

Your organization may reach out to your local [Public Health Unit](http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/common/system/services/phu/locations.aspx) <<http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/common/system/services/phu/locations.aspx>> to request training on how to respond to an opioid crisis. The PHU will also provide training to organizations eligible to participate in the ONP.

Please note that the Ontario Naloxone Program (ONP) serves community-based organizations that are not pharmacies or linked to pharmacists. Pharmacies/pharmacists interested in participating in distributing naloxone kits should refer to the information on the Ontario Naloxone Program for Pharmacies (ONPP).

I am a first responder (e.g., firefighter, police officer, paramedic). Where can I get a naloxone kit?

All paramedics in Ontario have been equipped with and trained to provide naloxone since early 2016.

All ambulance communications officers who dispatch 9-1-1 calls for ambulance were provided information on naloxone kits in early 2017 in order to assist callers who may have access to a naloxone kit.

All police and fire services, as well as St. John Ambulances Branches, are eligible to receive naloxone through the Ontario Naloxone Program (ONP) for use when responding to opioid overdoses. Interested parties should reach out to their local [Public Health Unit](http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/common/system/services/phu/locations.aspx) <<http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/common/system/services/phu/locations.aspx>> to assess eligibility and discuss the process of participating in the ONP.

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What about other organizations/businesses that are interested in getting a naloxone kit (e.g. bars, restaurants, schools, etc.)?

The purpose of Ontario's naloxone programs is to serve patients, their families and friends, and those who care for them on an *individual basis*.

The government continues to explore additional community access points for naloxone. If access to naloxone kits is expanded, details will be posted on the government's [naloxone webpage](http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/drugs/naloxone/) <<http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/drugs/naloxone/>> .

Individual organizations that are not eligible to receive publicly-funded naloxone are able to purchase it directly from the manufacturers.

Can a hospital (e.g., emergency room or inpatient unit) participate in Ontario's naloxone programs?

Hospital emergency departments/urgent care centres (ED/UCC) and inpatient hospital units are eligible to enrol in the Ontario Naloxone Program (ONP) to distribute naloxone free of charge to Ontarians at risk of opioid overdose, as well as their friends and families.

Please note that, at this time, inpatient hospital pharmacies do not distribute publicly-funded naloxone kits and are not part of the Ontario Naloxone Program for Pharmacies (ONPP).

Can a person be charged with possession of drugs while they're helping someone who has overdosed?

The *Good Samaritan Drug Overdose Act*, provides some legal protection for people seeking emergency help during an overdose. For further details, please refer to the information provided at: www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/substance-use/problematic-prescription-drug-use/opioids/about-good-samaritan-drug-overdose-act.html#a2 <<http://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/substance-use/problematic-prescription-drug-use/opioids/about-good-samaritan-drug-overdose-act.html#a2>> .

In addition, Ontario's *Good Samaritan Act, 2001* <<https://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/01g02>> provides some legal protection to individuals from civil liability in certain cases, such as if a person administers naloxone to a person experiencing an overdose in certain situations.

Are there any provincial regulations regarding the administration and/or distribution of naloxone in Ontario?

Injectable naloxone (0.4mg/1ml) and nasal spray naloxone (4mg/0.1ml) are behind-the-counter products available without a prescription in Ontario, when indicated for emergency use for opioid overdose. The dispensing of naloxone in an Ontario pharmacy is subject to the *Drug and Pharmacies Regulation Act* and the policies of the Ontario College of Pharmacists.

Are there any situations where naloxone should not be used?

Naloxone is considered safe for everyone unless there is a reason to believe a person has a previous allergy (or hypersensitivity) to naloxone.

Please refer to the product monograph of individual naloxone products for further information.

Can naloxone harm people?

Naloxone only affects people who are using opioids, or people who have an allergy (or hypersensitivity) to naloxone. If a person has been using opioids, naloxone may put them into withdrawal. Opioid withdrawal is not life-threatening.

Where can I, and my patients, get more information?

For more information on naloxone and opioid overdose, including publicly funded naloxone programs, please visit the [government's naloxone web page](http://www.ontario.ca/opioidoverdose) <<http://www.ontario.ca/opioidoverdose>> .

Where can I refer my patients for additional support?

Ontario funds a wide range of community-based mental health and addictions programs and services through the Ontario Health regions. You can find more information about services in communities across Ontario through [ConnexOntario](http://www.connexontario.ca) <<http://www.connexontario.ca>> .

ConnexOntario can be reached either by dialing [811](tel:811) <<tel:811>> , the new Health811 number, or you can contact Connex Ontario directly at:

- Telephone: [1-866-531-2600](tel:1-866-531-2600) <<tel:1-866-531-2600>>
- Text/SMS: CONNEX to 247247

Youth Wellness Hubs Ontario offers walk-in access to primary care, addictions and mental health services for people aged 12 to 25. These core clinical services, delivered by the youth wellness team, are co-located with a range of other services and supports in the fields of education, employment, training, housing and other community and social services.

Currently, there are 14 sites in operation: Chatham-Kent, Eastern Champlain region, Haliburton, Kenora, Malton, Niagara region, North Simcoe, Scarborough, Central Toronto, East Toronto, Windsor, Timmins, Renfrew and Guelph. More information on YWHO including specific site locations can be [found online](https://www.youthhubs.ca/en/) [<https://www.youthhubs.ca/en/>](https://www.youthhubs.ca/en/) .

In-person drug and alcohol support

RAAM clinics

Visit a rapid access addiction medicine (RAAM) clinic. RAAM clinics help people seeking treatment for substance use issues, including opioids, alcohol and other substances. You do not need a referral or appointment to visit a RAAM clinic.

Doctors and counsellors at RAAM clinics help stabilize clients before referring them to primary care and other longer-term community mental health and addictions services and supports.

RAAM clinics can provide:

- assessments and diagnoses for substance use disorders
- treatment options
- prescriptions for medications to help with cravings and withdrawal symptoms
- counselling
- overdose prevention education

All clinics are:

- accessible on a walk-in basis, with patients typically seen within a few days of contacting the clinic
- client-centered
- non-judgmental

RAAM locations can be [found online](https://www.ontario.ca/page/mental-health-services) [<https://www.ontario.ca/page/mental-health-services>](https://www.ontario.ca/page/mental-health-services) through the Ontario.ca website.

For More Information

Call **ServiceOntario**, INFOLine at:

1-866-532-3161 (Toll-free)

In Toronto, (416) 314-5518

TTY 1-800-387-5559.

In Toronto, TTY 416-327-4282

Hours of operation: Monday to Friday, 8:30am - 5:00pm

If your pharmacy participates in the ONPPP and would like to be added to the list, please send an email request to PublicDrugPrgrms.moh@ontario.ca [<mailto:PublicDrugPrgrms.moh@ontario.ca>](mailto:PublicDrugPrgrms.moh@ontario.ca) .

In the event that your pharmacy would like to be removed from the list, please send a request and rationale (e.g., change in pharmacy operation, no trained staff, etc.) to PublicDrugPrgrms.moh@ontario.ca [<mailto:PublicDrugPrgrms.moh@ontario.ca>](mailto:PublicDrugPrgrms.moh@ontario.ca) .

For either request, please provide the following information:

- Your name
- Your pharmacy name and full address, including contact information (e.g., email, phone, fax)