



First Nations Health Authority  
Health through wellness

# Naloxone available at no cost to First Nations in BC

## Prescriptions no longer required

Naloxone is a medication that can reverse the effects of an overdose from opioid drugs such as fentanyl, morphine, and heroin. On June 1, 2016 the First Nations Health Benefits (FNHB) added naloxone as an open benefit on its drug benefit list.

### First Nations Health Benefits now:

- Accepts claims for naloxone when recommended by a pharmacist
- Accepts prescriptions for naloxone from physicians or nurse practitioners

### Naloxone is available for First Nations clients from:

- Provincial and First Nations harm reduction service locations
- Pharmacies and is covered by First Nations Health Benefits as noted above

## Coverage for Naloxone

Injectable and nasal spray forms of naloxone are covered by First Nations Health Benefits and claims are processed by the NIHB program. The following items are covered:

Drug	pDIN
Naloxone 0.4mg/mL one mL injection	
Naloxone 1mg/mL one or two mL injection	
Narcan Nasal Spray	
Naloxone Kits – Two ampules/vials	09991460
Naloxone Kits – Three ampules/vials	09991488
Nasal Naloxone Kits – 2 sprays	09991475

Where pharmacies are providing ancillary supplies to support safe naloxone administration and overdose management, providers can bill the cost of naloxone and ancillary supplies together as a “naloxone kit” under the appropriate Pseudo-DIN. The ancillary items should not be billed separately from the naloxone.

**Accepted contents in a naloxone kit include:**

- 2 or 3 one mL ampoules or vials of naloxone 0.4mg/mL
- 2 alcohol swabs
- 2 safety syringes
- 1 rescue breathing mask
- 2 ampule breakers (if ampoules dispensed)
- 2 pairs of gloves

**Accepted contents in a nasal naloxone kit include:**

- 2 x 4mg naloxone nasal spray devices
- 1 rescue breathing mask
- 1 pair of gloves
- Carrying case

## Resources

First Nations Health Benefits: [www.fnha.ca/benefits](http://www.fnha.ca/benefits)

FNHA Substance Use Prevention and Treatment:

[www.fnha.ca/what-we-do/mental-wellness-and-substance-use/substance-use-prevention-and-treatment](http://www.fnha.ca/what-we-do/mental-wellness-and-substance-use/substance-use-prevention-and-treatment)

Naloxone Saves Lives' Video: <https://vimeo.com/164669763>

Toward the Heart: <http://towardtheheart.com/naloxone/>

Health Canada Policy:

[http://provider.express-scripts.ca/documents/Pharmacy/Bulletins/Pres\\_Policy\\_and\\_Naloxone\\_Excl\\_QC\\_May%202016\\_v2\\_en.pdf](http://provider.express-scripts.ca/documents/Pharmacy/Bulletins/Pres_Policy_and_Naloxone_Excl_QC_May%202016_v2_en.pdf)