

## TO RECAP:

### UNDER THESE LAWS YOU CAN NOT BE PROCSECUTED FOR:

- Possession of small amounts of drugs and/or drug paraphernalia if seeking medical assistance (such as by calling 911) for someone experiencing a drug overdose **OR** for possession of drug paraphernalia if evidence for the charge was obtained as a result of that person seeking help, *the victim is protected as well*
- Underage possession or consumption of alcohol if seeking medical assistance for someone experiencing alcohol poisoning
- The administration of naloxone in the case of a drug overdose
- The prescribing of naloxone to people at risk of an overdose and to their family members and/or friends
- Possession of a needle or other sharp object being used as paraphernalia if you alert an officer to its presence prior to search

## NCHRC: What We Do

- Syringe decriminalization advocacy, overdose prevention advocacy
- Overdose prevention clinic & programming, naloxone access
- Transgender, drug user, and Hepatitis C support/advocacy groups
- Sex Worker risk reduction programming
- HIV and Hepatitis C counseling, rapid testing and referral services
- Corrections services: training for people living and residing in corrections on overdose prevention, harm reduction and hepatitis
- Free workshops and training on: Protecting Police and Public Servants from Needlesticks, Harm Reduction, Drug Use Risk Reduction, Hepatitis, HIV, Overdose Prevention, Working with People of Transgender Experience, Biohazard Collection, Working with Sex Workers
- Safer sex education including utilization of the reality condom (aka the female condom)
- Referrals to drug treatment, health services, mental health services, sexual assault support agencies, domestic violence support services, HIV service agencies, HCV medical treatment

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## New Overdose Prevention & Paraphernalia Laws in NC



Are you or someone you know at risk of experiencing a drug overdose? Do you or someone you know carry syringes?



North Carolina Harm Reduction Coalition



# NC Overdose Prevention & Paraphernalia Laws

## Calling 911/Seeking Help: What Should You Know?

**Drug Overdose:** As of April 9, 2013, a person who seeks medical assistance (such as by calling 911) for someone experiencing a **drug overdose** **CAN NOT** be prosecuted for possession of small amounts of most drugs, **OR** for possession of drug paraphernalia if evidence for the charge was obtained as a result of that person seeking help. *The victim of a drug overdose is protected from these charges as well.*

**Alcohol Poisoning:** As of April 9, 2013, an underage person who seeks medical assistance for someone experiencing **alcohol poisoning** **can not** be prosecuted for underage

possession or consumption of alcohol if evidence for the charge was obtained as a result of that person seeking help. **However**, the person must give their real name when seeking help and then remain with the victim until help arrives.

## Obtaining a Prescription for Naloxone (aka Narcan):

**WHAT IS NALOXONE?** Naloxone (also known as Narcan) is an effective, non-addictive prescription medication that reverses opioid drug overdose. It can be given by intramuscular injection or as a nasal spray using a special adapter.

As of April 9, 2013, doctors and other medical providers can prescribe naloxone to people at risk for an overdose **AND** to family members, friends, or other persons who could administer naloxone in the case of a drug overdose.

People who administer naloxone in the case of an overdose will be immune from any civil or criminal charges as long as they act in good faith and use reasonable care. This includes family members, friends, and others who may witness an overdose.

**ASK YOUR MEDICAL PROVIDER FOR A PRESCRIPTION FOR NALOXONE IF YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW IS AT RISK OF EXPERIENCING A DRUG OVERDOSE. IF YOUR MEDICAL PROVIDER WILL NOT GIVE YOU A PRESCRIPTION YOU CAN GET NALOXONE FROM NCHRC FOR A SLIDING SCALE DONATION.**

## Drug Paraphernalia: What Should You Know?

As of December 1, 2013, a person who alerts an officer to the presence of a **hypodermic needle** or **other sharp object being used as paraphernalia** prior to search, **CAN NOT** be charged with possession of the needle or other sharp object.