

Naloxone Distribution to First Responders

Virginia Department of Health Naloxone Distribution Team *in collaboration with*
Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police First Responder Naloxone Program

Agenda

VDH Naloxone Distribution Program

Naloxone Distribution to First Responders

First Responder Naloxone Program

Pharmacy Partner Hub Transition

VDH Naloxone Distribution Program

The Virginia Department of Health (VDH) Division of Pharmacy Services (DPS) distributes opioid reversal agents, such as naloxone, and harm reduction test strips to eligible entities and individuals at no cost across Virginia.

The current focus is distribution of no-cost naloxone to high-priority populations and settings, including:

- People who use drugs (PWUD)
- Friends, family, and caregivers of people who use drugs
- People who work with people who use drugs
- High-priority locations within communities, including authorized comprehensive harm reduction sites, community services boards, local health departments, **first responders (law enforcement agencies, fire service organizations, licensed emergency medical services (EMS) agencies)**, public school divisions and other community organizations that have high levels of interaction with people who use drugs and their friends and family

This targeted distribution ensures that available funds are used effectively, that naloxone distributed by VDH is highly likely to reach people and organizations with the greatest need, and that VDH naloxone distribution has the greatest possible impact on VDH's ultimate goal of reducing overdose deaths.

OTC Naloxone

DPS began shipping over-the-counter (OTC) naloxone to partner organizations in February of 2024.

What changes with OTC?

- Modification of agreements between VDH and First Responders
- Adherence to [Virginia Board of Pharmacy Naloxone Protocol](#) applies for prescription naloxone only.

Does **not** apply to OTC naloxone.

- Prescription naloxone must still be labeled with prescriber's standing order, date of dispensing, name of person receiving drug, drug name, drug strength, and name and telephone number for dispensing entity (these labels were shipped with prescription naloxone). OTC naloxone does not need to be labeled.
- For prescription naloxone, organizations must maintain all records of dispensing including the name of person receiving prescription naloxone, lot number, expiration date, quantity dispensed, name of person dispensing, and date of dispensing. This is not required for OTC naloxone.

What does not change?

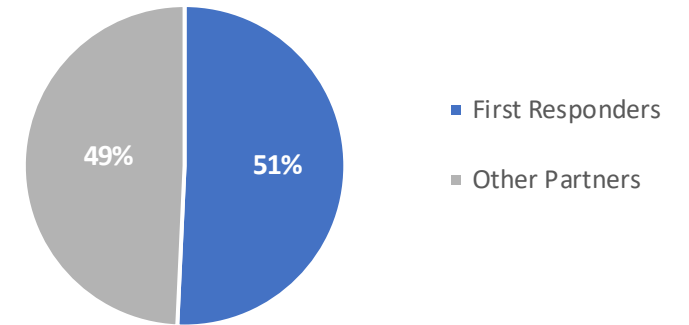
- Continue to manage your naloxone inventory securely
- Monitor expiration dates and return expired naloxone
- Refrain from distributing to other organizations (refer interested organizations to VDH)
- Obtain patient consent in accordance with the agreement and entity policies



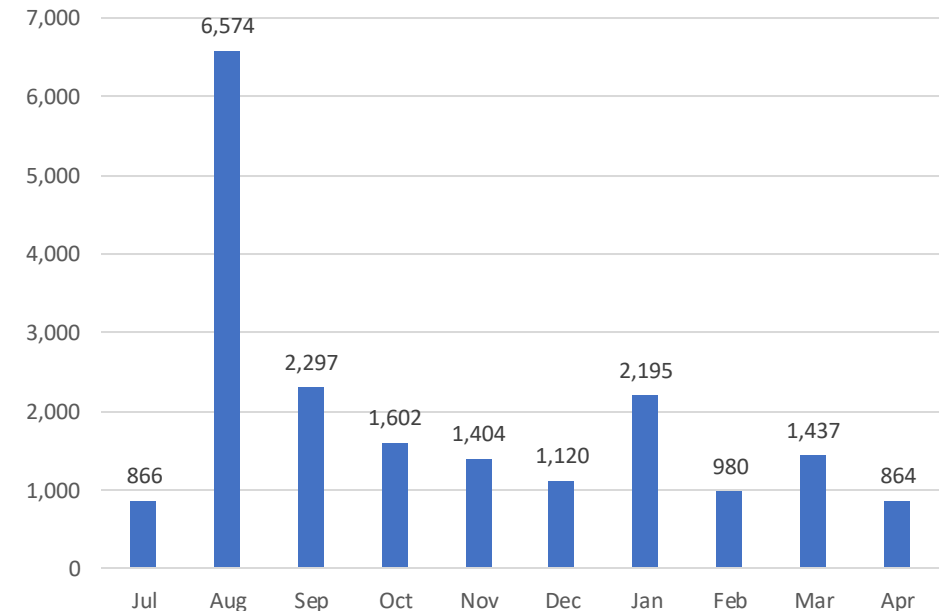
VDH Naloxone Distribution Data

- First Responders make up over 50% of naloxone partners across the Commonwealth that receive no-cost naloxone from VDH.
- In SFY24, VDH has shipped over 19,000 naloxone kits to First Responders – about 16% of the naloxone shipped to all partners in FY24.
- First Responders are eligible to order no-cost naloxone from VDH:
 - Personnel may **carry and administer** naloxone in the event of an emergency
 - Personnel may **provide** naloxone to an individual (“leave-behind”) following an emergency overdose event.
 - Naloxone can also be **stocked** in appropriate on-site locations in case of an on-site emergency (e.g., maintain in evidence processing room)

