be wildly different throughout.
- Always have Narcan/naloxone available and visible when using.



Additional Resources:

Never Use Alone

English: 800-484-3731
Spanish: 800-928-5330



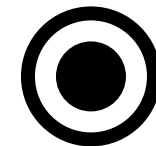
This is a hotline to call where an operator stays on the phone with you and calls EMS to your location if you become unresponsive.

National Harm Reduction Coalition



Read their info sheet here:
harmreduction.org/issues/xylazine

Access Point of Georgia



accesspointga.org
762-234-6068