



Advisory 17-08 Change in Naloxone Devices

To: First Responders, Agency Leadership, Naloxone Coordinators
From: Jeremy T. Cushman, MD, MS, EMT-P, FACEP *JT Cushman*
Regional Medical Director
Date: September 18, 2017

As an agency or first responder that has used the Division of Prehospital Medicine to support your first responder naloxone program, we have important information to share with you regarding a change in formulation.

The State of New York which has been able to supply naloxone to you through this office has changed its supplier. As a result, we will no longer be providing agencies with the 2 mg luer lock syringe and mucosal atomizer device. Instead, you will be receiving Adapt Pharma's Narcan® Nasal Spray. Attached to this memo is a product comparison of these two devices.

A few important notes:

- Previously, you would administer one "dose" or 2 mg. A single "dose" will now be 4 mg and in a much smaller volume, so you will notice less runoff. Please note this change when documenting administrations.
- Because of the more concentrated formulation, you will only administer to a single nostril. There is no way to split the dose between two nostrils with this new device.
- Many patients are requiring up to 4 mg to reverse their overdose. This previously meant that two "doses" were required. With the new formulation, you may no longer require the second dose.
- Please remember that ventilation, ideally through a bag valve mask, should be provided before and immediately after naloxone administration to provide necessary oxygenation and ventilatory support until the drug takes effect and the patient's breathing improves.
- All uses of naloxone must still be reported to this office using either the [New York State Public Safety Naloxone Quality Improvement Usage Report](#) (please indicate when reporting with the form that you are using the Narcan® Nasal Spray so we can decipher which dose the patient is receiving) or through your electronic patient care reports linked to this office (eg emsCharts). emsCharts users: your naloxone administrations are automatically received by our office through the charting software.



Please share this information as appropriate to your trained responders once you begin receiving the new devices from our office. In the meantime, it remains acceptable to use the older formulation and those supplies should be exhausted before transitioning to the new formulation. With any questions, please do not hesitate to contact this office.

web www.mlrems.org
phone (585) 463-2900
fax (585) 473-3516

office
44 Celebration Drive, Suite 2100
Rochester, NY 14620

mailing
601 Elmwood Avenue, Box 655
Rochester, NY 14642

Product Comparison

	Multi-step Intranasal Naloxone (Amphastar)	Narcan® Nasal Spray (Adapt Pharma)
		
Assembly required	Yes	No
Training Implications	Show trainees how the intranasal naloxone kit is assembled and explain the method of administration. Have trainees practice assembling the kit.	Narcan® Nasal Spray requires no assembly. It is important that the device remain in its blister pack and is not primed or tested until it is used. DO NOT PRACTICE WITH DEVICE. During trainings, show trainees the device in the blister pack and explain the method of administration.
Method of administration	Remove the yellow caps from the plastic barrel and twist on the white atomizer. Remove the purple caps from glass vial of naloxone and twist it into the back of the plastic barrel. Insert the tip of the atomizer into one nostril and spray ½ of the dose. Spray the other ½ of the dose into the other nostril. After 2- 3 minutes if there is no or minimal response, repeat with second dose.	Peel back the packaging to remove the device. Hold the device with your thumb on the bottom of the plunger and 2 fingers on the nozzle. Do NOT press the plunger. Place and hold the tip of the nozzle in either nostril. Once the tip is in the nostril, press the plunger firmly to release the dose into the person’s nose. After 2- 3 minutes if there is no or minimal response, repeat with second device into other nostril.
Can you control how much naloxone is dispensed/adjust the dose at one time?	Yes. All or a small amount of the dose can be released by pushing the end of vial into the barrel	No. The entire dose is released when the plunger is pushed (<u>product cannot be tested</u>)

	Multi-step Intranasal Naloxone (Amphastar)	Narcan® Nasal Spray (Adapt Pharma)
How will naloxone arrive at my program?	Package of 10 orange boxes, with each box containing 1 luer-jet prefilled glass vial and plastic barrel	In cases containing 12 cartons. Each carton contains two blister packs. Each blister package contains a single intranasal device/dose
Strength per dose	2 mg/2ml	4 mg/.1ml
Doses to pack in each kit	Two, 2 mg/2ml	Two, 4 mg/.1ml
Assembling naloxone kits	Each kit should contain two orange boxes (each has 1 Luer-jet prefilled glass vials and plastic barrel) and 2 atomizers, for a total of 4mg/4ml of naloxone per kit.	Narcan® Nasal Spray comes in a carton containing two blister packages. Each blister package contains a single intranasal device. <u>Remove the blister packages from the box and place them in the blue kit bags.</u> Each kit should contain two intranasal devices, for a total of 8mg/.2mL of naloxone per kit.