Number of active naloxone agreements



Naloxone Shipped to First Responders (SFY24)



Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police First Responder Naloxone Program



- The Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS) has received a federal grant from SAMHSA to address the opioid epidemic and equip first responders to safely and effectively respond to an opioid overdose emergency. To manage this program, DBHDS has partnered with the Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police (VACP).
- This grant provides naloxone supplies and education to first responder agencies located in the Commonwealth at **no-cost** to the agencies.
- Eligible agencies under this grant include:
 - Law Enforcement
 - Jails / Correctional Facilities
 - Probation and Parole
 - Juvenile justice
 - Non-EMS Fire Departments
 - Non-vehicular EMS Agencies
 - State Parks / Forestry Law Enforcement & Ranger Divisions

Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police First Responder Naloxone Program



- What does the program offer?
 - Naloxone at no cost to the agency (FREE!)
 - Naloxone Carrying Cases at no cost to the agency (FREE!)
 - Specialized training at no cost to the agency (FREE!)

Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police First Responder Naloxone Program



- The VACP First Responders Naloxone Program provides naloxone nasal spray, 4mg, at no cost to participating agencies.
- This is shipped directly to the agency from the Virginia Department of Health, Division of Pharmacy Services.



Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police First Responder Naloxone Program



- The VACP First Responders Naloxone Program provides Naloxone Carrying Cases and wall mounts at no cost to participating agencies shipped directly from ODkit.com.
- Participating agencies may choose from:
 - Nylon pouches with or without rugged plastic insert with choice of attachment (metal clip, molle, or Velcro), with or without PPE.
 - Kyvex case and holster
 - Orange Wall Mount (for law enforcement and corrections/jails).



Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police First Responder Naloxone Program



- To receive naloxone supplies through this program, first responders are **required** to participate in and successfully complete the REVIVE! for First Responders training program.
- This training program is managed by the VACP in partnership with the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS).
- Trainings are approximately 1.5 hours long for a Basic Rescuers training and 2.5 hours long for the Instructors' training session.
- Virtual Instructor training sessions are conducted monthly.
- There is **no cost** for this training!
- Registration link for training: https://www.vachiefs.org/calendar_list.asp

Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police First Responder Naloxone Program



Program Information

<https://www.vachiefs.org/naloxone>

Links to Order Carrying Cases & Naloxone

<https://www.vachiefs.org/naloxone#Order%20Information>

Training Calendar & Registration

https://www.vachiefs.org/calendar_list.asp

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What are activities supported by VACP, versus those supported by VDH?

VACP

- Provide training that is targeted to the specific, unique needs of first responders.
- Provide additional supplies (e.g. carrying cases).
- Provide funding for naloxone shipped to participating partners (naloxone sourced/shipped by VDH).

VDH

- Provide naloxone to all eligible partners, including those who are VACP partners and those who are not.
- Support naloxone for activities not allowable under VACP, e.g. dispensing to individuals leaving jails (re-entry programs).



New Pharmacy Partner Hub

The Naloxone Distribution Team has developed an enhanced process for organizations to apply for and maintain their naloxone agreements and order naloxone and supplies. This new portal is called The Pharmacy Partner Hub and will replace the current application and order processes via REDCap.

The Pharmacy Partner Hub will benefit organizations by providing:

- Additional visibility for organizations to see status of their current and past orders
- Ability to mark orders as “Received”
- Ability to cancel a submitted order, if needed.
- Ability to add multiple delivery addresses if your organization has multiple locations
- Ability to add and manage multiple users to order naloxone and/or supplies

Application for Naloxone Agreement with the Virginia Department of Health

Please complete this form if your organization would like to request naloxone and/or test strips through the Virginia Department of Health for the first time, or if your organization's agreement with VDH has expired. A fully executed agreement with your organization must be on file before VDH can provide naloxone or test strips.

Please note that VDH is only providing test strips to a limited number of eligible partners at this time.
For questions filling out this form, please contact opioidreversal@vdh.virginia.gov.
Thank you!

- i Federal agencies should contact opioidreversal@vdh.virginia.gov before applying for a naloxone agreement.
- VDH cannot ship to P.O. Boxes.
- A red star (*) or a red upper left edge indicates that a field is required.

