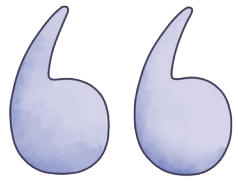


4 Tips for Naloxone Training for Healthcare Providers



1 Watch Your Language



Words can be stigmatizing and can stop people who use substances from asking for help.



Remember to engage with compassion, not judgement.

Less stigmatizing:

“Person who uses drugs”

“Substance use disorder”

“Harmful substance use”

More stigmatizing:

“Addict”

“Dirty”

“Drug abuse”

2 Discuss The Good Samaritan Act

The Act protects people responding to an overdose from being charged with:¹

Simple drug possession

+

Breaching court conditions*
(where the underlying offense is simple drug possession)

*The court conditions that people are protected against include:



Parole



Probation orders



Pre-trial release



Conditional sentences

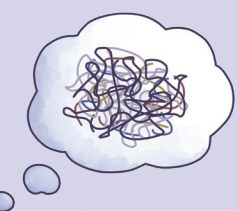
3 Debriefing and Preventing Distress



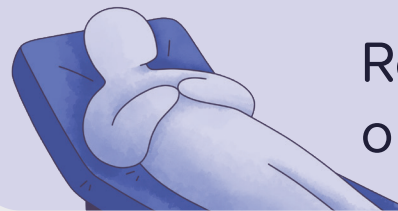
When someone comes for a replacement naloxone kit, ask if they'd like to share their experience administering naloxone.



This allows them the opportunity to debrief and can give you a better insight into their experience.



Remind people that stress and anxiety after a traumatic event is normal.

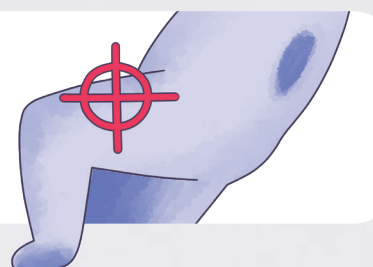


Refer them to a counselling service or primary care provider, if needed.



A practical tip!

Recommend the person administer naloxone into the leg rather than the arm. This can distract from the distressing signs and symptoms of the overdose.



4 Have Handouts Prepared

Local counselling services (including subsidized and free)



Local treatment facilities



Local mental health services (Canadian Mental Health Association)



Local supervised consumption sites



¹<https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/substance-use/problematic-prescription-drug-use/opioids/about-good-samaritan-drug-overdose-act.html>
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Kim P. (2017). PIVOT. http://www.pivotlegal.org/fact_sheet_what_you_need_to_know_about_the_good_samaritan_drug_overdose_act

Urquhart C & Jasiura Fetal. BC Provincial Mental Health and Substance Use Planning Council. (2013). https://bcewh.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2012/05/2013_TIP-Guide.pdf

Canadian Mental Health Association Ontario. (2017). <https://ontario.cmha.ca/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/CMHA-Ontario-Reducing-Harms-Updated.pdf>

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