



NALOXONE GUIDE AND RESOURCES

INTRODUCTION

This snapshot of information is intended to provide resources to individuals, parents, professionals, and providers on the importance of Naloxone use among Latinos in the United States.

WHAT IS AN OPIOID OVERDOSE?

Opioid overdoses occur when opioids, such as heroin, fentanyl, or prescription opioids, cause unresponsiveness, loss of consciousness, and slowed or stopped breathing - which may be fatal. Naloxone is a life-saving medication used to stop opioid overdoses as they occur.^{3 4}

DISPARITIES AMONG HISPANIC AND LATINO POPULATIONS

In 2020, Nevada's Department of Health and Human Services reported a 54.5% increase in drug overdose deaths (510 to 788) and a 119.7% increase among Hispanics (66 to 145).⁶

There is a lack of awareness of opioid treatment options among Hispanic/Latino communities, making it necessary to develop an educational and marketing campaign for opioid prevention, treatment, and recovery.⁷

SIGNS OF AN OPIOID OVERDOSE

- Slowed or lack of breathing
- Loss of consciousness
- Unresponsive to sound and touch/limp body
- Lips and/or nails purplish in color
- Skin may be blue or gray
- Gasping, gurgling, or choking
- Vomiting²

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In the event of an opioid overdose, Naloxone, or NARCAN, can be administered via injection or nasal spray to immediately respond to an opioid overdose.⁴



Scan the QR code on the right to watch a video on how to administer naloxone.⁴

The number of deaths from opioid overdose decreased by 14% in states enacting naloxone access

laws.⁵



Naloxone is safe to use and can be administered by friends, family, and even bystanders.⁴

Naloxone should be administered when a person shows signs of opioid overdose. It has no adverse effects even when there is no opioid present.⁵



Someone who receives naloxone may experience sudden withdrawal symptoms when they wake up.⁴

It is important to note, however, that withdrawal symptoms may be uncomfortable without being life-threatening.⁵

Public access to naloxone and naloxone training is often free.¹

It is common for local community harm reduction organizations to distribute naloxone to the community.¹

Check out the organizations by scanning the QR code below that will be able to provide you with this important resource, listed by state:¹



References

1. [Reversing an Opioid Overdose is in Your Hands](#)
2. [Signs of an Overdose](#)
3. [Naloxone Explainer](#)
4. [Prepare to Be the 1 Before 911](#)
5. [Naloxone for Opioid Overdose: Life-Saving Science](#)
6. [Notes from the Field: Increase in Drug Overdose Deaths Among Hispanic or Latino Persons — Nevada, 2019–2020](#)
7. [The Opioid Crisis and the Hispanic/Latino Population: An Urgent Issue](#)

Click here to access our website for additional information.
[National Hispanic and Latino Addiction Technology Transfer Center](#)