How to Use Injection Naloxone for Opioid Overdose

health.ny.gov/overdose

Know the signs of overdose

Person is passed out and you cannot wake them up. Breathing very slowly or making gurgling sounds. Lips are blue or grayish color.

Check to see if they respond

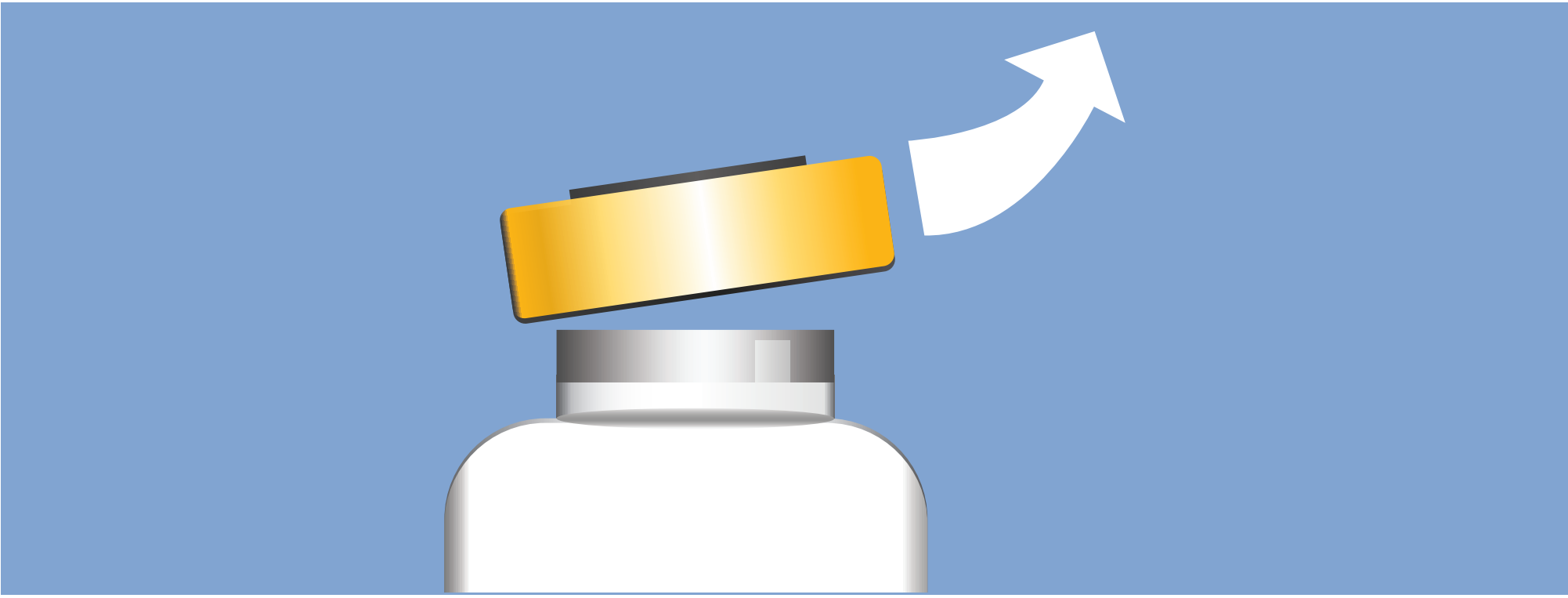
Shake them and shout to wake them up. If no response, grind your knuckles into their chest bone for 5-10 seconds. If the person still does not respond, call 911.

Call 911

Tell the 911 dispatcher “I think someone has overdosed.”
If you report an overdose, you and the overdosed person have significant protections under New York State law from being charged with drug possession, even if you shared drugs.

Step 1

Take the orange cap off the vial and stick the needle through the rubber stopper.

