

## INFORMATION ON HOW TO ADMINISTER NALOXONE

### Naloxone can be administered three (3) different ways:

1. By spraying the medicine into the nose (intranasal or IN administration)
2. By auto injector; a pre-filled, ready to use dose of the medication is administered simply by pressing the medicine against a person's upper leg (intramuscular or IM)
3. By injecting the naloxone via a needle in a syringe (intramuscular or IM)

The following devices are currently available for naloxone administration:

#### **(1) Naloxone administration via nasal spray (Luer-lock nasal atomizer):**



Pictured above (to the left) is a pre-filled cartridge of naloxone and two of the three pieces of the Luer-lock nasal atomization device. The third piece, on the right, does not come in the same package as the medication. It is sold separately. If you cannot get the nosepiece from your drug store, it can be ordered from a number of medical supply companies without a prescription. [Instructions on how to put the device together can be viewed on the Bystander training on GetNaloxoneNow.org.](http://www.getnaloxone.org) This device is not FDA approved but it has been in use for years.

#### **(2) Naloxone administration with Narcan Nasal Spray (Adapt Pharma):**

Narcan Nasal Spray is the most recent FDA approved naloxone product. It's very easy to use. There is nothing to assemble, and each of the two devices in the box is prefilled with one dose of naloxone. The "Quick Start Guide" flyer shows how to use the device. As the Guide explains, you hold the spray with your thumb on the bottom and your first and middle fingers on either side of the device. (See below.) Then, you gently insert the nozzle into one nostril until your fingers on either side of the nozzle are against the bottom of the person's nose. Once in place, you press the plunger firmly to spray the entire dose of Narcan into one nostril. There is no need to spray into both nostrils.



### **(3) Naloxone administration with the Evzio auto-injector:**

On April 3, 2014, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved the Evzio auto-injector for non-clinical settings. This device is ready to use. A single dose of naloxone is administered with a retractable needle. Accidental needle sticks are avoided, and the device is easy to use. You do not have to fill a needle, or attach a cartridge or nasal piece. It also has a voice recording that tells you step by step how to administer the naloxone. (Note: Make sure you *push hard—until you hear the voice again*- when the device is placed on the person's thigh.)



#### (4) Naloxone administration via syringe:

Injecting into the muscle of the upper thigh or upper arm (see below) with a syringe is also a very common way to administer naloxone. Many *naloxone kits* come with a syringe and a vial (seen in photo below) or a pre-filled cartridge of naloxone. The shot can be administered through clothes.



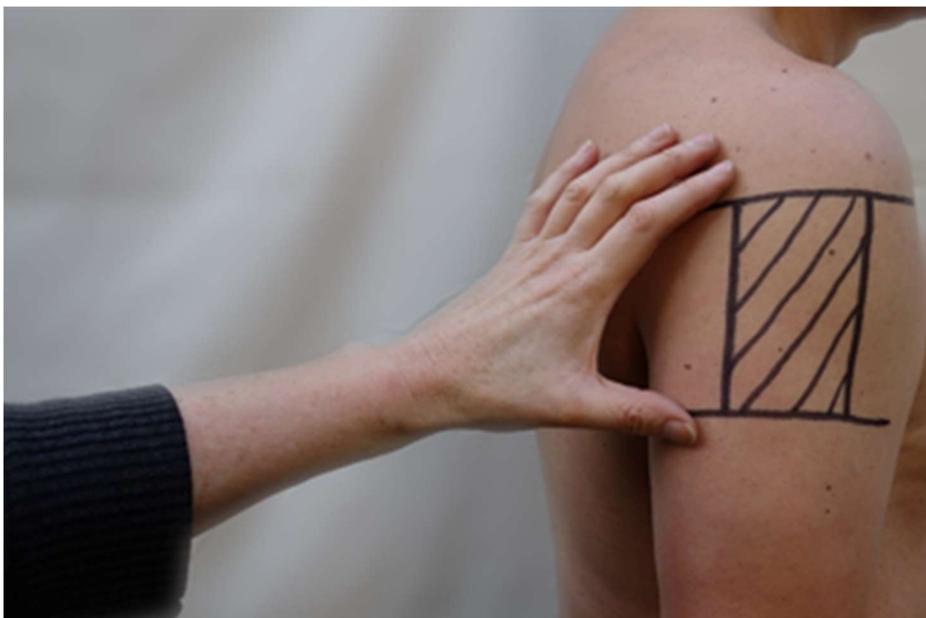


Talk to your pharmacist about the proper dose for naloxone.

.4 mg/mL is commonly recommended.

A second dose of .4 mg/mL is sometimes needed, however, if the first dose does not reverse the overdose and restore breathing.

**Safe injection sites for intramuscular naloxone:**



## **PRICE AND AVAILABILITY OF NALOXONE:**

Price and availability vary. However, some formulations, including the most expensive, are increasingly covered by insurance policies. In some states, insurers still only cover naloxone for patients-- people who are taking/using opioids. In other states (e.g. Pennsylvania), insurance will also cover naloxone for third parties (e.g. concerned family or community members). Contact your insurer, pharmacist or Health Department to find out what is covered in your state.

Even when insurance is not available, some manufactories will provide naloxone at no charge for people who cannot purchase it through insurance or other means if requested by their physician. Contact the manufacturer's website for information on these programs:

### **Evzio Auto-injector:**

<http://evzio.com/hcp/patient-savings/kaleo-cares-patient-assistance.php> and  
<http://evzio.com/hcp/patient-savings/evzio-savings-program.php>

### **Adapt Pharma Narcan Nasal Spray:**

<https://www.narcan.com/affordability>

Many states provide naloxone for free (e.g. New York) and access to other naloxone products can also be procured at a discount through harm reduction sites. Google [your town/city and state] naloxone to find harm reduction programs that provide naloxone. Also, contact your state or local Board of Health and ask about community programs in your area.

Also, use **the Naloxone Finder** on the **GetNaloxoneNow.org** website to find the naloxone distributor nearest you: <http://getnaloxonenow.org/GetNaloxone.aspx>

If you have problems accessing naloxone, feel free to contact us (email is fastest). We will connect you with people in your state or locality who may be able to help you. See our contact information on the Contact tab of the GetNaloxoneNow.org website.