

# ISC-FNIHB'S Regional Access Options for Naloxone

## December 2024

With opioid-related poisonings and deaths remaining high, it is crucial for Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) to act to mitigate the loss of life impacting Indigenous people across Canada by highlighting what services are available to them and supporting the diverse ways that communities choose to allocate their resources to address this crisis.

### **Injectable Naloxone**

There is comprehensive universal availability of injectable naloxone via all provincial and territorial programs, either through pharmacies, health centres or through existing organizations. See ANNEX A for a comprehensive list of availability for each region.

**Nasal Naloxone** There is comprehensive universal availability of nasal naloxone via P/T programs in Quebec, Ontario, Yukon and the Northwest Territories. It is also available for purchase in most other provinces and territories. See ANNEX A for a comprehensive list of availability for each region.

### **Non-Insured Health Benefit (NIHB) Program**

The NIHB Program lists both injectable and nasal naloxone as open benefits, allowing individual clients to easily obtain them through pharmacies. With a prescription or with a recommendation from a pharmacist, individual clients can access naloxone for their personal use or to protect an at-risk person close to them. The NIHB Program cannot provide bulk naloxone to communities or groups, such as urban outreach groups, for redistribution since it is meant to support individual client claims only. Redistribution of naloxone claimed to NIHB is not permitted.

### **Contribution Agreement Funding**

Purchasing take-home naloxone kits is an eligible expense in federally funded contribution agreements that receive ISC's Mental Wellness Program funding. Expenses for harm reduction programming, to order and purchase naloxone and additional supplies to make take-home kits (i.e. latex gloves, alcohol wipes, face masks, etc.), and the provision of training to administer it, are eligible to communities within existing funding arrangements, as identified in appropriate plans. This activity is an eligible expense in any type of funding arrangement, (e.g., set, fixed, flexible or block funding).

Health Canada launched the [Emergency Treatment Fund](#) supporting municipalities and Indigenous communities to provide rapid responses to emergent, critical needs related to the substance use and overdose crisis. Projects that include harm reduction and overdose prevention supports, including training, drug checking and naloxone distribution are eligible for consideration. The 2024 call for proposals funding opportunity is closed. There remain two more rounds of Emergency Treatment Fund call for proposals anticipated, with the next call out expected in the Spring of 2025.

### **Purchase**

Communities can use their mental wellness funding to make bulk purchases of nasal naloxone directly from [Emergent BioSolutions](#) or [Teva](#) using their respective portal links. Direct purchasing with the manufacturer avoids delays and purchasing caps. There is now consistent pricing available to all, therefore there is no longer an advantage to using the Government of Canada's standing offer.

Also of note, Emergent Biosolutions has now extended the shelf life of NARCAN® Nasal Spray to 48 months, thus reducing the need to replace unused product as often.



