

## Know about Narcan

### ANCHOR LEDE

August 31 marks International Overdose Awareness Day. It's a time to know the facts about overdoses and ways to reverse the deadly effects. One such way is naloxone [nah-LOX-own], known under the brand name Narcan [NARR-kan]. It's a medication that has become more available in recent years to both first responders and everyday citizens.

### TAKE VO

Les Mennenga [MEN-ah-gah] is an E-M-S educator with OSF HealthCare. He says Narcan helps restore breathing of people who've ingested things like fentanyl, morphine and heroin. Narcan is commonly given through a nasal spray.

### \*\*\*SOT\*\*\*

Les Mennenga, OSF HealthCare EMS educator

**"Narcan gets to those receptor sites, competes with the opioid and will knock it off. It will help the person restore their breathing." (:11)**

### VO TAG

Mennenga also says not everyone who overdoses is your stereotypical drug user. For example, a senior citizen could accidentally take too many pain pills.

If you want a home supply of Narcan, talk to your local public health department. State and federal health agencies also have resources for the opioid crisis.