

*****PRESS RELEASE*****

FIRE COMMISSIONER DANIEL A. NIGRO ANNOUNCES “LEAVE BEHIND” NALOXONE PROGRAM

More than 3,000 kits ready to be distributed citywide

Fire Commissioner Daniel A. Nigro today announced the launch of the “Leave Behind” Naloxone Program, a strategy included in the [expansion of HealingNYC](#), the citywide plan to combat the opioid epidemic. This new program increases naloxone distribution and training on how to use this lifesaving medication. Yearly, FDNY members treat approximately 5,000 suspected opioid overdose patients.

Starting today, FDNY EMS personnel are trained and equipped to leave a personal naloxone kit with patients revived with naloxone. This kit will be offered to a patient during transport to the hospital, or at a scene of the overdose for patients who refuse further medical attention (RMA). Naloxone kits will also be available to friends and family members, if requested.

“This Leave Behind Naloxone program provides patients and family members with an opportunity to access a naloxone kit during a suspected overdose, potentially preventing an opioid related death,” said **Fire Commissioner Daniel A. Nigro**. “Providing life-saving treatment, as well as education and instructions to prevent loss of life, is critical to the Department’s sworn mission of providing emergency pre-hospital care.”

“We know that surviving a non-fatal overdose is one of the top risk factors for dying of overdose,” said **Health Commissioner Dr. Mary T. Bassett**. “By leaving behind naloxone with the friends and family of someone who survived an opioid overdose, EMS providers will provide a critical intervention and deliver naloxone to the people who need it most. I thank Commissioner Nigro and his team for adopting this program to save the lives of even more New Yorkers.”

Each naloxone kit is stored within a blue pouch and contains naloxone intra-nasal spray, 4mg/0.1ml (2 doses), rubber gloves, face shield, alcohol wipes, literature about the risk of opioid overdose, recognition and rescue steps, naloxone use instructions, rehabilitation resources, and a blue prescription card.

The Leave Behind program is funded through HealingNYC in coordination with NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. FDNY registered as a New York State Department of Health Opioid Overdose Prevention Program (OOPP) in April 2018.

Paramedics in New York City have been carrying and administering naloxone for more than 40 years, including all FDNY Paramedics following the merger of FDNY and EMS in 1996. In 2014, the New York State Department of Health created a special protocol for the FDNY’s EMTs and Firefighters to also carry and administer intranasal naloxone.

Please see attached photos of the “Leave Behind” Naloxone Kit.

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NVC How to Use Naloxone

Overview Response Steps

1. Call 911
2. Place the Naloxone in a container
3. Show naloxone if you have it
4. If you are the responder of the overdose, give a second dose 2-3 minutes after the first dose. If the victim is still unresponsive, have them carry them to safety. If you don't know what the person has taken, just always use your Naloxone.

Multi-step Intra-muscular Naloxone

1. Take off yellow cap
2. Insert in upper arm
3. Push down on top of auto-injector
4. Gently rotate cap of auto-injector one turn to remove
5. Hold upper arm steady while upper cap is pushed down. When the needle is pushed down, you will see a small amount of blood in the cap. DO NOT USE THE NEEDLE FOR ANY OTHER PURPOSES.
6. In the presence of healthcare, get medical help

Single-step Intra-muscular Naloxone

1. Remove cap from auto-injector and insert needle
2. Insert needle through outer arm into muscle (upper arm or buttock)
3. Push down on top of auto-injector
4. In the presence of healthcare, get medical help

Subcutaneous Naloxone

The Naloxone Auto-injector has also been authorized for subcutaneous use. This is done by holding the cap for injection vertically with needle up.

Signs of Overdose	Rescue Breathing	When to Get a Help
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Loss of consciousness• The person has slurred or slowed speech or is unable to respond• Pupils are unresponsive to light• Breathing stops or slows• Loss of pulse• Loss of reflexes• Loss of gag reflex• Loss of eye response	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sit the person on their back• Tilt their head back• Pinch their nose• Breathe into their mouth• Blow gently• Continue until they start breathing• Stop when you see them start breathing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Offer an oral dose of naloxone• Continue to call for help• Because naloxone is a short-acting medication, the overdose may recur. Additional doses of naloxone may be needed.• Do not leave the person alone until help arrives



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Health

Overdose Rescue Kit with Naloxone
Equipo de Rescate para Sobredosis

Used naloxone?
Download the Stop OD NYC app
to submit an anonymous report.