

Medetomidine

(meh-duh-toh-muh-deen)



What is it?

- Medetomidine, like Xylazine, is a veterinary drug used to sedate animals.
- Medetomidine is not approved for human use.
- Medetomidine is being found in the supply of illicit drugs in Cecil County.
- Medetomidine is 200x to 300x stronger than Xylazine.



Appearance

- Medetomidine appears as a crystalline white solid or in a powder form. It can be used as an IV (intravenous) drug.
- Medetomidine is often mixed with other substances like Fentanyl to enhance the effects of opioids or to increase sedation.



Side Effects & Signs of Overdose

Side effects:

- Unconsciousness or extreme sleepiness
- Slow heart rate
- Trouble breathing
- Dry mouth
- Coma / death

Signs of Overdose:

- Body feels cold
- Pale/Discolored Appearance
- Small pupils



How to Respond

If you suspect an overdose:

- **Call 911 immediately**
- **Perform rescue breathing**
- **Give Narcan**
Narcan is NOT effective against Medetomidine, but should be given in case there are also opioids in their system.

If you or someone you know needs help, now is the time to reach out.

Voices of Hope Aberdeen

(443) 993-7055
7 Aberdeen
Shopping Plz,
Aberdeen, MD
21001

Voices of Hope Elkton

(443) 993-7055
227 Howard St,
Elkton, MD 21921

Harmony (443) 907-0112

Harm Reduction
Services:
401 Bow Street
Elkton, MD, 21901

Cecil Addiction Coordination Hotline (C.A.T.C.H.)

Available 24/7
(443) 245-3257



Rescue Breathing

is one of the quickest ways to get oxygen into the body and one of the most important things you can do to prevent someone from dying from an opioid overdose.

Assess breathing: If the person is not breathing, or if breath is shallow or short, you can

Give rescue breaths

OR

Administer traditional CPR

If you are trained in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), chest compressions with rescue breaths.

OR

Follow the 9-1-1 dispatcher's instructions.

Continue until the person wakes up or medical help arrives.

Rescue Breathing Steps



Step 1:

Lay the person on his/her back on a flat surface.



Step 2

Tilt the chin to open the airway.



Step 3:

Remove anything blocking the airway.



Step 4:

Pinch the person's nose closed completely. Then cover his/her mouth with your mouth and blow 2 regular breaths about 1 second each.

The chest should rise with each breath.

Turn your head after each breath and look to see if the chest is rising and falling. If it is not, tilt the head back more to open the airway.



Step 5:

Breathe again.

Give 1 breath every 6-8 seconds.

