

# Reversing *Opioid Overdose*

Fairfield Behavioral Health Services

# What is an *Opioid Overdose?*

- Opioid overdose happens when a toxic amount of an opioid alone or mixed with other opioid(s), drugs and/or substances overwhelms the body's ability to handle it.
- Many opioid-related overdose results from mixing prescription painkillers or heroin with benzodiazepines (benzos), cocaine and/or alcohol.

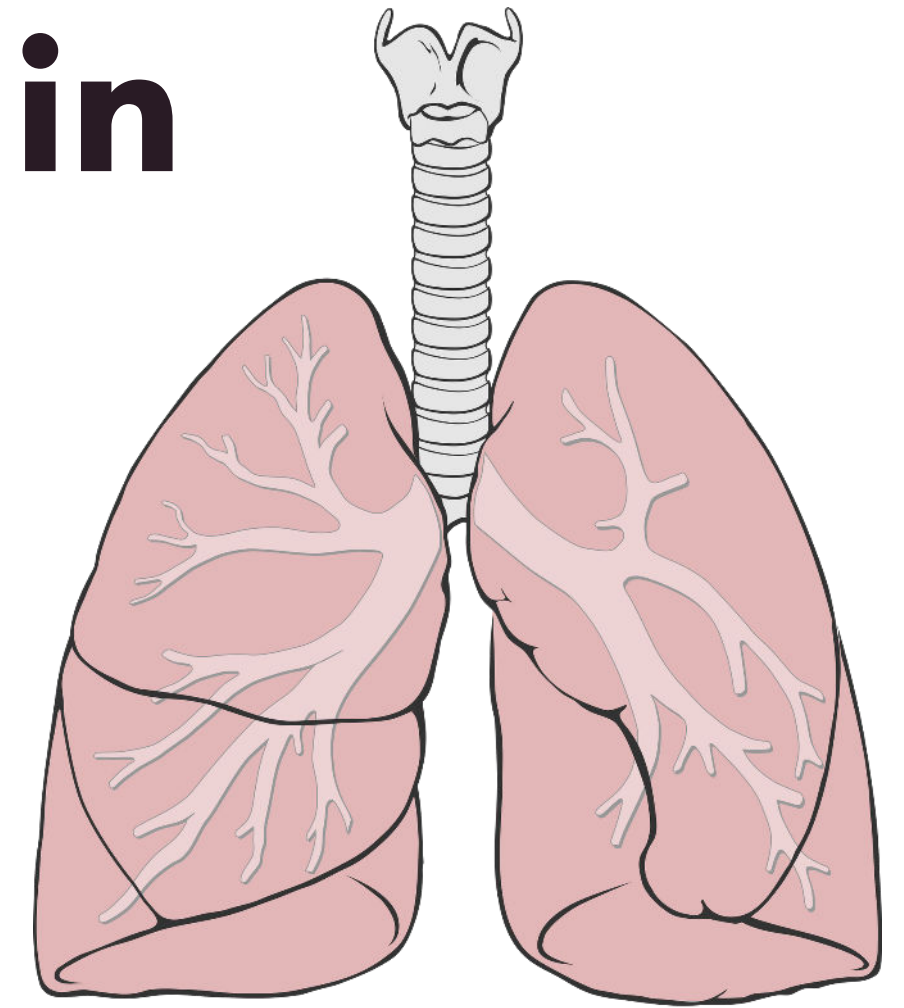
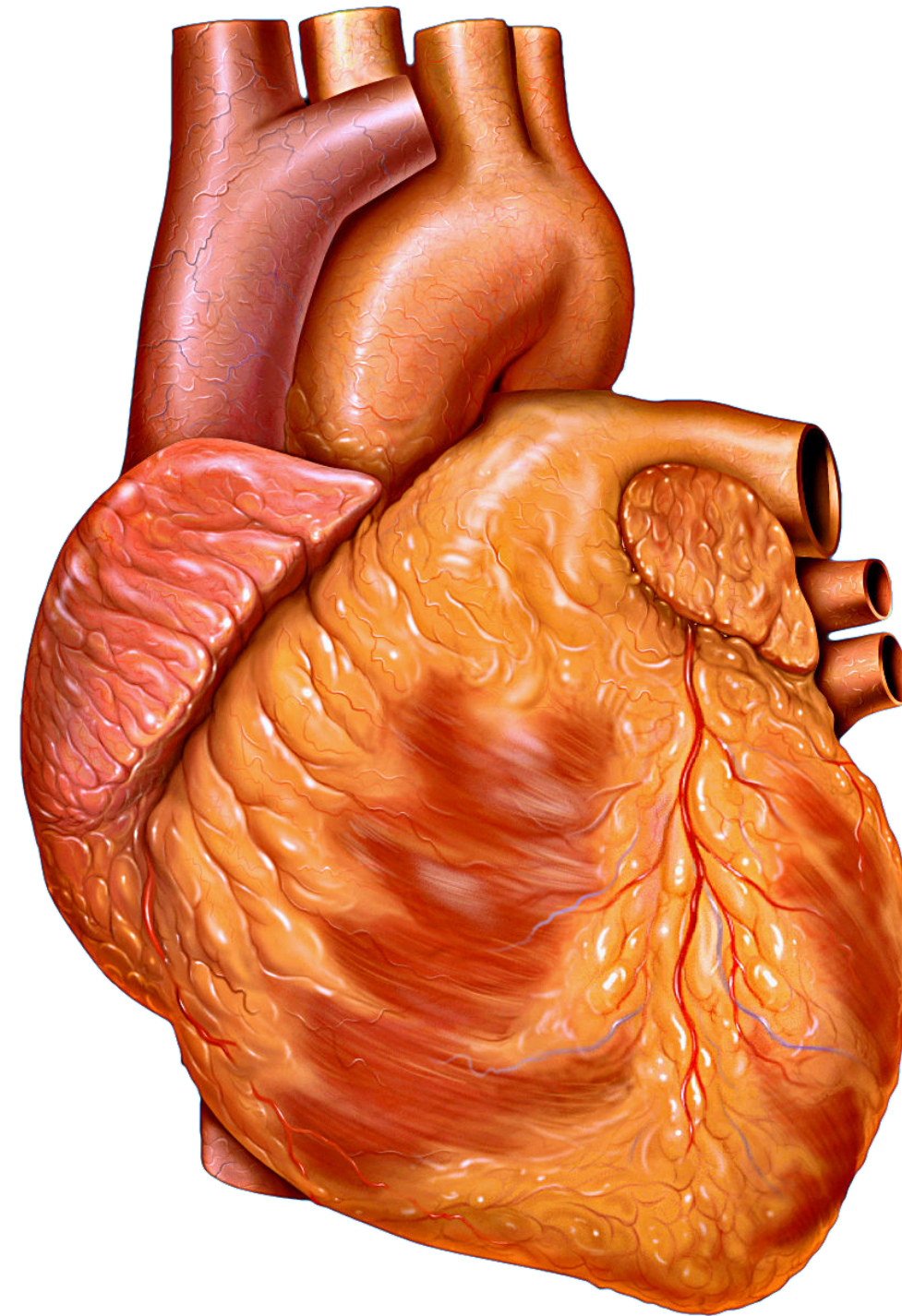
# Signs & Symptoms

