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State of California—Health and Human Services Agency  
California Department of Public Health



GAVIN NEWSOM  
Governor

## Naloxone Standing Order

### Purpose

The purpose of this standing order is to help reduce morbidity and mortality associated with opioid overdose by facilitating the distribution and administration of Naloxone Hydrochloride (Naloxone). Naloxone is an opioid antagonist indicated for the complete or partial reversal of opioid overdose, including respiratory depression, induced by natural and synthetic opioids. It may be delivered intramuscularly with a needle or intranasally. Naloxone is indicated for emergency treatment of a known or suspected opioid overdose. It is not a substitute for emergency medical care.

This standing order authorizes:

Non-prescribing entities in California to distribute naloxone to individuals at risk of opioid overdose, their family members and friends, or other persons in a position to assist during an opioid-related overdose, who have completed an opioid overdose prevention and treatment training program.

The administration of naloxone received from the entity using this standing order to assist a person experiencing or reasonably suspected of experiencing an opioid overdose, by a family member, friend, or other person who has received opioid overdose prevention and treatment training from an opioid overdose prevention and treatment training program.

### Authority

This standing order is issued pursuant to paragraphs (1) and (2) of subdivision (c) of Section 1714.22 of the California Civil Code, which allows a licensed health care provider authorized to prescribe an opioid antagonist to issue a standing order for the distribution and administration of naloxone.

### Terms and Conditions

By submitting the online application form, the entity:

1. Certifies that the contact and location information provided on the online application form is correct.
2. Will ensure that any of its affiliates or subcontractors apply for their own standing order.
3. Agrees to allow the California Department of Public Health to contact the entity using the information provided on the application form.
4. Agrees to allow the California Department of Public Health to use the information provided on the application form to track the use of the standing order and conduct other public health and epidemiological surveillance activities.
5. Acknowledges that the standing order cannot be used to purchase or sell naloxone.
6. Agrees to ensure that entities and individuals receiving and administering naloxone receive opioid overdose prevention and treatment training as defined in this standing order.
7. Agrees to maintain and report information regarding the number of doses of naloxone distributed under this standing order at the time of renewal.
8. If known/available, agrees to maintain and report information upon renewal regarding the number of reversals which occurred using naloxone distributed under this standing order.
9. Agrees to re-apply for the standing order if there is a change in the information required on the online application form.
10. Agrees to maintain a copy of the standing order, which will include these terms and conditions.

### Definitions

A. "Non-prescribing entities" means organizations that do not employ or contract with a medical provider that has a license to prescribe and can issue a standing order and provide oversight for the distribution and administration of naloxone.

B. "Opioid overdose prevention and treatment training program" means any program operated by a local health jurisdiction or that is registered by a local health jurisdiction to train individuals to prevent, recognize, and respond to an opiate overdose, and that provides, at a minimum, training in all of the following:

1. The causes of an opiate overdose.
2. Mouth to mouth resuscitation.
3. How to contact appropriate emergency medical services.
4. How to administer an opioid antagonist.

Additionally, the training program should include how to recognize an opioid overdose. An example of an "overdose prevention and treatment training program" that is registered with or operated by a local health jurisdiction includes, but is not limited to:

[Administering Naloxone - CDPH training video](#)

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Director and State Public Health Officer Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
 License Number

Tomás J. Aragón, MD, DrPH

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Director and State Public Health Officer Name (printed)

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Expiration Date

**Applying Entity Standing Order Information**

This Standing Order is issued for:

Physical Address:

Public Phone Number:

The entity agrees to all the terms and conditions specified in this Standing Order.

**Expiration, Renewal and Review**

This standing order will automatically expire two years from the date that it is signed. The standing order can be renewed by completing another online application form. This standing order should be reviewed carefully against the most current recommendations, and may be revised or updated if there is new information about naloxone administration.



## Naloxone Statewide Standing Order Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)



### 1. What is naloxone?

Naloxone is an opioid antagonist that works almost immediately to reverse opiate overdose. Naloxone is a prescription drug, but it is not a controlled substance. Naloxone has few known adverse effects, no potential for abuse, and can be rapidly administered through intramuscular injection or nasal spray.

