

Identifying the Right Naloxone Product(s) for Consumers



THE U.S. OVERDOSE CRISIS AFFECTS ALL OF US.

Last year, more than 100,000 people died of an overdose, and the majority of those deaths involved an **opioid**.

Fortunately, **naloxone** is an effective medication that can reverse an opioid overdose and restore breathing within minutes if administered in a timely manner.

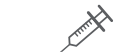



However, with multiple products on the market, it can be challenging for grassroots organizations, government agencies, and policymakers to know which to **prioritize** and supply to consumers.



In short, we recommend policymakers keep legislative language broad so that those engaged in **bulk purchasing and direct service and distribution** can cater to their clients' changing needs.

The following graphic provides some guidelines to help bulk purchasers identify which products might be most suitable for their specific consumer audiences. These recommendations are intended to help purchasers and distributors prioritize certain products—not for medical guidance. Witnesses to an overdose should administer whatever naloxone formulation they have available according to product instructions, engage in rescue breathing, and call 911 for follow-up medical support.

PRODUCT BUYING PRIORITY FOR EACH CONSUMER CHARACTERISTIC NOT FOR MEDICAL GUIDANCE

CONSUMER CHARACTERISTICS		 Standard Dose Injectable	 High Dose Injectable	 Standard Dose Intranasal	 High Dose Intranasal
Opioid Dependent Recipient	YES	PRIORITY PURCHASE	ONLY OPTION PURCHASE ³	PRIORITY PURCHASE	ONLY OPTION PURCHASE ³
Opioid Dependent Recipient	NO	PRIORITY PURCHASE	PRIORITY PURCHASE+ ²	PRIORITY PURCHASE	PRIORITY PURCHASE+ ²
Administrator Comfortable With Needles	YES	PRIORITY PURCHASE	PRIORITY PURCHASE	PRIORITY PURCHASE	PRIORITY PURCHASE
Administrator Comfortable With Needles	NO	PRIORITY PURCHASE+ ¹	PRIORITY PURCHASE+ ¹	PRIORITY PURCHASE	PRIORITY PURCHASE

PRIORITY PURCHASE

Buyers should prioritize this product for this consumer.

PRIORITY PURCHASE+

Buyers should consider this product for this consumer, but with caveats.

ONLY OPTION PURCHASE

Buyers should not purchase this product for this consumer unless it is their only option.

¹ Organizations that distribute naloxone report that providing basic training helps needle-wary individuals become comfortable giving an emergency injection.

² It is difficult to know if a naloxone recipient is truly opioid naive.

³ Standard-dose naloxone should be prioritized for people who use opioids on a regular basis, but overdose rescuers should administer the naloxone available to them—even high-dose formulations.