+ Application Information

+ Physical Address

+ Shipping Address

+ Primary Contact

+ Secondary Contact

Submit Application

- The Naloxone Distribution Team will be registering and transitioning each partner type to this new portal in phases with a goal of all organizations utilizing the Pharmacy Partner Hub to order naloxone and/or supplies by **July 1, 2024**.
- We are planning to begin this process with all **current** First Responder partners the week of June 3, 2024.
- Any **new** applications submitted will also be processed in the Pharmacy Partner Hub.

Rotating Naloxone Stock

Rotating on-site emergency use stock to dispensing stock (example: correctional facilities)

- If your organization maintains a supply of naloxone on-site in strategic locations to be used in the event of a suspected overdose **and** also dispenses naloxone to individuals at high risk of witnessing or experiencing overdose, you may consider transferring naloxone maintained on-site to your dispensing supply as the on-site stock expiration date approaches to reduce the risk of product expiring unused.
- Individuals at high risk of witnessing or experiencing overdose may be more likely to use their naloxone, so they may be able to use the product before it expires.

Rotating office-based stock to field stock (example: stock in evidence processing room)

- If your organization maintains naloxone in multiple locations that are not equally likely to be used (e.g., a law enforcement agency might maintain naloxone within their office and may also require law enforcement officers to carry naloxone on their person), you may consider rotating naloxone stock to these higher-risk locations as it gets closer to its expiration date to increase the chance of naloxone getting used before it expires.

Rotating officers' stock (carried on person) to leave-behind (provide to individuals)

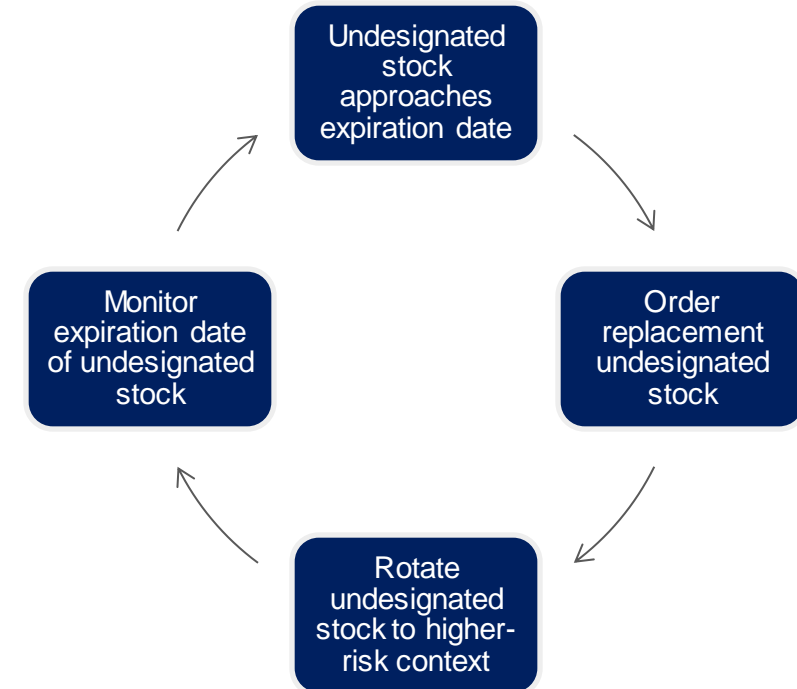
- If officers carry naloxone on their person for use in the event of a suspected overdose and also carry a supply of naloxone to leave behind after responding to an overdose, consider rotating the “carry on” naloxone with the leave behind naloxone as it nears its expiration date.

Rotating Naloxone Stock - example

A sample timeline is included below:

- **January 2022:** Organization receives 100 kits of undesignated stock to maintain within their office and provide to field agents, to be used in the event of suspected overdose. Five kits are maintained in the office, and 95 are given to field-based workers. The date of expiration is **January 2025**.
- **January 2024:** The five kits of undesignated stock within the office have not yet been used.
 - Step 1: The organization orders five kits of replacement undesignated stock from VDH.
 - Step 2: The organization receives their replacement undesignated stock.
 - Step 3: The organization transfers the undesignated stock expiring in January 2025 to a field officer/field worker (e.g., officer patrolling high-overdose area)

January 2025: If the naloxone has not been used by the expiration date in January 2025, it must be discarded. The organization should order replacement naloxone prior to discarding, as applicable.



Resources

- VDH maintains a “First Responders” section on our [Naloxone and Test Strip Distribution Webpage](#) with resources specific to first responders.
- We recently published a [community partner resource guide](#) which provides information about other key partners that provide naloxone and harm reduction services to individuals across the Commonwealth. These partners are great places to refer individuals that need access to additional services after interactions with first responders.
- The Naloxone Distribution Team sends out a quarterly newsletter for all partnering organizations. The most recent newsletter will be sent out today, May 29, 2024. You will be able to view it on our [webpage](#) and subscribe if you are not already subscribed!

Questions?

Contact Us:

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VACP First Responder Naloxone Program –
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