

Naloxone Patient Information

Intramuscular (IM)



Missouri Opioid State
Targeted Response



What is naloxone?

Naloxone is a medication that quickly reverses the effects of an opioid overdose, usually within 1-3 minutes. Naloxone only works to reverse an overdose when someone has taken an opioid, and when given, it will restore breathing and prevent death.

Risk Factors for Overdose

- Previous overdose
- Physical illness/respiratory disease (flu, pneumonia, bronchitis)
- Period of abstinence (e.g., following rehab or jail)
 - * Tolerance decreases in as little as 3-5 days
- Change in strength, amount, supplier of the opioid, or location of use
- Using opioids with benzos, sedatives, alcohol
- Injecting or using alone

Signs of an Opioid Overdose

- Not responsive
- Shallow breathing/no breathing
- Small "pinpoint pupils"
- Cold, clammy skin
- Gurgling/snoring
- Blue or gray lips and nails

Opioid Overdose Response

- 1 Identify signs of opioid overdose and check for response and breathing
- 2 Lay person on back and give naloxone

Intramuscular (IM) instructions

- Remove orange top from vial
- Insert needle through rubber plug with vial upside down
- Pull back on plunger to draw 1 mL of naloxone
- Inject 1 mL of naloxone straight into large muscle (shoulder or thigh)

- 3 Call 911 (if you must leave the person, turn the person on their side in the recovery position)
- 4 Administer rescue breaths (1 breath every 5 seconds)
- 5 Repeat step 2 with new vial of naloxone if no response in 2-3 minutes
- 6 Stay with the person until medical help arrives to ensure safety and prevent repeated use/overdose

- 7 Complete Overdose Field Report

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Naloxone access at a pharmacy:

Naloxone is available with or without a prescription in most pharmacies. People at risk or those that know others at risk of opioid overdose are eligible to purchase naloxone. Ask the pharmacist for more information.

A limited supply of naloxone is available for free at NCADA (M-F from 9AM to 5PM)

9355 Olive Boulevard
St. Louis, MO 63132
314-962-3456

3033 Highway A, Ste 102
Washington, MO 63090
636-239-7652

ncada-stl.org

A limited supply of naloxone is available for free at Missouri Network for Opiate Reform and Recovery (available upon request)

4022 S. Broadway
St. Louis, MO 63118
844- Rebel Up (844-732-3587)
monetwork.org