

# Substance Use Disorder (SUD) - Opioids



- SUD includes many substances and medications, including opioids (prescription and nonprescription), alcohol, inhalants, stimulants, hallucinogens, hypnotics, sedatives, anxiolytics.
- This tool is specific to opioid overdose, intoxication, and withdrawal in pregnant and postpartum individuals.
- Substance Use Disorder is a leading cause of maternal mortalities.

<b>Risks for Substance Abuse Disorder (SUD)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Physical or emotional trauma</li> <li>• Mental health disorders</li> <li>• Stress</li> <li>• Personal or family history of SUD</li> <li>• Social factors such as lack of support, peer pressure, and social or economic problems</li> </ul>
<b>Management</b>	<p><b>Signs of opioid overdose:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Abnormal or absent respirations</li> <li>• Lethargy</li> <li>• Loss of consciousness</li> </ul> <p><b>Signs of opioid intoxication:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Decreased alertness</li> <li>• Constricted pupils</li> <li>• Reduced respiratory rate</li> <li>• Scratching</li> <li>• Hallucinations</li> <li>• Drooping eyelids</li> </ul> <p><b>Signs of opioid withdrawal:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Muscle twitches or tremors</li> <li>• Anxiety or irritability</li> <li>• Abdominal cramps</li> <li>• Vomiting</li> <li>• Dilated pupils</li> <li>• Hot/Cold flushes</li> <li>• Restlessness</li> <li>• Diaphoresis/excessive sweating</li> </ul> <p><b>Tests for Evaluation:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Urine drug screen, CBC, liver function tests, and STI testing</li> <li>• Complete opioid withdrawal scale (OOWS, SOWS, or COWS)</li> <li>• <b>Evaluate pregnant individuals for acute withdrawal symptoms</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Treatment:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Administer Narcan (naloxone). More than one dose may be required.</li> <li>• Manage withdrawal symptoms with loperamide (diarrhea), promethazine (N/V), ibuprofen (myalgia), and clonidine (hypertension).</li> <li>• Consider long-term opioid replacement with Buprenorphine or Methadone</li> <li>• Provide Narcan to patient to take home at discharge for overdose prevention</li> <li>• Discuss the patient's readiness to start a SUD treatment plan</li> </ul>
<b>Consult</b>	<b>Consult an OB/GYN if the patient is pregnant or call the MIST Consultation Line at 800-UAB-MIST (800-822-6478).</b>

For more information or resources, please visit [ALPQC.ORG](http://ALPQC.ORG).

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