Narcan (Naloxone)
- Drug used to reverse the effects of opioid overdose
- May be given as a nasal spray or injection
- Has no potential for addiction
- Gives family members extra time to carry out CPR until help arrives
- Available in pharmacies with or without a prescription
- For more information visit www.stopoverdose.org

Massachusetts Substance Abuse Information and Education Hotline
(800) 327-5050

Resources

Pictures
www.painkilleroverdoselawyer.com
www.new-hope-recovery.com
**What are Opioids?**

- Prescribed drugs used to treat moderate to severe pain by blocking pain signals in the brain.
- Common types: Oxycontin, Percocet, Vicodin, Codeine, Morphine, Methadone, Dilaudid, Fentanyl, and Tramadol.
- Heroin is an illegal opioid and is not prescribed.
- Opioids can cause overdose and death if not taken correctly.

**Statistics**

- An estimated 2.1 million people in the United States suffer from substance use disorders related to prescription opioid pain relievers.
- Approximately 467,000 people in the U.S are addicted to heroin.
- Families with addiction experience psychological symptoms such as trauma, anxiety, depression, and feelings of isolation.

**Behavioral Signs of Abuse**

- **Medications Disappearing from your Home**
  - Empty bottles in the trash
  - Missing pills
- **Missing Valuables or Cash**
  - Changes in finances
  - Expensive objects missing
- **Change in Personality**
  - Loss of interest in activities
  - Social withdrawal
  - Increased irritability
  - Increasingly defensive
- **Shifts in Behavior**
  - Sleeping more or less
  - Changes in appetite
  - Deterioration of personal grooming habits
  - Secretive behavior

**Physical Signs of Abuse**

- Pupils smaller than usual
- Slurred speech
- Slowed breathing rate
- Drowsiness/sedation
- Confusion
- Development of tolerance

**What to Do Next**

- Understand and accept the problem. Search out resources. Ask for help.
- Do not enable their behavior. Do not make excuses or prevent consequences of their addiction.
- Do not argue or try to control their behavior. Avoid blaming the addict.
- Behave as if your loved one has a serious illness.

For more information visit [www.addictionsandrecovery.org](http://www.addictionsandrecovery.org)

**If you need help...**

- **Nar-Anon**
  - [www.nar-anon.org](http://www.nar-anon.org)
  - (310) 534-8188
- **Al-Anon**
  - [www.al-anon.alateen.org/](http://www.al-anon.alateen.org/)
  - (757) 563-1600
- **Learn to Cope**
  - [http://learn2cope.org/](http://learn2cope.org/)
  - (508)738-5148
- **The Recovery Connection**
  - [www.therecoveryconnection.org](http://www.therecoveryconnection.org)
  - (508) 485-0298
- **The Support Group Project**
  - [www.supportgroupproject.org](http://www.supportgroupproject.org)