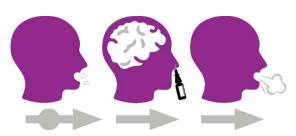
# WHAT IS NALOXONE?

Naloxone is a fast-acting medication used to temporarily reverse the effects of an opioid overdose or poisoning. Giving naloxone may save a life.

#### How does Naloxone work?

During an opioid poisoning, breathing either slows or stops completely. Naloxone works by removing and blocking opioids from the opioid receptors in the brain and helps the person breathe normally and regain consciousness. Naloxone takes two to



three minutes to work and can last for approximately 30 to 90 minutes. If you don't know what a person has taken, use naloxone. Unregulated drugs may be contaminated with opioids, leading to poisoning.

### What types of naloxone are available?







Injection into the muscle (0.4mg/ml)

Nasal spray absorption is lower than injectable, which means a higher concentration of naloxone is needed in nasal spray to reach similar effects. Both types are effective in reversing an opioid poisoning.

#### Who can obtain a naloxone kit?

- · People at risk of opioid poisoning
- Family or friend of someone at risk of opioid poisoning



NALOXONE IS A TEMPORARY SOLUTION. CALL 911 AS SOON AS YOU SUSPECT AN OPIOID POISONING.

#### **PUBLIC HEALTH**

1-877-464-9675 TTY 1-866-512-6228 york.ca/Opioids



#### Is naloxone safe?

- Naloxone is considered safe to use in all circumstances as it only works if you have opioids in your system
- Allergies or hypersensitivities to naloxone are rare
- Naloxone is always recommended when an opioid poisoning is suspected
- Anyone can give naloxone
- Naloxone does not create dependence

## For more information about opioids and where to get naloxone, visit

- york.ca/Opioids
- ontario.ca/page/get-naloxone-kits-free