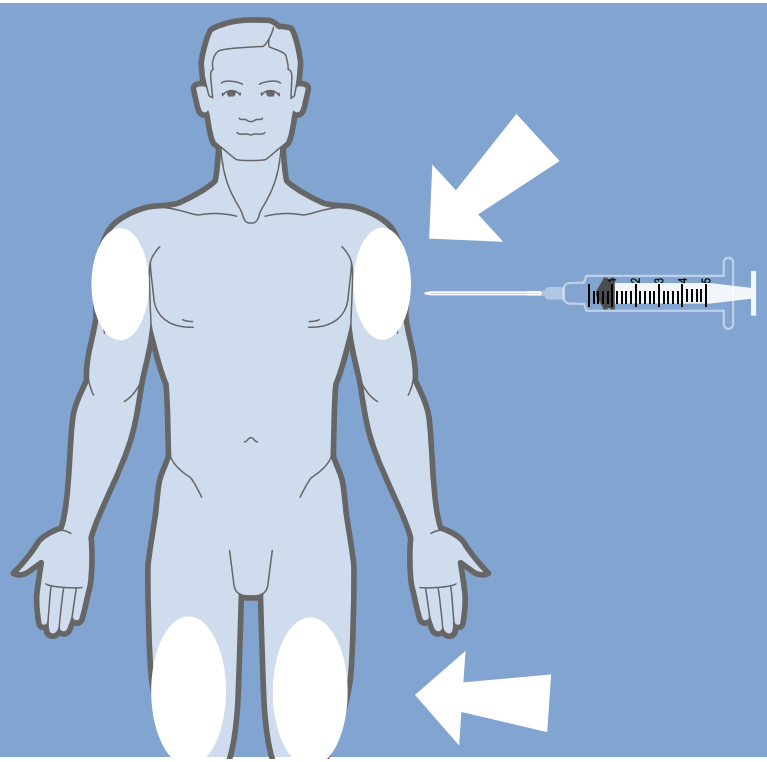


Step 2

Draw all the fluid into the needle by pulling back on the plunger.
Be sure the syringe fills with liquid — not air.