## ANNEX A: Regional Naloxone Availability December 2024

Region	Naloxone Availability	Links to the contact point for naloxone access
<b>Alberta</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Injectable Naloxone coverage through provincial program</li> <li>✓ Nasal Naloxone available for purchase</li> <li>✓ Individual NIHB Coverage</li> <li>✓ Free training</li> </ul>	<a href="https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/info/page15586.aspx">https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/info/page15586.aspx</a>
<b>Manitoba</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Injectable Naloxone coverage through provincial program</li> <li>✓ Nasal Naloxone available for purchase</li> <li>✓ Individual NIHB Coverage</li> </ul>	<a href="https://www.manitoba.ca/health/publichealth/naloxone.html">https://www.manitoba.ca/health/publichealth/naloxone.html</a>
<b>New Brunswick</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Injectable Naloxone coverage through provincial program</li> <li>✓ Individual NIHB Coverage</li> <li>✓ Free training</li> </ul>	<a href="https://www.anblpn.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/Naloxone-Fact-Sheet.pdf">https://www.anblpn.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/Naloxone-Fact-Sheet.pdf</a>
<b>Newfoundland and Labrador</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Injectable Naloxone coverage through territorial program</li> <li>✓ Nasal Naloxone available for purchase</li> <li>✓ Individual NIHB Coverage</li> </ul>	<a href="https://www.gov.nl.ca/hcs/naloxonekits/">https://www.gov.nl.ca/hcs/naloxonekits/</a>
<b>Nova Scotia</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Injectable Naloxone coverage through provincial program</li> <li>✓ Individual NIHB Coverage</li> <li>✓ Free training</li> </ul>	<a href="#">Take Home Naloxone Program   Nova Scotia Mental Health and Addictions</a>
<b>Ontario</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Injectable Naloxone coverage through provincial program</li> <li>✓ Nasal Naloxone coverage through provincial program</li> <li>✓ Individual NIHB Coverage</li> <li>✓ Free training</li> </ul>	<a href="https://www.ontario.ca/page/ontario-take-home-naloxone-programs">https://www.ontario.ca/page/ontario-take-home-naloxone-programs</a>
<b>Prince Edward Island</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Injectable Naloxone coverage through provincial program</li> <li>✓ Nasal Naloxone available for purchase</li> <li>✓ Individual NIHB Coverage</li> </ul>	<a href="https://www.princeedwardisland.ca/en/information/health-and-wellness/take-home-naloxone-program">https://www.princeedwardisland.ca/en/information/health-and-wellness/take-home-naloxone-program</a>

<b>Québec</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Injectable Naloxone coverage through provincial program</li> <li>✓ Nasal Naloxone coverage through provincial program</li> <li>✓ Individual NIHB Coverage</li> <li>✓ Free training</li> </ul>	<a href="https://sante.gouv.qc.ca/en/repertoire-ressources/naloxone/">https://sante.gouv.qc.ca/en/repertoire-ressources/naloxone/</a>  <a href="https://www.inspq.qc.ca/sites/default/files/cartes/naloxone/index.html">https://www.inspq.qc.ca/sites/default/files/cartes/naloxone/index.html</a>
<b>Saskatchewan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Injectable Naloxone coverage through provincial program</li> <li>✓ Nasal Naloxone available for purchase</li> <li>✓ Individual NIHB Coverage</li> <li>✓ Free training</li> </ul>	<a href="https://www.saskatchewan.ca/residents/health/accessing-health-care-services/mental-health-and-addictions-support-services/alcohol-and-drug-support/opioids/take-home-naloxone-program-sites">https://www.saskatchewan.ca/residents/health/accessing-health-care-services/mental-health-and-addictions-support-services/alcohol-and-drug-support/opioids/take-home-naloxone-program-sites</a>
<b>Northwest Territories</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Injectable Naloxone coverage through territorial program</li> <li>✓ Nasal Naloxone coverage through territorial program</li> <li>✓ Individual NIHB Coverage</li> <li>✓ Free training</li> </ul>	<a href="https://www.hss.gov.nt.ca/en/services/opioid-overdose-prevention/nwt-naloxone-kit-distribution">https://www.hss.gov.nt.ca/en/services/opioid-overdose-prevention/nwt-naloxone-kit-distribution</a>
<b>Nunavut</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Injectable Naloxone coverage through territorial program</li> <li>✓ Individual NIHB coverage</li> <li>✓ Free training</li> </ul>	<p>The Department of Health coordinates distribution of naloxone kits to take-home naloxone (THN) distribution sites; there is currently no publicly available list of distribution sites.</p>
<b>Yukon</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Injectable Naloxone coverage through territorial program</li> <li>✓ Nasal Naloxone coverage through territorial program</li> <li>✓ Individual NIHB Coverage</li> <li>✓ Free training</li> </ul>	<a href="https://yukon.ca/en/health-and-wellness/health-concerns-diseases-and-conditions/opioid-overdose-what-you-can-do#get-a-naloxone-kit-and-training-for-how-to-use-it">https://yukon.ca/en/health-and-wellness/health-concerns-diseases-and-conditions/opioid-overdose-what-you-can-do#get-a-naloxone-kit-and-training-for-how-to-use-it</a>