

# Opioid Poisoning Response and Xylazine - What you Need to Know

October 12, 2023

10:00-11:30am MST



Xylazine is a sedating agent that is currently being reported as frequently mixed into unregulated drug supplies throughout Canada and the U.S.A. The increasing presence of xylazine within the drug supply is a growing concern as communities are witnessing an increase in fatalities associated with drug poisonings where xylazine has been found present. During this session we will review the impacts of xylazine on the body, discuss how xylazine interacts with opioids during a poisoning (“overdose”) event and how this impacts our First Aid response, and will discuss important considerations for care providers of people who may be exposed to xylazine.



## Learning Outcomes:

- Introduction to xylazine and its impacts on the body
- How to recognize and respond to an opioid poisoning with naloxone
- Indicators of potential xylazine toxicity and how to respond during a poisoning event
- Other considerations for ongoing health impacts and future care of people exposed to xylazine

## Speakers:

Shawn McLaren (he/him), Chief Learning Officer, St. John Ambulance.

Alanna Balint (she/her), “Reaching Home” Program Manager, St. John Ambulance Opioid Poisoning Response Training.



Target Audience: Both leaders and members of rural, remote, and isolated communities; healthcare and social service providers

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