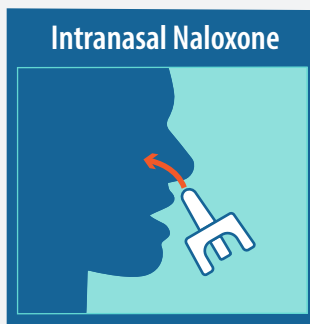


Naloxone

INTRANASAL and INJECTABLE

Both Effective for Reversing Opioid Overdose

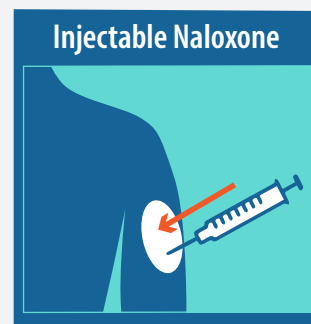
Both intranasal and injectable routes of naloxone administration are effective at reversing opioid overdose. Although lower doses of naloxone are needed when given intramuscularly in comparison with intranasally, the intranasal route is a safe and often more convenient way to treat opioid overdose when sufficient doses of naloxone are administered.



Intranasal Naloxone

Benefits:

- Non-Invasive
- Avoids needlestick related injuries
- Does not require assembly
- Requires less training



Injectable Naloxone

Benefits:

- Rapid onset
- Minimized need for secondary dose
- Cost effective

Considerations:

***FDA** has approved a higher dose of 8mg of naloxone for nasal sprays. The FDA had previously approved 2 mg and 4 mg naloxone nasal spray products.

Overall:

Intranasal naloxone should not be discounted in comparison with injectable naloxone as an effective tool to reverse opioid overdose. No matter what route is used, it's important to receive training on how and when to use naloxone as well as understand that both methods are effective in reversing an overdose, although at an optimal dosage, the intranasal route could be a safer and more convenient option, especially for naloxone distribution programs.

References

- Youseffard M, Vazirizadeh-Mahabadi MH, Neishaboori AM, Alavi SNR, Amiri M, Baratloo A, Saberian P. Intranasal versus Intramuscular/Intravenous Naloxone for Pre-hospital Opioid Overdose: A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis. *Adv J Emerg Med.* 2019 Nov 16;4(2):e27. doi: 10.22114/ajem.v0i0.279. PMID: 32322795; PMCID: PMC7163267. <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7163267>
- Skulberg AK, Tylleskär I, Valberg M, Braarud AC, Dale J, Heyerdahl F, Skålhegg T, Barstein J, Mellesmo S, Dale O. Comparison of intranasal and intramuscular naloxone in opioid overdoses managed by ambulance staff: a double-dummy, randomised, controlled trial. *Addiction.* 2022 Feb 8. doi: 10.1111/add.15806. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 35137493. <http://doi.org/10.1111/add.15806>
- Dietze P, Jauncey M, Salmon A, Mohebbi M, Latimer J, van Beek I, McGrath C, Kerr D. Effect of Intranasal vs Intramuscular Naloxone on Opioid Overdose: A Randomized Clinical Trial. *JAMA Netw Open.* 2019 Nov 1;2(11):e1914977. doi: 10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2019.14977. Erratum in: *JAMA Netw Open.* 2020 Apr 1;3(4):e206593. PMID: 31722024; PMCID: PMC6902775. <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6902775>
- Thomas L. Opioid overdose treatment: intranasal vs intramuscular naloxone. *News Medical Lifesciences.* 2019 Nov 2013. <http://www.news-medical.net/news/20191113/Opioid-overdose-treatment-intranasal-vs-intramuscular-naloxone.aspx>