### 2. What is the purpose of the statewide naloxone standing order?

The standing order was issued by the state Public Health Officer (authorized by California Civil Code Section 1714.22) to: 1) allow community organizations and other entities in California (see response to questions #4 for examples) that are not currently working with a physician, to distribute naloxone to a person at risk of an opioid-related overdose or to a family member, friend, or other person in a position to assist; and 2) allow for the administration of naloxone by a family member, friend, or other person to a person experiencing or reasonably suspected of experiencing an opioid overdose.

### 3. Why is a statewide naloxone standing order needed?

Many community organizations and entities in California are in a position to help reduce deaths associated with opioid overdose by distributing naloxone, but may find it difficult to obtain the required standing order from a physician. The statewide naloxone standing order was issued to address this need.

### 4. Who is eligible to use the statewide standing order?

Any community organization or entity in California that can provide naloxone to those at risk of overdose and those in a position to intervene during an opioid-related overdose. Examples of eligible community organizations and entities include public health departments, harm reduction/syringe exchange programs, substance use disorder treatment providers, homeless programs, jails, emergency services providers, law enforcement, and others.

### 5. How can community organizations and entities in California apply to use the statewide standing order?

To apply for the statewide standing order, complete the [on-line application](#) on the California Department of Public Health's website. In addition to the application, the webpage provides more information, application instructions, and the terms and conditions for using the statewide standing order.

### 6. Can California pharmacists use the statewide standing order to distribute naloxone?

California pharmacists do not need to use the standing order. Pharmacists can dispense naloxone without a prescription from a health care provider as authorized and in compliance with Business and Profession Code Section 4052.01.



## Naloxone Statewide Standing Order Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)



**7. Is training required to distribute naloxone?**

Yes, staff of community organizations and other entities distributing naloxone under the statewide standing order are required to receive opioid overdose prevention and treatment training, and are also required to train individuals who receive naloxone from them. Minimum training requirements and an example of a training are included in the application information page. For additional training resources, please visit the California Department of Public Health's [Naloxone Grant Program](#).

**8. Can the statewide standing order be used to purchase or sell naloxone?**

No, the standing order was issued to allow community organizations and other entities that are in possession of naloxone to distribute it, and to allow individuals that receive naloxone to administer it.

**9. Do individuals and family members need to apply to use the statewide standing order to obtain naloxone and have it covered under insurance benefits?**

No, individuals and family members can obtain naloxone by: 1) obtaining a prescription for naloxone from their health care provider and having it filled at a pharmacy; or 2) purchasing naloxone from a pharmacist without a prescription from a health care provider (authorized by Business and Professions Code Section 4052.01). A pharmacist can determine if naloxone is covered by an individual's health care insurance, and can bill for this cost as appropriate.

**10. How else can an individual person obtain naloxone?**

Some community organizations and other entities (see examples listed in response to question #4) may offer naloxone at low or no cost.

**11. How much does naloxone cost?**

The price of naloxone varies depending on the type – injectable, auto injector, or nasal spray.

**12. Have other states issued statewide naloxone standing orders?**

Yes. Other state such as New Mexico, Pennsylvania, Maryland, and North Carolina have issued similar standing orders.

**13. Can naloxone be used for a fentanyl overdose?**

Yes, fentanyl is an opioid and naloxone can be used to reverse a fentanyl overdose.

Please submit additional questions to [naloxonestandingorder@cdph.ca.gov](mailto:naloxonestandingorder@cdph.ca.gov).

# **NARCAN**<sup>®</sup> (naloxone HCl) **NASAL SPRAY**

## **QUICK START GUIDE** Opioid Overdose Response Instructions

Use NARCAN<sup>®</sup> (naloxone hydrochloride) Nasal Spray for known or suspected opioid overdose in adults and children.

**Important: For use in the nose only.**

Do not remove or test the NARCAN Nasal Spray until ready to use.

### **1** Identify Opioid Overdose and Check for Response

**Ask** person if he or she is okay and shout name.

**Shake** shoulders and firmly rub the middle of their chest.

**Check for signs of an opioid overdose:**

- Will not wake up or respond to your voice or touch
- Breathing is very slow, irregular, or has stopped
- Center part of their eye is very small, sometimes called "pinpoint pupils"

**Lay the person on their back to receive a dose of NARCAN Nasal Spray.**



### **2** Give NARCAN Nasal Spray

**REMOVE** NARCAN Nasal Spray from the box.

Peel back the tab with the circle to open the NARCAN Nasal Spray.

**Hold** the NARCAN Nasal Spray with your thumb on the bottom of the plunger and your first and middle fingers on either side of the nozzle.

