



Opioid Overdose Prevention Program

An overview of the different distribution methods of the Health Department's nasal naloxone program.

Narcan® Distribution

March 2022

This document provides an overview of the three ways in which nasal naloxone, known most commonly as one of its brand names, Narcan®, is distributed to community members through community-based organizations. These three pathways are free to community members.

Any individual in Vermont is eligible for Narcan®. The intention of the community distribution program is to ensure those who may have the opportunity to intervene with an opioid overdose have Narcan® available to do so. This means any individual who believes they could help someone at risk of an opioid overdose, or who are at risk of an opioid overdose themselves are eligible. It should be noted that fentanyl is being found in many illicit substances, not just heroin. Those using substances not purchased at a pharmacy are encouraged to receive Narcan® and teach loved ones where it is kept and how to use it in case of an unintentional overdose.

All pathways of community based Narcan® distribution have data collection associated with them. These data are used to evaluate Narcan® distribution in the state, to identify gaps, and to provide reporting to the funders of this program.

Community-Based Naloxone Distribution Pathways

Narcan Kits

These kits include 2 doses of 4 mg nasal naloxone (Narcan®) and instructions provided by the Department of Health. The intention of this pathway is to provide Narcan® to people with whom the organization has, or will likely have, an ongoing relationship. The intention of this pathway is to allow for ongoing conversations to happen about overdose prevention methods, treatment and recovery supports, and other harm reduction information. For more information contact: naloxone@vermont.gov

Harm Reduction Packs

Harm Reduction Packs are intended to be offered to people where there is a high likelihood there will not be an ongoing relationship with the individual. These packs include 2 doses of 4 mg nasal naloxone (Narcan®), instructions provided by the Department of Health, and information on a variety of topics including but not limited to harm reduction, treatment and recovery services, HIV and hepatitis C fact sheets and prevention methods, and other harm reduction information. For more information contact: tina.royer@vermont.gov

First Responder Leave Behind Kits

Leave Behind Kits are provided to people following an interaction with a first responder such as law enforcement or EMS. EMS are required to offer Leave Behind Kits to individuals who refuse transportation to the hospital following an opioid overdose. EMS are also encouraged to provide these in any circumstance in which opioid use might be indicated, even if the original call to the first responder was not opioid related. These kits include two doses of 4 mg Narcan®, instructions, information on harm reduction, treatment, and recovery services, and information on Vermont 211. For more information contact: naloxone@vermont.gov

The numbers of Narcan® leaving VDH's doors

- Since 2018, we have provided 119,080 doses of Narcan® to our **community partners** for use and distribution.
- 2018 16,559 doses
- 2019 16,678 doses
- 2020 27,937 doses
- 2021 47,157 doses
- 2022 (Jan- March 30) 10,749 doses

