

Funding of Naloxone Nasal Spray Kits through the Ontario Naloxone Program for Pharmacies (ONPP) and Updates to the Existing Program: Updated Frequently Asked Questions for Pharmacists

1. What changes are occurring to the ONPP?

Effective March 27, 2018, funding of intranasal naloxone nasal spray (INNS) (Narcan[®] Nasal Spray) kits will be added to the ONPP. Funding of injectable naloxone kits through the ONPP will remain unchanged. Eligible recipients will have the choice between injectable naloxone and INNS kits.

Also, effective March 27, 2018, in limited circumstances, pharmacists may:

- Provide naloxone kits to Ontarians who do not have an Ontario health card or to those who do not wish to provide identification; and
- Provide two naloxone kits to an eligible recipient at one time.

2. What are the contents of the INNS kit?

Each intra-nasal spray (INNS) kit must include:

- One hard case;
- Two doses of 4 mg/0.1ml naloxone hydrochloride intra-nasal spray;
- One rescue breathing barrier;
- One pair of non-latex gloves;
- One card that identifies the person trained to give the naloxone; and
- One updated instructional insert (English and French)

3. Does the ministry provide pre-made kits?

No, the ministry does not provide pre-made kits. Pharmacists may obtain pre-made kits through their suppliers or obtain individual supplies to create their own kit.

For more information please refer to the Ontario Pharmacists Association website at:

https://www.opatoday.com/professional/naloxone_kit_tools

4. Are all Ontarians eligible to receive publicly funded intra-nasal kits?

Yes, as of March 27, 2018, eligible persons are able to receive INNS kits for participating pharmacies at no cost. Criteria for “eligible persons” include:

- A person who is either currently using opioids or is a past opioid user who is at risk of returning to opioid use, or
- A family member, friend or other person in a position to assist a person at risk of overdose from opioids.

5. Who decides which naloxone kit will be distributed to eligible recipients?

Eligible recipients will have the choice between obtaining INNS or injectable naloxone from their pharmacist.

6. Can an eligible recipient receive both an intra-nasal naloxone spray and an injectable naloxone kit?

Eligible recipients can receive both an intra-nasal naloxone spray and an injectable naloxone kit if both are requested.

7. How much will the pharmacy be reimbursed for providing the INNS kits?

The total amount reimbursed by the government when providing the intra-nasal naloxone kit is \$120.00. This amount includes the naloxone kit at \$110.00 (drug cost and mark-up included) and a professional fee of \$10.00. There are no additional training fees for the INNS kits.

8. Why are there no additional training fees for the intra-nasal naloxone kits?

INNS does not require any special instructions to administer and as such, the need for specific training is not necessary. Pharmacists should provide guidance to individuals who obtain a kit on who to administer the intra-nasal spray as they would for any other prescription intra-nasal drug. The intra-nasal device used in the product is very similar to devices used with other medications and requires no specialized training.

9. How do pharmacies bill the Health Network System (HNS) for reimbursement for naloxone products?

Table 1: PINs to support reimbursement of Naloxone Kits

PIN	Description	Dosage Form	Total Amount Reimbursed
93877255	Intra-Nasal Naloxone Kit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ \$110 – naloxone kit ▪ \$10 – professional fee 	Intra-Nasal	\$120.00
93877251	Initial Injectable Naloxone Kit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ \$35 – naloxone kit ▪ \$10 – professional fee ▪ \$25 – training fee 	Injectable	\$70.00
93877252	Replacement Injectable Naloxone Kit (or initial kit with no training) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ \$35 – naloxone kit ▪ \$10 – professional fee 	Injectable	\$45.00
93877256	Two Intra-Nasal Naloxone Kits (one professional fee only) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ \$220 – two naloxone kits ▪ \$10 – professional fee 	Intra-Nasal	\$230.00

PIN	Description	Dosage Form	Total Amount Reimbursed
93877257	Two Injectable Naloxone Kits (one initial and one replacement kit with one professional fee only) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ \$70 – two naloxone kits ▪ \$10 – professional fee ▪ \$25 – training fee 	Injectable	\$105.00
93877258	Two Injectable Naloxone Kits (two replacement kits with one professional fee only) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ \$70 – two naloxone kits ▪ \$10 – professional fee 	Injectable	\$80.00

Claims must be submitted using the ministry-assigned PIN associated with the naloxone kit and service provided. **Do not use the Drug Identification Number (DIN)** of the naloxone that is contained in the naloxone kit.

10. How many naloxone kits can be provided to an eligible recipient at one-time?

At this time, a maximum of **two (2) naloxone kits** may be provided to an eligible recipient at one time.

