**INTRAMUSCULAR AND NASALNALOXONE COMPARISON**

- An emergency treatment to temporarily reverse overdose caused by opioids.
- Recommended as a lifesaving option even if the drug causing overdose is not known.
- Does not work in overdose caused by non-opioid drugs like etizolam, clonazepam, alprazolam, lorazepam, alcohol etc.
- Not a substitute for emergency medical care. Call emergency response services in your area for every known or suspected overdose.

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ROUTE</th>
<th>ONSET</th>
<th>DURATION1</th>
<th>ABSORPTION</th>
<th>ADMIN.</th>
<th>STORAGE2</th>
<th>NOTES</th>
<th>KIT CONTENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Intramuscular naloxone injection (0.4 mg/ml) | Less than 5 minutes (usually 2-3 minutes) | 30-90 minutes | Consistent | Care provider may not be comfortable with drawing up or giving an injection | Store at controlled room temperature (15°C to 30°C or 59°F to 86°F). Store in a dry and dark place. Protect from light | • Less likelihood of precipitated withdrawal due to lower dose3 | • 1 x Black case  
1 x Pair of non-latex gloves  
1 x CPR face shield with one-way valve  
SAVE ME instructions  
3 x amber vials of naloxone 0.4 mg / mL, 1 mL ampoules capped with plastic ampoule breakers  
1 x amber medication vial with label  
3 x Plastic ampoule breakers  
3 x Alcohol swabs  
3 x Vanish Point® 3 mL syringe |
| Intranasal naloxone spray (4mg/0.1ml) | Similar to intramuscular route | 125 minutes | May be inconsistent | Easy to administer | Store at controlled room temperature between 15°C to 25°C | • Higher likelihood of precipitated withdrawal as one 4 mg spray delivers the equivalent of five 0.4 mg injections4 | • 1 x Black case  
1 x Pair of non-latex gloves  
1 x CPR face shield with one-way valve  
SAVE ME instructions  
2 x Naloxone 4mg/0.1ml sprays |

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1 Repeated doses are often required because opioids have longer duration of effect than naloxone. Monitor for rebound overdose as naloxone may wear off faster than the opioid.
2 Naloxone kits must be replaced if they are past the expiry date and/or have been known to be outside of the recommended storage temperatures. While the effectiveness of naloxone may be reduced after its expiry or exposure outside storage temperatures, it will still have an effect. It should be administered if no other options are available.
3 Precipitated withdrawal happens when overdose is reversed too quickly with naloxone. This results in opioid withdrawal symptoms or “dope sickness” which may cause cravings and more opioid use.