

Factsheet AUSTRIA

This factsheet is part of the EMCDDA [Take-home naloxone – topic overview](#)

General information	Geographical coverage	local
	Type of Intervention	Pilot project (120 kits; 2 years)
	Starting year	2018
	Settings	Low threshold service

Regulatory challenges	Prescription	necessary
	Distribution	Training is delivered by a prescribing physician; after the successful completion of the training, participants (people who use drugs) receive a prescription for naloxone. The pilot project cooperated with a pharmacy, where PWUD receive the medication, according to the prescription.
	Administration	Due to nasal application no specific regulatory challenges
	Barriers	Multiplier training for staff working in housing/shelter services was offered on request and against small payment.

Medication	Product used	Nyxoid ®
	Application	nasal
	Content of THN Kit	Document confirming the participation in naloxone training; protective tissue for mouth-to-mouth resuscitation; disposable glove, safety tags, information and documentation-booklet (pictogram) and the naloxone product.
	Number of doses per kit	2 single-dose atomizers delivering 1,8 mg of naloxone each

Distribution, refill and post-training monitoring	Distribution of THN	On-site at low threshold agency
	Mandatory training	Yes
	Content of training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk factors for opioid-overdose and overdose prevention; emergency call; resuscitation and other first-aid interventions (incl. uncovering of certain myths); information on naloxone and its application – practical guide; prescription of naloxone and distribution of THN kit
	Training format	<p>Duration: 1 – 1,5 hour; Training dates are posted on message board inside the facility or announced via facebook to achieve a constant and active promotion of the project and training. Number of participants: 10 – 15.</p> <p>Beneficiary groups: People who use drugs (PWUD).</p> <p>No training for partners, family members or close friends available yet.</p> <p>Training for staff members of specific facilities (e.g. those working in shelters/housing facilities) is offered if requested, but against small contribution towards expenses (without a prescription of naloxone).</p>
Content of questionnaire for refill	<p>User-documentation manual containing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Name/ age, date of issuance; date of training Use of medication (location, time, situation, form of administration – dosage increase) Administering person (layperson, PWUD, etc.) Information about the person who overdosed: gender, age, status (after prison release, after treatment, OST etc.); presumed opioid involved in the overdose; dosage and route of administration; Presumed polydrug use (substance, amount, time, route of administration; Open question regarding problems in the administration of naloxone; Additional emergency intervention, First aid required: Mouth-to-mouth resuscitation, Recovery position Post administration data: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Length of stay with overdosed person Emergency call: yes/no (if no: why?) How was specific information delivered to overdosed person a/o 	

		<p>emergency personnel (face-to-face; via tag, via third person)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Other intervention by emergency personnel ○ Further treatment after (hospital, outpatient,...)
	Post-training monitoring	After an implementation period of one year, it is planned to organise different discussion rounds with the participants of the trainings in order to receive their feedback on experienced overdose situations. Conducting the monitoring activity in an informal setting aims at encouraging the exchange of specific user experiences as well as at gaining information on the overdose cases themselves (for documentation and evaluation). Discussions will be moderated by team-members of the facility where the training courses take place and by the coordinator of the project evaluation.

Performance and resources	Inception and training development	Resources for development of programme and training incl. training equipment and kits (excl. medication) : 10.000 EUR		
	Implementation and monitoring	Resources for implementation and evaluation: 26.400 EUR (2018-2020)		
	Price of THN kits	The first 120 kits were donated by a pharmaceutical company		
	Source of funding	Programme	City of Graz, Sponsoring (50%), Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs, Health and Consumer Protection	
		Training (if different)	Included in programme	

Additional information	Project reports, evaluations and scientific papers	Evaluation based on post-training monitoring and re-fill information is planned.	
	Training materials	Information / documentation booklet	
	Contacts	<p>Survey respondents: Mag. (FH) Martin Ladenhauf and Mag. Milena Simonitsch Kontaktladen & Streetwork im Drogenbereich <martin.ladenhauf@caritas-steiermark.at> <milena.simonitsch@caritas-steiermark.at> https://www.caritas-steiermark.at/hilfe-angebote/menschen-in-not/gesundheit/drogen-und-alkoholsucht/drogenstreetwork/aktuelles/detailansicht-aktuelles/news/81863-1-take-home-naloxon-projekt-in-oesterreich/ https://www.caritas-steiermark.at/marienambulanz/</p>	

Updated on 24 August 2020.