11. How do pharmacies bill the HNS for reimbursement for two naloxone kits?

Pharmacies can provide eligible recipients up to two naloxone kits by submitting the appropriate PIN.

When providing one injectable naloxone kit and one intra-nasal naloxone kit, pharmacies would submit two separate PINs as two separate claims to receive full reimbursement.

12. What is the procedure to submit the claim to the HNS for publicly funded intra-nasal naloxone kit for an Ontario Drug Benefit (ODB) eligible recipient?

The claim submission follows the normal process for submitting claims on the HNS with the following additional information:

- Intervention code 'PS': (Professional Care Service);
- Product Identification Number (PIN): see tables above for list of PINs;
- Valid Pharmacist ID; and
- Professional Fee: see table above for "Total Amount Reimbursed" for each kit.

13. How can an eligible recipient WITHOUT an Ontario health card number obtain a naloxone kit from a pharmacy?

Reasonable efforts should be made to obtain a health card number when providing a naloxone kit. However, the ministry recognizes that some Ontarians may not have a valid OHIP card or may wish not to be identified when obtaining a naloxone kit from a pharmacy.

Effective March 27, 2018, pharmacists may provide naloxone kits to eligible recipients who do not have an Ontario health card number or to those who do not wish to provide identification. Pharmacists should use their professional judgement and ensure proper documentation is maintained.

Ontarians can also obtain a naloxone kit without a health card from community-based organizations such as needle syringe and Hepatitis C programs under the Ontario Naloxone Program (ONP). For a searchable list of locations where Ontarians can get a naloxone kit, please visit our [searchable database](#).

14. How do I submit a claim on the HNS for non-ODB eligible recipients WITHOUT an Ontario health card number?

When submitting a claim for an eligible person who does not have ODB coverage, pharmacists must submit the following information:

- 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 codes: PS (Professional Care Services)
- Product Identification Number (PIN)
- Valid Pharmacist ID
- Maximum Reimbursement Amount

15. Are the pharmacy record requirements the same for INNS and injectable naloxone?

Standard record keeping requirements under current standards of practice apply. Pharmacies must keep a record when the naloxone kit is provided to the eligible recipient.

Pharmacy records must be maintained in a readily available format for post-payment verification for a minimum of 2 years.

16. Are pharmacists required to track outcomes of the individuals who were provided a naloxone kit?

Pharmacists, where possible, must ensure that a quarterly report (available at: http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/drugs/opdp_eo/eo_communiq.aspx), relating to outcomes for individuals who were provided a naloxone kit, be completed and returned to the ministry. The report schedule is as follows:

Table 2: Quarterly Reporting Requirements for Providing Naloxone

Quarter	Report due date
Q1 (April – June)	June 30
Q2 (July – September)	October 30
Q3 (October – December)	January 30
Q4 (January – March)	April 30

17. When will the updated kits become available in community pharmacies?

The ministry is working with its stakeholders to ensure that these two changes (rescue breather barrier and updated insert) can be implemented as soon as possible. However, there will be a natural transition period for pharmacies to assemble and/or receive the revised kits that now also contain one rescue breathing barrier. The ministry anticipates that they will be available in the coming weeks.

18. Why has the step of rescue breathing and/or chest compressions been added to someone overdosing on opioids after administering naloxone?

The ministry consulted with numerous stakeholders, along with the Task Force on this issue and as a result of frontline and expert evidence provided by these stakeholders, the ministry recommends that naloxone be administered before beginning resuscitation efforts.

It is important that someone experiencing an opioid overdose receive naloxone as quickly as possible. There is evidence to show that responding bystanders (who are not paramedics or first responders) may not be capable or willing to provide resuscitation in an opioid overdose situation.

19. Can naloxone kits be provided for veterinary purposes?

Naloxone is a Schedule II product and as such can be purchased for veterinary purposes at any pharmacy. Kits provided for veterinary purpose do not qualify for public funding.

20. Where can I find additional information regarding the ministry's naloxone programs?

For more information on the ministry's naloxone programs, please refer to the following websites:

http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/drugs/opdp_eo/eo_communiq.aspx

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/get-naloxone-kits-free>

Additional Information:

For pharmacies:

Please call ODB Pharmacy Help Desk at: 1-800-668-6641

Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care Ontario Public Drug Programs

For all other Health Care Providers and the Public:

Please call ServiceOntario, Infoline at 1-866-532-3161 TTY 1-800-387-5559. In Toronto, TTY 416-327-4282