## *Opioid Overdose?*

- Slow, shallow, or no breathing
- Unresponsive
- Unconscious
- Loud snoring or gurgling noises
- Limp body
- Lips/fingertips turn blue or gray
- Skin pale/gray, clammy
- Pulse slow or erratic

# What leads to death in *Opioid Overdose?*

- Respiratory failure
- Lack of oxygen in the blood
- Vital organs like heart and brain start to fail
- Unconsciousness



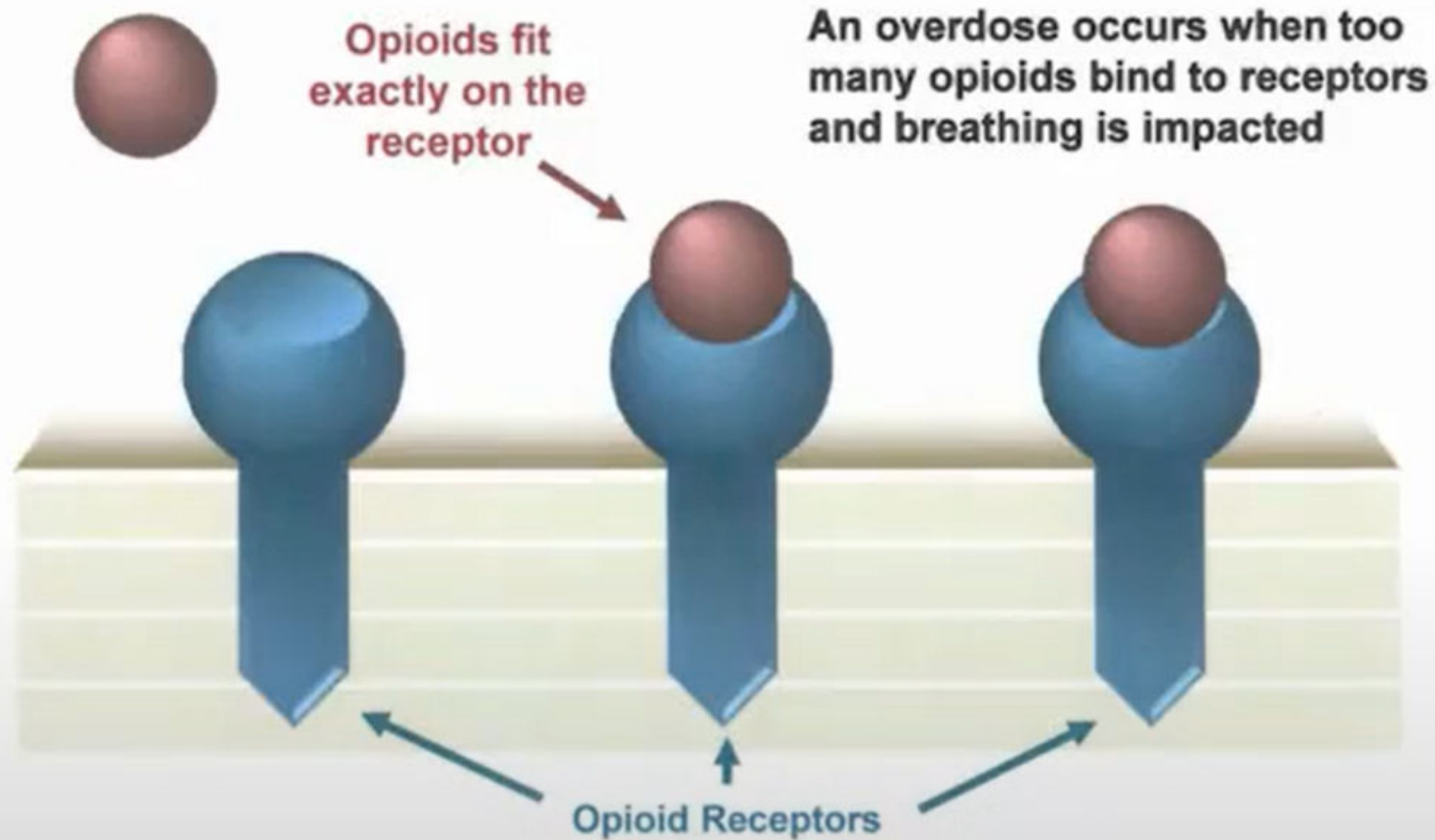
# What is an Naloxone?



