

# FIRST AID

## For Opioid Overdoses



AUSTRALIAWIDE  
FIRST AID

### What is an Opioid Overdose?

Opioids are a variety of natural and synthetic compounds derived from the poppy seed. An overdose occurs when a person takes a large amount of opioids and has an adverse reaction.



### What Causes Opioid Overdoses?

Opioids are a sedative. If a person takes too many opioids, their breathing can become too slow and shallow to sustain life.



### Signs and Symptoms of an Opioid Overdose

If a person takes opioids and begins showing the following signs, they may be overdosing: choking sounds, vomiting, weak pulse, erratic breathing, bluish purple skin, or unconscious.



### First Aid for Opioid Overdose – Step One

Follow DRSABCD and be prepared to perform CPR.



### First Aid for Opioid Overdose – Step Two

Call Triple Zero (000) for an ambulance and treatment advice



### First Aid for Opioid Overdose – Step Three

Keep yourself and others safe. Casualties suffering from suspected substance abuse may become erratic and violent.

