

# **Accessing naloxone from the Ontario Naloxone Program for Pharmacies (ONPP):** *How to get a free naloxone kit from a pharmacy*

#### About naloxone

Naloxone can temporarily reverse an opioid overdose. Free kits can be accessed at community-based harm reduction programs and many pharmacies. For further information on the Ministry of Health's naloxone programs, including where to get a naloxone kit, visit: www.ontario.ca/page/get-naloxone-kits-free

## **Community-based harm reduction programs**

We recommend that people who use drugs try accessing naloxone kits from their local communitybased harm reduction programs. These programs serve as a single stop for naloxone kits, as well as specific harm reduction information and supplies and other services. People may not always be able to access these programs due to hours of service or geography, and naloxone kits may also be picked up from many pharmacies.

## Accessing naloxone from an Ontario pharmacy

- If possible, call ahead to see if they have a naloxone kit in stock, as pharmacies sometimes have none.
- If you have a preference for nasal spray or injection naloxone kits, tell the pharmacist.
- Let them know when you will arrive as assembling a naloxone kit can take up to 45 minutes, especially when a pharmacy is busy.
- When you arrive, speak to the pharmacist and ask for a naloxone kit.
- They will want to register you in their pharmacy's system and will ask you for:
  - Your age
  - o Date of birth
  - Address
  - o Phone number
  - Your health card number, which is common practice.

#### No Health Card? No problem. Want to remain anonymous?

- If you do no have a health card, if you want to remain anonymous, or if you do not want to provide your health card number for any other reason:
  - Let the pharmacist know that you require a naloxone kit and do not wish to give your name and/or health card number.
  - $\circ$  Pharmacists can still provide a naloxone kit based on their professional judgement.

