

Opioid Abuse – Picture This





DRUG OVERDOSE DEATHS AT WORK



The number of **drug overdose deaths at work** is rising.

The top 3 industries with the **highest numbers of drug overdose deaths at work** from 2011-2016*



Transportation & Warehousing
116 deaths



Construction
114 deaths



Healthcare & Social Assistance
96 deaths

What do we know about drug overdose deaths at work?



Most overdose deaths at work were from **opioids**

Opioids are drugs commonly used to reduce pain and can be prescribed or used without a medical reason



Workplace factors can influence the use of prescriptions and other substances

Examples: opioids prescribed for work-related back pain, and workers using substances to deal with work-related stress

What don't we know about drug overdose deaths at work?

- The circumstances for substance use
- If the drug use was associated with work injury and pain

Employers: You can take steps to prevent worker drug overdose

- ☐ Identify and remove workplace dangers
- ☐ Protect workers who do physically demanding jobs from getting injured
- ☐ Educate yourself on how you can support a worker with a substance use disorder
- ☐ Educate employees on risks for substance use and overdose prevention
- ☐ Consider implementing a program to make **naloxone** available in the workplace in the event of an opioid overdose
Naloxone is a life-saving medication that can reverse the effects of an opioid overdose



Large Employers:

Provide training and encourage use of an employee assistance program, health plan, and other resources for treatment of substance use disorders



Small Employers:

Work with your local health department for resources in your community