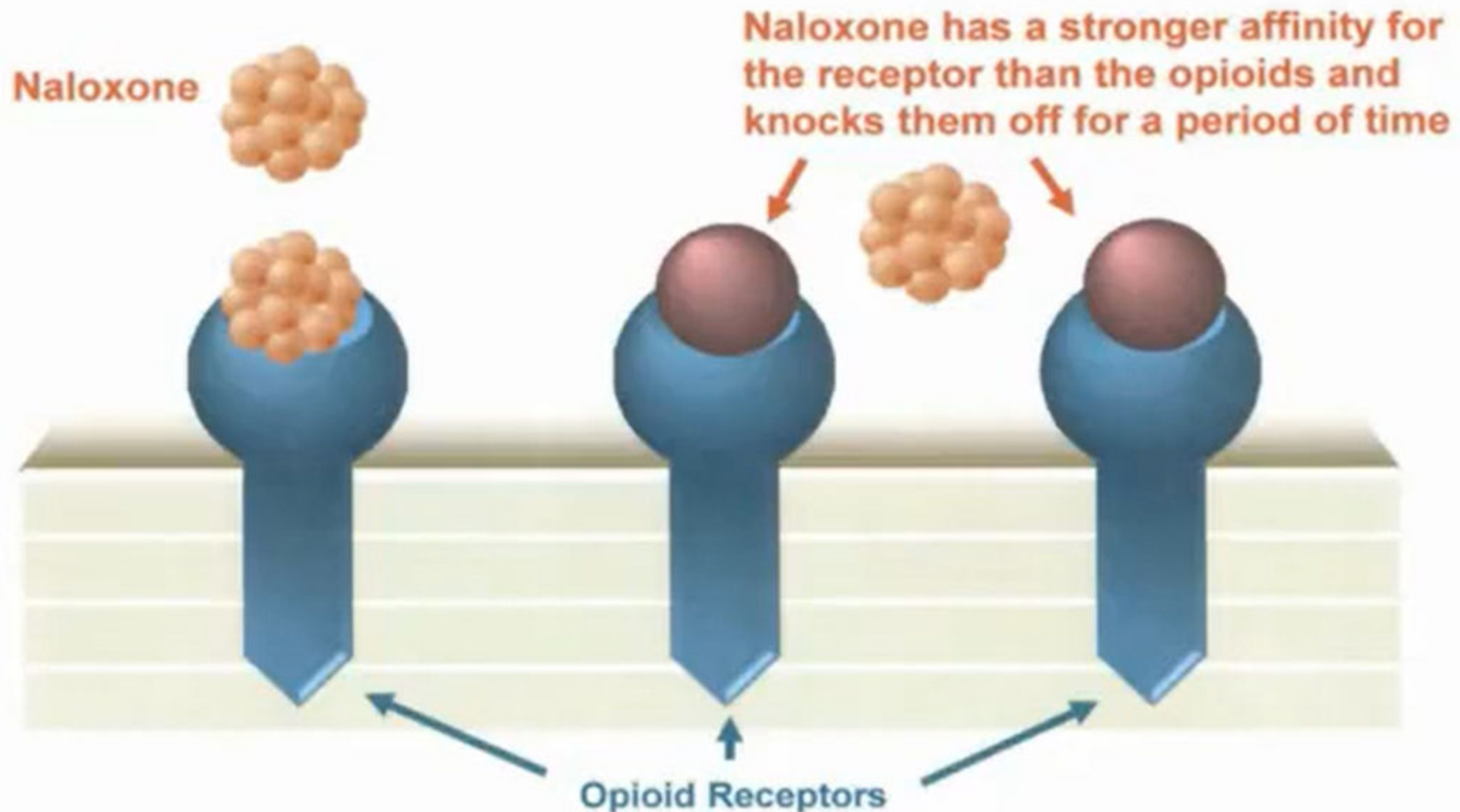
- Naloxone is a medicine that reverses opioid overdose by restoring breathing.
- Wears off in 30 minutes to 2 hours.
- Delivery: intramuscular, intranasal or intravenous
  - Intramuscular: in the muscle
  - Intranasal: in the nose
  - Intravenous: in the vein
- No potential for misuse
- No effect on someone who hasn't taken opioids
- Naloxone is only effective in reversing overdose involving opioids

