

KEY RECOMMENDATION

All patients receiving an opioid should proactively be dispensed a take-home naloxone (THN) kit and counselled by a pharmacist.

– 2020 Canadian national consensus guidelines for naloxone prescribing by pharmacists¹

The opioid crisis continues to affect Canadians in your community and across the country.

**Between January and December 2023,
7,947 Canadians were hospitalized due to opioid-related poisoning
– approximately 6 per day in Ontario alone.^{2,3}**

4 TIPS TO HELP YOUR PHARMACY TEAM PROACTIVELY DISPENSE THN KITS AND EDUCATE PATIENTS

GOAL: Everyone prescribed an opioid should receive a THN kit



EDUCATE AND ALIGN YOUR TEAM:

Align ALL staff in your pharmacy to proactively co-dispense naloxone

- Assign a staff naloxone champion to handle training and materials
- Give staff opportunities to practice positive, inclusive naloxone counselling strategies
- In-pharmacy signage about naloxone availability can put patients at ease



Get brochures, window stickers, demonstration devices, and more for your pharmacy



ADJUST WORKFLOW:

Make offering naloxone a standard process

- Identify opioid prescriptions during intake and prepare naloxone kits alongside them
- Assign a staff member to manage THN kit inventory and in-store signage
- Understand the billing process for naloxone kits
- Set up alerts on opioid drug files to remind staff to proactively co-dispense naloxone
- Include naloxone recommendations with delivered prescriptions
- Anticipate and manage competing priorities (flu, holiday season)
- Assess gaps by comparing opioid and naloxone dispensing



KNOW YOUR PATIENT:

Be mindful of stigma – both yours and the patient's

- Choose your words thoughtfully. For example, instead of saying “overdose”, say that opioids can slow breathing if someone takes more than their body can handle
- Remind patients that anyone taking an opioid or with access to opioids can be at risk. It's important to have naloxone available and know how to use it



BE A PHARMACY LEADER:

Help make a difference in your community through outreach

- Consider hosting opioid awareness days in your pharmacy or community
- Share your success stories and best practices with peers and colleagues
- Connect with community support groups to offer counselling and access to THN kits

Pharmacists are uniquely positioned to help patients who may be at risk of an opioid overdose.

NARCAN® NASAL SPRAY: NOW IN A PRE-ASSEMBLED KIT!

Kits come with standardized components that comply with Ontario government guidelines, **no assembly or procurement required.**

Distributor	Box Product Code	Kit Product Code
McKesson	119095	190308
Kohl & Frisch Ltd.	159801	169354



Use another distributor? **See other product codes here**

NARCAN® Nasal Spray is a pure opioid antagonist indicated for emergency use to reverse known or suspected opioid overdose, as manifested by respiratory and/or severe central nervous system depression.⁴

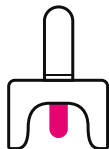
NARCAN® Nasal Spray can be administered by a bystander (non-healthcare professional) before emergency medical assistance becomes available, but it is not intended to be a substitute for professional medical care. Emergency medical assistance (calling 911) should be requested immediately when an opioid overdose is suspected, before administering NARCAN® Nasal Spray.⁴

Please consult the Product Monograph at narcannasalspray.ca/PM/NNS_EN.pdf for contraindications, warnings, precautions, adverse reactions, drug interactions, dosing guidelines, and conditions of clinical use. Always direct patients to read the label and follow the directions for use.

ONTARIO BILLING CODES – NEW AS OF DECEMBER 2, 2024⁵

	PIN	Description	Total Amount Reimbursed
Intra-nasal	93877261	ONE INTRA-NASAL NALOXONE KIT • \$82: THN kit • \$10: professional fee	\$92.00
	93877262	TWO INTRA-NASAL NALOXONE KITS (one professional fee only) • \$164: two THN kits • \$10: professional fee	\$174.00
Injectable	93877251	INITIAL INJECTABLE NALOXONE KIT • \$35: THN kit • \$25: training fee • \$10: professional fee	\$70.00
	93877252	REPLACEMENT INJECTABLE NALOXONE KIT (or initial kit with no training) • \$35: THN kit • \$10: professional fee	\$45.00
	93877257	TWO INJECTABLE NALOXONE KITS (one initial and one replacement kit with one professional fee only) • \$70: two THN kits • \$25: training fee • \$10: professional fee	\$105.00
	93877258	TWO INJECTABLE NALOXONE KITS (two replacement kits with one professional fee only) • \$70: two THN kits • \$10: professional fee	\$80.00

Billing codes and reimbursement rates reflect NEW rates published on October 28, 2024. Please see references for source and confirm rates directly, as these are subject to change.



LOWER PRICE, SAME HIGH QUALITY:
NARCAN® Nasal Spray now matches generic naloxone pricing. **Look for the pink plunger.**

Eligible recipients WITHOUT an Ontario health card number⁵

Use a reasonable effort to obtain a health card number.

If an eligible recipient does not have or prefers not to give an Ontario health card number, use this information to submit claims.

- **First name:** HARM
 - **Last name:** REDUCTION
 - **Person's gender:** F = female; M = male; or blank
 - **Person's date of birth:** Valid YYYYMMDD (if known) or 20000101
- **Proxy patient ID:** 89999 999 91
 - **Intervention code:** PS (Professional Care Services)
 - **Product identification number (PIN):** See above
 - **Valid pharmacist ID**

Use your professional judgement and ensure proper documentation is maintained.

References:

1. Public Health Agency of Canada. Opioid- and Stimulant-related Harms in Canada. Accessed November 20, 2024. <https://health-infobase.canada.ca/substance-related-harms/opioids-stimulants/maps.html>
2. Institut national de santé publique du Québec. Conséquences sanitaires liées aux opioïdes et autres. Accessed November 20, 2024. www.inspq.qc.ca/en/node/11428
3. Tsuyuki RT, et al. Canadian national consensus guidelines for naloxone prescribing by pharmacists. *Can Pharm J (Ott)*. 2020;153(6):347-351.
4. NARCAN® Nasal Spray (naloxone HCl) 4 mg/0.1 mL [product monograph]. Oakville, Ontario: Emergent BioSolutions Canada Inc.; 2021.
5. Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care. UPDATED Executive Officer Notice: Ontario Naloxone Program for Pharmacies. October 28, 2024. www.ontario.ca/files/2024-10/moh-executive-officer-notice-en-2024-10-28.pdf

