

Becoming a Naloxone and Harm Reduction Distribution Agency in Toronto





Overview

What are Harm Reduction Strategies?

What are the Benefits of Harm Reduction?

Overview of Roles

Eligibility

Steps to becoming a partnering agency

Harm Reduction Strategies

- Needle distribution and return programs
- Naloxone Distribution and Training
- Opioid Agonist Treatment
- Supervised consumption facilities
- Accessible and targeted vaccination programs
- Accessible testing for communicable diseases
- Outreach and education services
- Peer support programs

Proven Benefits of Harm Reduction

- Reduces Hepatitis B, Hep C and HIV rates
- Reduces overdose deaths and other early deaths in people who use drugs
- Educates about the harmful effects of the toxic drug supply
- Facilitates safe disposal of harm reduction supplies
- Educates about safer sex and sexual health & increase condom use
- Increases referrals to treatment programs, health care and other social services
- Results in improved outcomes in crime and employment rates among people who use drugs

• Adapted from British Columbia Centre for Communicable Disease Control website

<https://www.bccdc.ca/health-professionals/clinical-resources/harm-reduction>

Supply Distribution in Ontario

- The Ontario Harm Reduction Distribution Program and the Ontario Naloxone Program provide harm reduction supplies, naloxone kits, educational materials and drug alerts to agencies across Ontario
- All Public Health Units in Ontario plus many satellite sites provide harm reduction services to people who use drugs
- Toronto Public Health works with contracted agencies to administer harm reduction services across Toronto

Role of Agencies

- Provide Harm Reduction Supplies and/or Naloxone to service participants and arrange proper disposal of used equipment
- Use a non-judgemental, harm reduction approach in service delivery
- Support, educate and make appropriate referrals for people who use drugs
- Ensure all staff are trained in harm reduction and overdose response, and safe sharps handling protocols
- Know where local drop-off sites for used supplies are located

Role of Toronto Public Health

- Provides no-cost harm reduction supplies and naloxone to agencies in a timely manner
- Guarantee safety standard of supplies
- Offer agency support through pertinent reports, data, consultation support relevant to harm reduction services
- Offers training on roles and other requirements of becoming a harm reduction or naloxone distributing agency

Steps to become a partner agency

Determine Eligibility

Complete Statement of Need

Signing authorities to sign agreement

Complete Ontario Naloxone Program Registration

Complete Required Trainings

Naloxone Distribution Eligibility

- Is your agency non-profit?
- Does your agency serve difficult to reach people who have a known risk of opioid overdose?
- Has your agency had requests for naloxone?
- Does your agency and its staff support naloxone distribution?
- Can your agency commit to maintaining naloxone supply and reliable distribution?

Harm Reduction Distribution Eligibility

- Is your agency non-profit?
- Does your agency serve people who use drugs?
- Has your agency been asked for harm reduction supplies by service participants who use drugs?
- Can your agency commit to continued harm reduction capacity building and quality assurance?
- Can agency commit to maintaining supply and reliable distribution?

Next Steps - Complete Statement of Need

- The Statement of Need is an online form which will be sent to the TPHHarmReduction@toronto.ca inbox once completed

Complete one of two forms:

- [Naloxone Distribution Statement of Need](#)
- [Harm Reduction Supply and Naloxone Distribution Statement of Need](#)

Complete and Sign Agreements

The required agreements will be sent via **DocuSign** and will include:

- Declaration of Compliance with Anti-Harassment and Discrimination legislation and City policy
- Either a Naloxone only agreement or a Harm Reduction Supply Agreement to be signed by agency signing authority and City of Toronto Director of Clinical Services
- The agreement will need to be returned with either the agency's WSIB clearance or their insurance certificate

Complete ONP Registration Form

- The Ontario Naloxone Program (ONP) requires all agencies to fill out a registration and locator form
- This form will be sent to you via email
- Once complete please send it back to TPHHarmReduction@toronto.ca
- We will send it to ONP
- Once your agency is approved by ONP, you will be sent links to order supplies and/or Naloxone



Thank You!

If you have questions, please email:

TPHHarmReduction@toronto.ca