# Simulation of an Overdose

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# Naloxone Reversing an Overdose



# Responding to an *Opioid Overdose*

1. Rouse and Stimulate
2. Call 911
3. Give Naloxone
4. Rescue breathing
5. Care for the person



# Step 1

## Rouse & Stimulate



- **Noise-** Shake person's shoulders and yell:
  - "[Name] Are you all right? Wake up!"
- **Pain-** If no answer, do a sternum rub
  - Make a fist and rub your knuckles firmly up and down the breastbone

# Step 2

## Call 911

*Get emergency medical help for someone experiencing an overdose!*

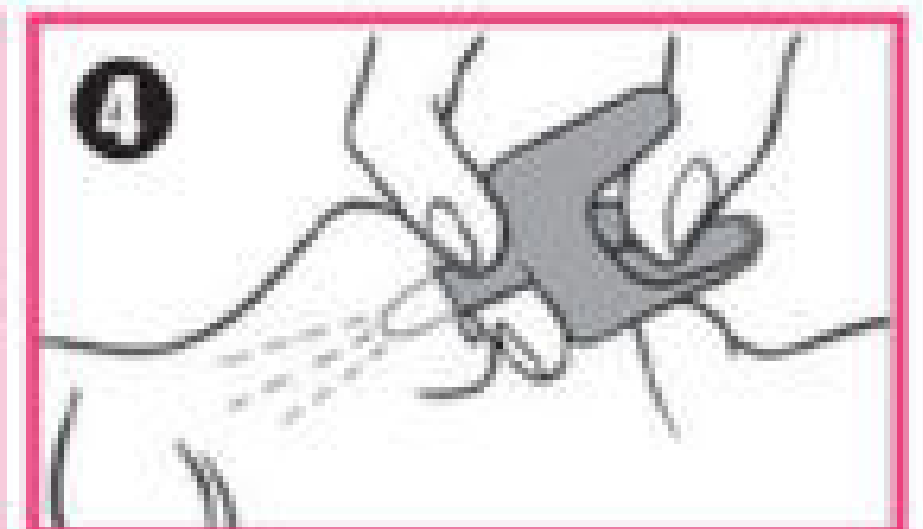
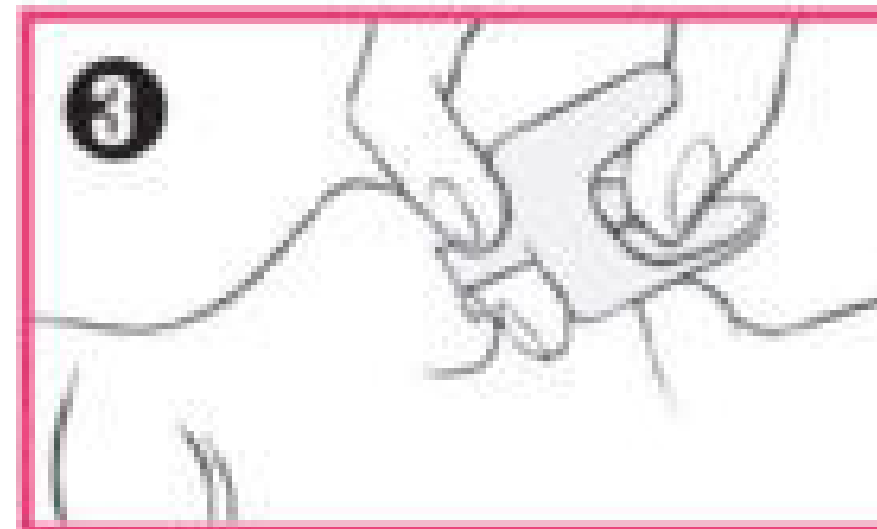
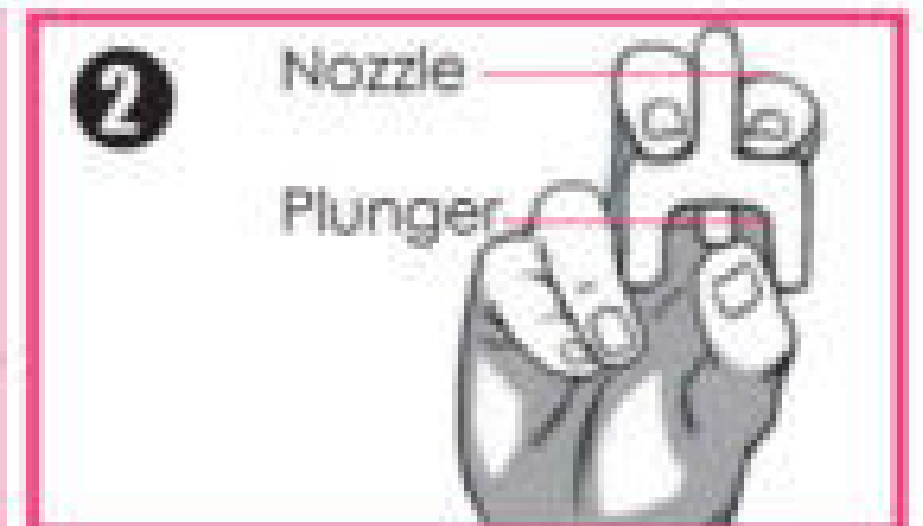
