

Naloxone



The overdose antidote that can help save lives

Naloxone is a medication called an “opioid antagonist,” used to counter the effects of an opioid overdose, such as morphine or heroin. To support your efforts to fight the opioid epidemic, we’ve developed this information sheet that describes the naloxone products that can be used for suspected opioid overdose.

The products listed in the following table are **covered** under most UnitedHealthcare benefit plans with **no prior authorization required**. Member-specific copays will vary based on the member’s plan benefits. Many states have standing orders that allow state-licensed pharmacists to issue naloxone without a prescription. Please check with your state’s local health department or Board of Pharmacy for current regulations, information about products that can be dispensed under state-specific protocols, and other helpful resources.

Naloxone Products	Directions for Use	Coverage Information ¹
<i>Intramuscular²:</i> Naloxone HCl 0.4mg/mL in 1mL single dose vials (dispense two vials). Include two intramuscular syringes (3mL, 25G or 23G, 1”).	Inject 1mL IM in shoulder or thigh. Repeat after three minutes if no or minimal response.	Covered for all UnitedHealthcare members without prior authorization.
<i>Intranasal:</i> Naloxone HCl 2mg/2mL pre-filled Luer-Jet syringe (dispense two syringes). Include two Luer-Lock atomization devices.	Spray 1mL (1/2 of syringe) into <u>each</u> nostril. Repeat after three minutes if no or minimal response.	Naloxone pre-filled syringes are covered for all UnitedHealthcare members without prior authorization. Atomizers are covered under Commercial and Community Plan pharmacy benefits. Atomizers are <u>not</u> covered under the Medicare Part D benefit.
<i>Intranasal:</i> Narcan® (naloxone HCl) 4mg/0.1mL nasal spray (two doses per unit)	Administer one spray of Narcan® in <u>one</u> nostril. Repeat after three minutes if no or minimal response.	Covered for all UnitedHealthcare members without prior authorization.

Coverage of naloxone for a friend or family member¹: UnitedHealthcare members who request a naloxone prescription for a friend or family member at risk for an opioid overdose may fill naloxone under their own pharmacy benefit plan (must be dispensed to the name of the requestor).

Additional Resources:

- UnitedHealthcare: It’s important that patients at risk for opioid overdose receive treatment. UnitedHealthcare members and care providers can find in-network local behavioral health substance use disorder treatment care providers and facilities at liveandworkwell.com.
- Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration: samhsa.gov > Publications > Issues, Conditions & Disorders > Overdose > [SAMHSA Opioid Overdose Prevention Toolkit](#)
- Harm Reduction Coalition: harmreduction.org > Overdose Protection > [Prescribe Naloxone!](#)

¹Check member-specific plan benefit information for coverage details and cost-share information.

²Most UnitedHealthcare plans do not cover the naloxone auto-injector (Evzio®). For plans that cover the naloxone auto-injector, the cost is over \$4,000 (two pens) which is 4,000% greater than the intranasal and generic injection products. This may be a significant burden for members with a high deductible plan or patients paying out-of-pocket.

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