

BMC is observing International Overdose Awareness Day on August 31st.

We invite you to join us!

On August 31st thousands of people worldwide will stand alongside the friends and families of overdose victims to remember the lives that have been lost, to publicly mourn, to reduce the stigma of drug use and drug-related death, and to spread the message that overdose death is preventable.

1. **Wear silver to show your support.** Wearing silver can signify a personal experience with overdose or support for others bearing a burden of grief. Wearing silver sends a message that the infinite value of each person nullifies presumption and prejudice towards people who use drugs.

****Stop by the Shapiro Lobby 8:00AM to 4:00PM to receive a free silver badge, the symbol of overdose awareness.****

2. **Get a naloxone rescue kit from the BMC Shapiro Pharmacy.** Starting August 31st, for the entire month of September, BMC's Shapiro Pharmacy (725 Albany Street) will waive the insurance co-pay for naloxone (Narcan) for BMC and BU faculty, staff and students. Stop by the Shapiro Pharmacy during normal business hours or one of the recovery resource tables to order a naloxone kit without a prescription. *(Please note this is for personal use. Staff and students please bring BMC or BU ID badge with you to pharmacy. Some exclusions apply.)*
3. **Time to Remember. Time to Act.** BMC is participating in a transcontinental public health campaign developed by the Pennington Institute in Australia. Posters will be displayed in the lobbies of Yawkey, Shapiro, and the Newton Pavilion, as well as on the Moakley lawn.
4. **Pay tribute to those who have died or been injured from overdose.** BMC is committed to providing a platform to acknowledge the grief felt by those who have lost a loved one to overdose. Memorial boards commemorating those who have died due to overdose will be displayed all-day in the Shapiro Lobby. Please stop by the Shapiro Lobby and add to our memorial boards, which will be permanently housed on Shapiro 5.
5. **Become overdose aware.** A resource table stocked with free educational materials on overdose prevention and addiction treatment services will be staffed from 8:00AM to 4:00PM in the Shapiro Lobby.
6. **Attend A Special International Overdose Awareness Day Grand Rounds.**

Bending the Overdose Curve: Boston Healthcare for the Homeless Program's New Harm Reduction Program, 'The SPOT' – Progress to Date

In response to rising overdose deaths, Boston Healthcare for the Homeless Program opened The SPOT (Supportive Place for Observation and Treatment): a "safe place" where people high or intoxicated can receive medical monitoring. Located at the intersection of Mass Avenue and Albany Street, The SPOT has recorded over 800 visits since it opened in late April 2016. Information collected during the program's first few months provides important insight into the current epidemic of overdose deaths.

Presented by:

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&

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Boston Health Care for the Homeless Program Institute for Research, Quality, and Policy in Homeless Health Care

Date: August 31st, 2016

Time: 12:00 -1:00PM

Place: Instructional (L) Building, Room L110, 72 E Concord Street

****Lunch will be provided.****