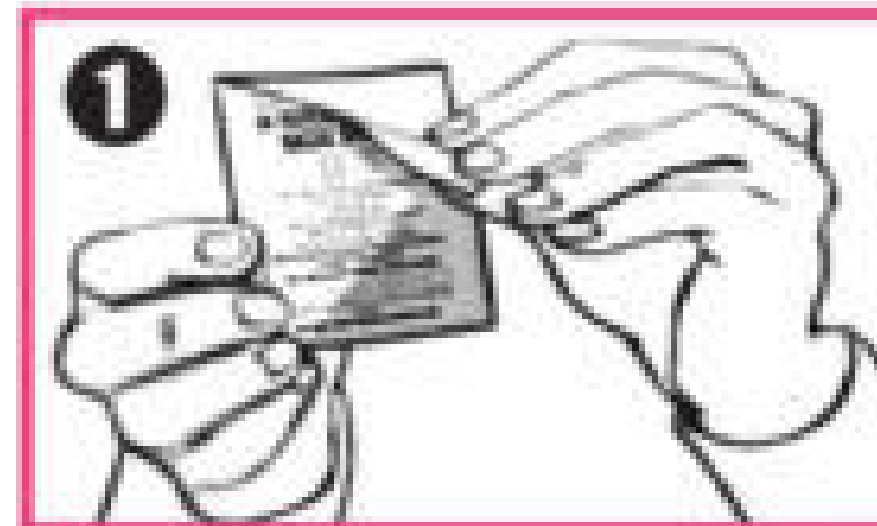


### **Why?**

- Naloxone is temporary.
- Person may:
  - have complications or other health problems
  - need more naloxone
- May be a non-opioid overdose

# Step 3

## Give Naloxone



# Instructions

## *Naloxone*

- Remove NARCAN nasal spray from box. Peel back tab with circle to open.
- Hold NARCAN nasal spray with your thumb on the bottom of the plunger and your first & middle fingers on either side of the nozzle.



# Instructions

## *Naloxone*

- Tilt head back & support person under neck. Gently insert tip of nozzle into nostril, until your fingers on either side of the nozzle are against the bottom of the nose.
- Press plunger firmly to administer.



