

Explaining what overdose means

“When someone dies from an overdose it means that they took too much medicine and/or the wrong type of medicine and it makes their body stop working.”

Explaining addiction

“Sometimes there is something wrong with our brain that makes a person use more (alcohol, medicine, or drugs) making it hard for them to stop. Sometimes it is more than their body can handle and it makes it stop working and they die.”

What was the type of substance related to the cause of death?

Legal Drugs
(alcohol, prescription medication, etc.)

“Your brother used more of the medication than the doctor had prescribed or was safe to use. This caused his body to stop working.”

“After drinking alcohol for a long time, Grandpa’s liver no longer was working the way it should and that is what caused him to die.”

Illegal Drugs
(cocaine, synthetic drugs, heroin, etc.)

“Your mom died from taking too many drugs.”

“He died from an accidental overdose and the drugs made his body stop breathing.”

“Sometimes adults take medication that they hope will help them but instead the medicine actually really hurts their bodies and they stop working.”

Combination of legal and illegal drugs

“Dad was taking medicine a doctor gave him and he also took another drug that he thought would help his pain. It was more than his body could handle, and that caused his body to stop working.”

“He died from taking too many different kinds of drugs all at once and it made his body stop working.”