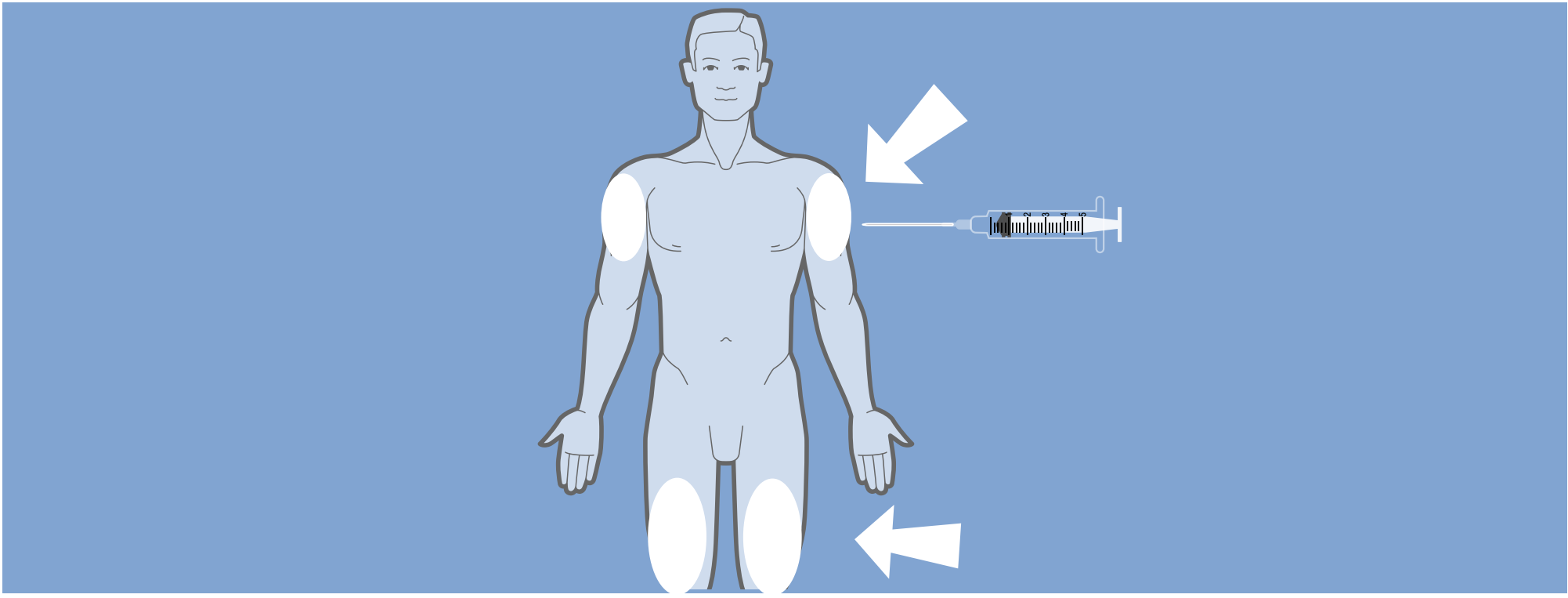
Step 3

Inject the needle straight into muscle in the shoulder (like a flu shot) or into the front of the thigh. Push down on the plunger to empty the syringe. It is OK to inject through clothing.



Step 4

If the person does not respond in 3-5 minutes, inject another dose of naloxone. Do not wait more than 5 minutes to give a second dose.



If the person is not breathing, do rescue breathing (or CPR if you know it).

Tilt the head back, lift the chin, and pinch the nose.

Start with two breaths into the mouth. Continue with one breath every 5 seconds.

The person's chest should rise and fall with each breath; if not, check to make sure the head is tilted back and the mouth is clear.

Keep doing rescue breathing until the person breathes on their own or until medical help arrives.

After injecting naloxone

When the person wakes up, explain what happened. Tell them not to take any more drugs because that could cause another overdose.

Naloxone wears off in 30 to 90 minutes. Stay with the person until they go to the hospital, or until the naloxone wears off, to make sure they do not overdose again.

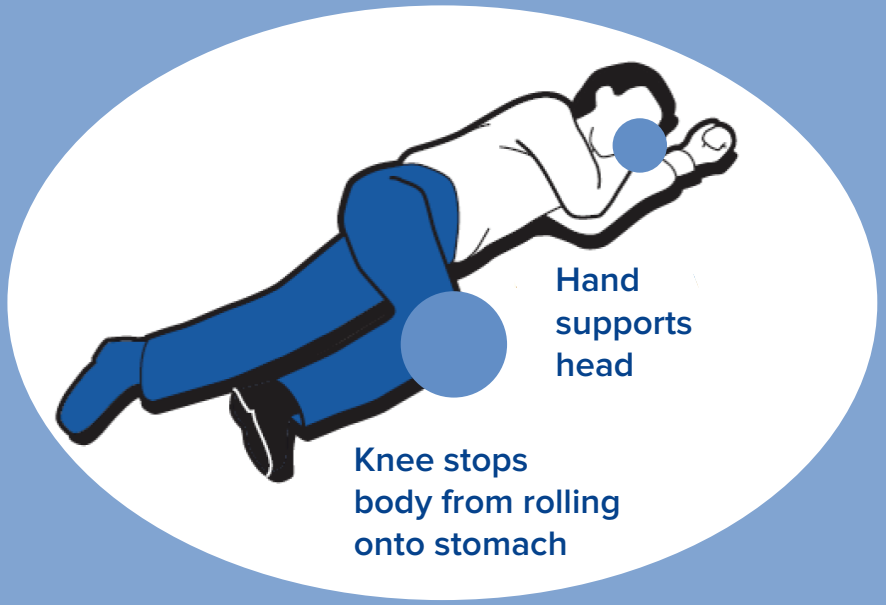
If you do not seek medical care, stay with the person for at least 3 hours and watch for signs of returning overdose. Call 911 if the person is not OK when they wake up.

When the ambulance arrives, tell them that naloxone has been given.

Go back to the program that trained you, tell them you used the kit, and get more naloxone

When the person wakes up, explain what happened. Tell them not to take any more drugs — it could cause another overdose.

If you need to leave, turn the person on their side to prevent them from choking. Go back to the program that trained you, tell them you used the kit, and get more naloxone.



Learn more about opioid overdose prevention:

New York State Department of Health, AIDS Institute, Opioid Overdose Prevention: www.health.ny.gov/overdose

Harm Reduction Coalition: (212) 213-6376
www.harmreduction.org/our-work/overdose-prevention

Drug treatment and counseling:

New York State Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services (OASAS): 877-8-HOPENY (877-846-7369)
www.oasas.ny.gov

Crisis intervention (in New York City)

New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene LIFENET: 1-800-LIFENET
www.nyc.gov/html/doh/html/mental/lifenet.shtml

Department of Health