**Gently insert the tip of the nozzle into either nostril.**

• Tilt the person's head back and provide support under the neck with your hand. Gently insert the tip of the nozzle into **one nostril**, until your fingers on either side of the nozzle are against the bottom of the person's nose.

**Press the plunger firmly** to give the dose of NARCAN Nasal Spray.

• Remove the NARCAN Nasal Spray from the nostril after giving the dose.



### **3** Call for emergency medical help, Evaluate, and Support

**Get emergency medical help right away.**

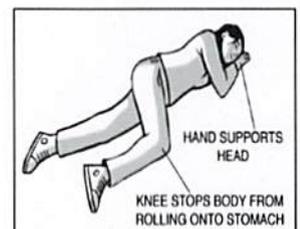
**Move the person on their side (recovery position)**

after giving NARCAN Nasal Spray.

**Watch the person closely.**

**If the person does not respond** by waking up, to voice or touch, or breathing normally another dose may be given. NARCAN Nasal Spray may be dosed every 2 to 3 minutes, if available.

**Repeat Step 2 using a new NARCAN Nasal Spray to give another dose in the other nostril.** If additional NARCAN Nasal Sprays are available, repeat step 2 every 2 to 3 minutes until the person responds or emergency medical help is received.



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For more information about NARCAN Nasal Spray, go to [www.narcannasalspray.com](http://www.narcannasalspray.com), or call 1-844-4NARCAN (1-844-462-7226).

You are encouraged to report negative side effects of prescription drugs to the FDA. Visit [www.fda.gov/medwatch](http://www.fda.gov/medwatch), or call 1-800-FDA-1088.

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**State of California**

**CIVIL CODE**

**Section 1714.22**

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1714.22. (a) For purposes of this section, the following definitions shall apply:

(1) "Opioid antagonist" means naloxone hydrochloride that is approved by the federal Food and Drug Administration for the treatment of an opioid overdose.

(2) "Opioid overdose prevention and treatment training program" means any program operated by a local health jurisdiction or that is registered by a local health jurisdiction to train individuals to prevent, recognize, and respond to an opiate overdose, and that provides, at a minimum, training in all of the following:

- (A) The causes of an opiate overdose.
- (B) Mouth to mouth resuscitation.
- (C) How to contact appropriate emergency medical services.
- (D) How to administer an opioid antagonist.

(b) A licensed health care provider who is authorized by law to prescribe an opioid antagonist may, if acting with reasonable care, prescribe and subsequently dispense or distribute an opioid antagonist to a person at risk of an opioid-related overdose or to a family member, friend, or other person in a position to assist a person at risk of an opioid-related overdose.

(c) (1) A licensed health care provider who is authorized by law to prescribe an opioid antagonist may issue standing orders for the distribution of an opioid antagonist to a person at risk of an opioid-related overdose or to a family member, friend, or other person in a position to assist a person at risk of an opioid-related overdose.

(2) A licensed health care provider who is authorized by law to prescribe an opioid antagonist may issue standing orders for the administration of an opioid antagonist to a person at risk of an opioid-related overdose by a family member, friend, or other person in a position to assist a person experiencing or reasonably suspected of experiencing an opioid overdose.

(d) (1) A person who is prescribed or possesses an opioid antagonist pursuant to a standing order shall receive the training provided by an opioid overdose prevention and treatment training program.

(2) A person who is prescribed an opioid antagonist directly from a licensed prescriber shall not be required to receive training from an opioid prevention and treatment training program.

(e) A licensed health care provider who acts with reasonable care shall not be subject to professional review, be liable in a civil action, or be subject to criminal prosecution for issuing a prescription or order pursuant to subdivision (b) or (c).

(f) Notwithstanding any other law, a person who possesses or distributes an opioid antagonist pursuant to a prescription or standing order shall not be subject to

professional review, be liable in a civil action, or be subject to criminal prosecution for this possession or distribution. Notwithstanding any other law, a person not otherwise licensed to administer an opioid antagonist, but trained as required under paragraph (1) of subdivision (d), who acts with reasonable care in administering an opioid antagonist, in good faith and not for compensation, to a person who is experiencing or is suspected of experiencing an overdose shall not be subject to professional review, be liable in a civil action, or be subject to criminal prosecution for this administration.

(Amended by Stats. 2013, Ch. 707, Sec. 1. (AB 635) Effective January 1, 2014.)