

Opioid Overdoses Treated in Emergency Departments PSA (:60)

Opioid overdoses continue to increase in the United States. This epidemic is not limited to any age, sex, or geographic area. In 2017, the rate of overdose was 30 percent higher than the previous year. People who've had an overdose are likely to have another, so when they're seen in an emergency department, it's an opportunity for prevention. Emergency departments can link these patients to treatment and referral services. Additionally, they can provide patients with naloxone, a life-saving drug that could reverse the effects of a future overdose. This fast-moving epidemic doesn't stay within state or county lines. It will take emergency departments, health departments, mental health and treatment providers, law enforcement, and communities all working together to get people the help they need and prevent opioid overdose and death.

To learn more, visit [cdc.gov/vitalsigns](https://www.cdc.gov/vitalsigns).