


# XYLAZINE: What to Know

Xylazine or "tranq", a non-opioid veterinary sedative being mixed into the illicit New Jersey drug supply, is NOT safe or FDA approved for human use.



36%

One-third (36%) of all heroin/fentanyl contained xylazine in 2022<sup>1</sup>

## Risks of Xylazine Use

- Confusion
- Heavy sedation
- Dry mouth
- Drowsiness
- Reduced heart rate
- Difficulty breathing
- Coordination difficulties
- Coma



\*Xylazine use has also been associated with severe, painful wounds that worsen quickly.

## How To Stay Safer



If you suspect an overdose, call 911



Carry Naloxone (Narcan)



Tell someone you're using



Take extra care if using alone

1. New Jersey State Police, Office of Drug Monitoring & Analysis, 2022 Fourth Quarter Report. West Trenton, NJ. February 7, 2023.

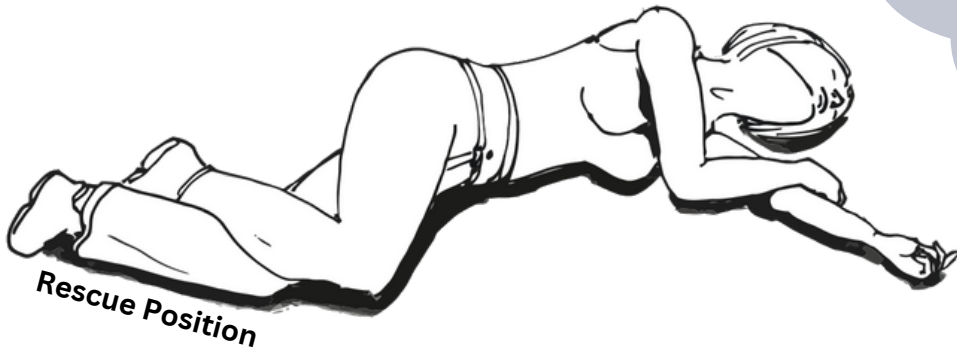
# Xylazine Overdose: 3 Things to Know<sup>2</sup>

Naloxone

Knowing how to respond during a possible xylazine involved overdose is critical for saving a life!

Time

Rescue Breaths



## Suspected Opioid/Xylazine Overdose<sup>3</sup>

- Check for responsiveness
- If the person does not respond or is unconscious:
  - Shout for nearby help
  - Activate emergency response system/call 9-1-1
  - Get naloxone and AED if available

## Check if the Person is Breathing Normally

If **yes**, prevent deterioration: tap and shout, reposition (rescue position), consider naloxone, continue to observe until EMS arrives. Continue to check person is responsive and breathing.

## Overdose Reversal

If person is **not** breathing normally, begin overdose reversal process:

- Give one dose of Naloxone.
- Start CPR:
  - Place the heel of your hand on center of person's chest and place other hand on top.
  - Start chest compressions (30 compressions).
  - Give two rescue breaths. Squeeze the person's nose and place your mouth over theirs and give two breaths. Use a mouth barrier or mask, if available.
- Use an AED, if available.
- Resume CPR until EMS arrives.

### Rescue breaths



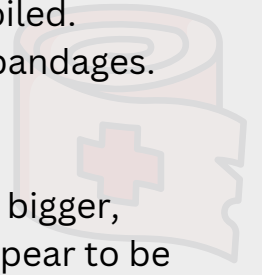
## Administering Additional Naloxone

- If person is still **not** breathing after 2-3 minutes, administer another dose of naloxone.
- **REMEMBER:** Overdoses can look different when xylazine is involved. A person may be slower to wake up due to xylazine's sedative effects. Checking for breathing and rescue breaths are critical tools since naloxone only reverses effects of opioid overdose.

2. O'Neill, C., 2023. Xylazine and surviving in the time of tranq dope. New Jersey Harm Reduction Coalition.  
3. Adapted from American Heart Association, Opioid-Associated Emergency for Lay Responders Algorithm, [https://cpr.heart.org/-/media/CPR-Files/CPR-Guidelines-Files/Algorithms/AlgorithmOpioidLay\\_Responder\\_200615.pdf](https://cpr.heart.org/-/media/CPR-Files/CPR-Guidelines-Files/Algorithms/AlgorithmOpioidLay_Responder_200615.pdf).

# Wound Care

- If wounds develop from xylazine use, try to avoid injecting in or near the wound.
- Keep wounds clean, covered, and change bandages daily or when soiled.
- Wash wounds with soap/water or saline *thoroughly* after removing bandages.
- Apply a layer of Vaseline to clean wounds before rebandaging.
- Store wound care materials in a clean and dry location.
- Seek medical attention *promptly* if you develop a fever, wound gets bigger, drastically changes in color (i.e., yellow/green/black), or does not appear to be healing after several days.



# Harm Reduction Centers



## VNA of Central Jersey, Prevention Resource Network

816 Sunset Ave  
Asbury Park, NJ 07712  
**Phone:** 732-502-5100  
M: 9 AM to 4 PM;  
Tu: 9 AM to 7 PM  
W-F: 9 AM to 4 PM

## South Jersey AIDS Alliance, Atlantic City Oasis Drop-In Center

32 S. Tennessee Ave  
Atlantic City, NJ 08401  
**Phone:** 609-572-1929  
M, W, F: 9 AM to 12:30 PM;  
1:30 PM to 3:30 PM  
Tu, Th: 9 AM to 12:30 PM;  
1:30 PM to 3 PM

## Camden AHEC Syringe Access Program

2600 Mt. Ephraim Ave  
Camden, NJ 08102  
**Phone:** 856-963-2432,  
Ext. 219  
M: 8:30 AM to 11:30 AM  
Th: 8:30 AM to 11:30 AM

## Hyacinth AIDS Foundation (Jersey City)

48 Fairview Ave  
Jersey City NJ 07304  
**Phone:** 201-360-3910;  
732-447-3174  
M, Tu: 10 AM to 5 PM  
W: 10 AM to 7 PM  
Th, F: 10 AM to 5 PM

## North Jersey Community Research Initiative

393 Central Ave,  
Newark, NJ 07103  
**Phone:** 973-483-3444  
M, Tu: 8 AM to 6 PM  
W: 8 AM to 8 PM  
Th, F: 8 AM to 6 PM

## Hyacinth AIDS Foundation (Paterson)

Montgomery St (Between  
Straight St and River St)  
Paterson, NJ  
**Phone:** 732-447-3174  
M-F 11 AM-3 PM

## Hyacinth AIDS Foundation (Trenton)

849 West State St,  
Trenton, NJ 08618  
**Phone:** 732-447-3174  
M: 10:30 AM to 4 PM  
Tu: 12 PM to 5 PM  
W, Th: 10:30 AM to 4 PM  
F: 11 AM to 3 PM

# Mail Based Services

The New Jersey Harm Reduction Coalition mails naloxone kits free and confidentially to anyone who needs them, regardless of insurance status. Call or text **1-877-4NARCAN** or visit [nextdistro.org/newjersey](http://nextdistro.org/newjersey).

# Remote Support Services

**The Brave App:** Free to download on app stores

**Never Use Alone Hotline:** 800-484-3731 | **Spanish:** 800-928-5330

SCAN ME



For more overdose related information, visit:  
[nj.gov/health/populationhealth/opioid](http://nj.gov/health/populationhealth/opioid)

