



DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY

Your Partner For A Stronger Arizona

DIVISION OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Sent on Behalf of DES/DDD

NALOXONE TO PREVENT OPIOID OVERDOSE

Target Audience - Qualified Vendors and Providers

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According to the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS), five people a day (more than 1,800 people each year) die from opioid overdose in Arizona. These overdoses do not just happen to people with an opioid use disorder. It can be easy to mix up medications or forget when a previous dose was taken. An overdose can happen to anyone. Naloxone, commonly known as Narcan™, is a medication that can prevent deaths during an opioid overdose. ADHS has recently launched a public information campaign to educate Arizonans about the value of naloxone in saving lives resulting from opioid overdose.

Naloxone is available at most pharmacies and does not require a prescription. Additionally, Qualified Vendors may be eligible to get free naloxone from a community distributor. The [Arizona Sonoran Prevention Works website](#) has a searchable map. Additionally, the website has videos on how to administer naloxone and frequently asked questions about naloxone.

Signs of an opioid overdose include:

- Heavy nodding, deep sleep, hard to wake up, or vomiting.
- Slow or shallow breathing, snoring, gurgling, or choking sounds.
- Pale, blue or gray lips, fingernails, or skin.
- Clammy, sweaty skin.

These steps should be followed if someone is suspected of overdosing:

1. Call 911.
2. Give naloxone. If there is no response in two minutes, give another dose of naloxone.
3. Follow instructions given by 911.
4. Stay at least three hours with the person or until help arrives.

Suspected opioid or any substance/medication overdoses should be reported to the Division through the Incident Reporting process.