Massachusetts Department of Public Health

Opioid Overdose Prevention & Reversal

Information Sheet

The Opioid Overdose Prevention and Reversal Project

Opioid Overdose is one of the leading causes of deaths in Massachusetts. Some examples of opioids include Heroin, Oxycodone, Methadone, Fentanyl, Codeine, & Morphine. In order to save lives, the Department of Public Health is conducting a pilot project to distribute a medication called nasal naloxone that can reverse an opioid overdose.

Nasal Naloxone (also known as Narcan®)

In an overdose, opioids can slow breathing to the point of death. Nasal naloxone blocks the opioids and restores normal breathing when sprayed into the nose of someone who has overdosed. It is safe, easy to administer, and has no potential for abuse.

Program Overview

Programs participating in the pilot project offer referrals to substance abuse treatment for all participants who are misusing opioids. These programs train opioid users, their families and their friends on how to prevent and recognize an opioid overdose, and what to do if one occurs. The training covers the importance of calling 9-1-1, how to perform rescue breathing, and how to administer nasal naloxone.

This pilot project is possible under Massachusetts General Law - MGL c. 94C and DPH Drug Control Program regulations at 105 CMR 700.000.





For More Information

- To hear recorded information on how to prevent, recognize, and respond to an opioid overdose call: 800-383-2437
- If you have questions about the DPH naloxone distribution pilot contact: Sarah Ruiz at 617-624-5136 or at Sarah.Ruiz@state.ma.us
- For the latest information on where to get naloxone or for a treatment referral call: the Massachusetts Substance Abuse Information and Education Helpline at 800-327-5050







Where to Get Naloxone in Massachusetts:	
Boston Boston Public Health Commission, AHOPE 774 Albany Street, 617-534-3967 Mobile Unit—call for locations and schedule 800-383-2437	Brockton Brockton Area Multi-Services, Inc. The COPE Center 81 Pleasant Street, 508-583-3405
Cambridge AIDS Action Committee 359 Green Street, 617-599-0246	Fall River Seven Hills Behavioral Health 310 South Main Street, 508-235-1012
Greenfield Tapestry Health 80 Sanderson St., 413-773-8888	Holyoke Holyoke Health Center 230 Maple Street, lower level 413-420-2276 Tapestry Health 15A Main Street, 413-315-3732
Hyannis AIDS Support Group of Cape Cod 428 South Street, 866-990-2437 or 508-778-1954	Lawrence Greater Lawrence Family Health Center 100 Water Street, 978-685-7663 X 8504
Lowell Lowell Community Health Center 161 Jackson St., 978-746-6767 Lowell House, Inc. 555 Merrimack Street, 978-459-8656 Ext. 32	Lynn Health Innovations, Inc Healthy Streets Outreach Program 100 Willow Street, 2nd floor, 781-592-0243
New Bedford Seven Hills Behavioral Health 1173 Acushnet Avenue, 508-996-0546	Northampton Tapestry Health 16 Center Street, Suite 423, 413-586-0310
Provincetown AIDS Support Group of Cape Cod 336 Commercial Street, Unit #10, 866-668-6448, 508-487-8311	Quincy Manet Community Health Center 1193 Sea St, 857-403-0803
Revere North Suffolk Mental Health 265 Beach Street, Revere Tuesdays 5-8pm, 617-912-7554	Springfield Tapestry Health, La Voz 130 Maple Street, lower level, 413-363-9472
Worcester AIDS Project Worcester 85 Green Street, 508-755-3773 X 29	Learn to Cope Naloxone is available at support groups for parents and family members dealing with a loved one suffering from addiction. Please go to www.learn2cope.org for meeting locations and times.