1,518 Hoosiers died due to drug overdose in 2016.

Indiana ranks 34th in the nation in drug deaths with 17.9 deaths per 100,000 people.

Hoosiers are more likely to die due to drug overdose than a car accident.

Death by drug overdose has increased in Indiana by 500% since 1999.

A newborn exposed to opioids in utero has a 60-80% likelihood of suffering from Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS), which could impact the child’s long-term growth, behaviors, language abilities, cognitive development, and academic achievement.

Drug overdose fatalities cost Indiana $1.5 billion each year.

Source: Alliance for a Healthier Indiana (HealthierIndiana.org)

Do you need help?

The Indiana Addiction Hotline is available 24/7 for individuals seeking addiction treatment services.

1-800-662-HELP (4357)
Opioids are powerful and highly addictive painkillers.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, more than 42,000 Americans died from an opioid-related overdose in 2016, including 1,518 Hoosiers. Opioid overdoses nationwide have quadrupled since 1999.

Opioids can rewire the brain. Even short-term use can change the way the brain works. Long-term use can lead to physical dependency. Eventually, people take these drugs just to feel normal and avoid withdrawal.

The most common prescription opioids include:
- Oxycodone (OxyContin, Percodan, Percocet)
- Hydrocodone (Vicodin, Lortab, Lorcet)
- Diphenoxylate (Lomotil)
- Morphine (Kadian, Avinza, MS Contin)
- Codeine
- Propoxyphene (Darvon)
- Hydromorphone (Dilaudid)
- Meperidine (Demerol)
- Methadone

Other opioids include:
- Heroin
- Fentanyl
- Carfentanil

Prevention starts with education. Patients need to understand how easy it is to become a victim of addiction. Health care providers must assess and manage pain appropriately and identify and treat problems before a patient becomes addicted.

Treatment and recovery are possible. A combination of medication and counseling/behavioral therapy can help patients overcome their addiction. Individuals who are afraid a loved one is at risk of an opioid overdose can obtain the life-saving drug Naloxone.