Oxfordshire Take-Home Naloxone Service

What is naloxone?

Naloxone is an emergency antidote for overdoses caused by opioid drugs such as heroin, methadone, fentanyl, oxycodone, buprenorphine, or morphine.

Some causes of drug overdose are: using alone, using too much, injecting, changes in drug purity levels, polydrug use, and low tolerance for example, following prison release or detox/hospital discharge.

When to use naloxone

When you know or suspect that someone has overdosed on an opioid drug.

Some signs of a suspected opioid overdose are: pinpoint pupils, blue or purple lips/fingernails, no response to touch or sounds, slow or no breathing, and gasping or gulping sounds.

Naloxone is <u>not</u> a substitute for emergency medical care. You should always call for an ambulance even when you have used naloxone.

What is the Oxfordshire take-home naloxone service

Oxfordshire take-home naloxone service is a free service that supplies naloxone and training on its use, to people who may be at risk of an opioid overdose or who may witness an overdose, for example:

- Someone who currently uses, or has a history of using opioid drugs,
- A family member/ friend/ carer of a person who uses opioid drugs,
- A worker for a service whose clients include people who use opioid drugs.

If you have naloxone, you should always carry it and let people know that you have it.

Where you can get a free naloxone pack

- 1. You can get a free naloxone pack from Turning Point.
- 2. If you have used a naloxone pack to save someone's life in an emergency, you can ask the South-Central Ambulance Service paramedics for a free replacement naloxone pack.
- 3. Take-home naloxone service will also soon be available from some community pharmacies across Oxfordshire.

We will update this page soon to provide a list of the Oxfordshire pharmacies where you can get a free naloxone pack.

