

Naloxone: Jefferson County's Experience and the Importance of Improving Access

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Naloxone Treatment

- **Reverses effects of opioid overdose**
– (May cause withdrawal symptoms)
- **Works within 2 – 5 minutes**
- **Can be given as injection, nasal spray or IV**

National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER) Study:

**Improving access to
Naloxone is linked to a
9-11% reduction in
opioid-related deaths**

Objection to naloxone access / distribution: Doesn't it give heroin users a license to use even more?

- **General consensus and some research evidence: This does NOT lead to increased opioid use, and may lead to decreased use**
- **People with opioid dependence do NOT want to go into withdrawal!**

Evidence: Naloxone Paired with Training



- **Prospective, pilot study in San Francisco**
- **24 IDUs (12 pairs of injection partners)**
- **Followed for 6 months**
- **Participants witnessed 20 heroin overdose events**
- **Administered naloxone or CPR in 19 (95%):**
 - - performed CPR in 16 (80%),
 - - administered naloxone in 15 (75%)
- **ZERO deaths**
- **Heroin use decreased**

Data: Naloxone Paired with Training



- **Los Angeles "Skid Row" injection drug users - mostly homeless or in shelters**
- **One-hour training: overdose prevention and recognition; calling 911; rescue breathing**
- **93 IDUs were trained. Of those, 66 (71%) enrolled in evaluation study and 47 participants (71%) completed interview at baseline and 3-month follow-up.**
- **22 participants responded to 35 overdoses: 26 overdose victims recovered, 4 died, 5 with unknown outcome.**
- **Participants reported decreased personal drug use**

2015: New Legislation in Alabama "911 Good Samaritan Bill"

- Immunity to prescribers of naloxone (Opioid Antidote)
- Immunity to pharmacists who dispense
- Immunity to those who assist overdose victims of administer naloxone
- Law Enforcement Training
- Limited immunity to 911 Caller

Generic Injectable Naloxone



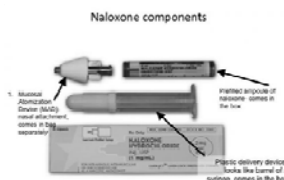
- Relatively inexpensive (\$30-50 range)
- 0.4mg Intramuscular Injection
- Medicine must be drawn up during event
- Risk of needle stick

Naloxone Auto-injector (Evzio)



- Easy to administer
- No risk of needle stick
- Voice Instructions
- VERY Expensive: > \$2000.00
- Limited grants available for public agencies

Generic Naloxone Nasal Spray



- Relatively inexpensive (\$35-55 range)
- Atomizer may require separate purchase
- No risk of needle stick
- Assembly required during event

Narcan Nasal Spray (Brandname)



- Easy to administer
- No risk of needle stick
- 4mg dose
- Reasonably priced:
 - \$150 retail
 - \$75 for public health agency

Naloxone Kit



- CONTENTS:**
- Narcan Nasal Spray (2 doses)
 - Basic Instructions
 - Mouth Shield for resuscitation
 - Number to call and report if used

Standing Orders for Naloxone

- **The State Health Officer has posted on the Alabama Department of Health website (ADPH.org) signed standing orders for any willing pharmacy in Alabama**
 - **Covers all 4 forms of currently available naloxone**
- **By law, pharmacist must provide basic instruction**

Standing Orders for Naloxone

- **Clients must sign a form attesting to their need for naloxone and their receipt of instructions**
- **Pharmacist must keep record of all clients who have received naloxone via this standing order**