



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT**  
**DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION SERVICES**  
*A Healthcare Service Agency*

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**Guidance to Homeless Shelter Providers for  
DMHAS Funded Narcan® (naloxone)**

1. **How can I get *free* Narcan to distribute to individuals at risk of an opioid overdose, or their loved one, as a shelter provider?** Shelter directors should send an email request to: [Luiza.Barnat@ct.gov](mailto:Luiza.Barnat@ct.gov) . Ms. Barnat will facilitate the purchase and arrange pickup/delivery of Narcan to the requestor's shelter facility.
2. **How is DMHAS able to pay for the Narcan?** DMHAS has received federal funding from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) through a "State Opioid Response" (SOR) grant.
3. **To whom may homeless shelter providers distribute the Narcan kits?** These Narcan kits are intended, first and foremost, for individuals in the shelters, and/or their loved one(s), who have survived an opioid overdose. Narcan should also be offered to individuals who are deemed at risk for an opioid overdose even if that is not their presenting problem.
4. **Is shelter staff permitted to split the two-dose kits into separate doses of Narcan for dispensing to a greater number of individuals?** No, because opioids and other drugs can vary in potency, some individuals will require both doses in the kit be administered.
5. **Is there a limit to the number of Narcan kits that a shelter may request?** The only limit is a maximum number of 100 kits *per request*. Shelters can request additional Narcan kits as needed.
6. **Once the kits are obtained, how should a shelter store and secure the kits?** The kits should be stored in accordance with the manufacturer's requirements. As this is a non-controlled, legend (requires a prescription) drug, it should be limited to only people that need access to it. Where the medications are stored would follow the same requirements as other non-controlled legend drugs. Store Narcan at room temperature (neither too hot nor too cold) and away from sunlight but NOT in a refrigerator. Keep an eye on the expiration date. The kit lasts about two years. <https://www.ct.gov/dmhas/cwp/view.asp?a=2902&q=509650> - DMHAS Opioid Overdose Prevention Webpage
7. **What labeling is required to dispense to the end user?** For the purposes of this project, the CT Department of Consumer Protection (DCP) is treating this as a "professional sample" which exempts it from the labeling requirements in CGS 20-14(e)(c).
8. **Do homeless shelter staff who dispense from the shelter need to notify DCP that they will be dispensing (per CGS 20-14f)?** DMHAS will notify DCP of the providers participating in this initiative and that will satisfy the requirements of the statute. In addition, since this is a professional sample, no individual notification is required at this time.
9. **What information should be given to the client or the client's loved one along with the Narcan? At a minimum the homeless shelter staff providing the kit should educate each person provided Narcan on how to identify an overdose, how to use Narcan in an emergency, to notify 911 and how to proceed if the person regains consciousness.** <https://www.ct.gov/dmhas/lib/dmhas/publications/narcanfactsheet.pdf>
10. **What record keeping requirements are required when distributing the donated Narcan?** Homeless shelter staff should keep data on who they dispense to in case of a recall.