

Naloxone Leave Behind



Naloxone leave behind is a collaboration between public health and public safety that allows First Responders to leave naloxone on-scene with patients and their support system

First Responders who carry naloxone can distribute it to those who need it most.

For more information Contact the Kentucky Department for Public Health Harm Reduction Program at:

HarmReduction@ky.gov

See reverse side for FAQs

How does Naloxone Leave Behind work?

Why should First Responders distribute naloxone?

Because First Responders work with people who need it! History of non-fatal overdose is a significant risk factor for fatal opioid overdose¹, and most bystander overdose reversals occur in private residences. Placing naloxone kits in the hands of the friends and families of people at risk ensures that overdoses are reversed as rapidly as possible. This improves patient outcomes *and* reduces impacts on our systems of care.

How do we identify people that need naloxone?

People who use drugs are more likely than anyone else to witness an overdose². Offer naloxone to people who use drugs, their friends, and their families.

Often, people refuse Emergency Medical Service (EMS) treatment or transport following an overdose reversal. If someone refuses further care after an overdose, try to make sure that someone on the scene has naloxone, knows how to use it, and can administer it, if needed.

Where do we get naloxone to distribute ?

All First Responder agencies in Kentucky are eligible to receive no-cost naloxone to distribute to people likely to witness overdose. Use the “Ordering for an Agency?” button in the upper right corner of the FindNaloxoneNowKY.org homepage to request naloxone for Leave Behind Distribution.

Are protocols in place?

The Kentucky Board of Emergency Medical Services has recently published a Naloxone Leave Behind Protocol. This protocol can be adopted by EMS agencies in Kentucky and can serve as guidance for other First Responder agencies.

Where can we find training about Naloxone Leave Behind?

This toolkit and this 20-minute video presentation on KY-TRAIN offer more extensive information about Naloxone Leave Behind programs and how to start one in your agency.

Are we required to provide overdose response training?

Most agency Naloxone Leave Behind protocols will require making sure that someone who receives naloxone knows how to use it.

Training may be as simple as passing along printed information or may include detailed demonstrations and time for questions.

Extensive training should never be a barrier to receiving naloxone when a brochure or card would suffice.

Overdose response training materials including brochures, cards, and a four-minute video are available at FindNaloxoneNowKY.org. You can download materials for printing from a zip folder at the bottom of the landing page or use the QR code below to direct people to the website.

As the drug supply changes, rescue breathing has become an increasingly important part of overdose response. Try to emphasize rescue breathing in your conversations about naloxone.

1. Caudarella A, Dong H, Milloy MJ, Kerr T, Wood E, Hayashi K. Non-fatal overdose as a risk factor for subsequent fatal overdose among people who inject drugs. *Drug Alcohol Depend.* 2016;162:51-55.

2. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. SAMHSA Overdose Prevention and Response Toolkit. Publication No. PEP23-03-00-001. Rockville, MD: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. 2023



Created
January 2025

FindNaloxoneNowKY.org