# Step 4

## Rescue Breathing



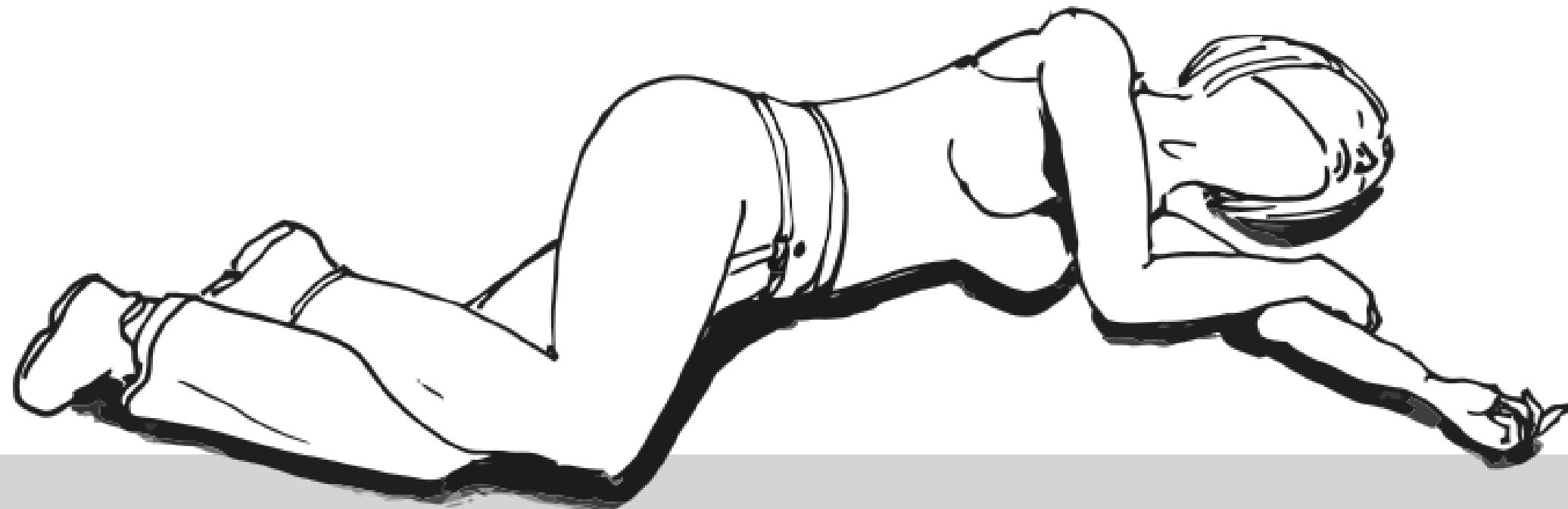
1. Lay the person face-up on a flat surface
2. Lift the chin and tilt the head to open the airway
3. Check to see if something is in the mouth, blocking the airway (if so, remove it).
4. Pinch the nose shut
5. Make a complete seal over the person's mouth with your mouth. Blow **two** regular breaths, then give one breath every **five** seconds.

If chest does not rise, re-tilt the head and give another rescue breath.

# Step 5

## Care for the Person

- Stay with the person until medical help arrives.
- If person cannot sit up put them in recovery position.
- Keep person calm.
- Encourage person not to take more opioids.
- If overdose happens again, give another dose of naloxone



# Good Samaritan *Naloxone Access Law*

The Good Samaritan Law, S.C. Code Ann. 15-1-310, protects any person, who in good faith renders emergency care, from civil liability arising out of any act or omission by such person in rendering the emergency care or in or in failing to act or arrange for further medical treatment or care for the victim, except when the acts or omissions amount to gross negligence.

Similarly, the South Carolina Overdose Prevention Act, S.C. Code Ann. 44-130-50 protects a caregiver who gives Naloxone to a person whom the caregiver believes in good faith is experiencing an opioid overdose from civil or criminal liability.



# Thank you!

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[fairfieldbhs.org](http://fairfieldbhs.org)

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