

Naloxone: MLITSD Update

PLMHSC

January 4, 2023

Naloxone Requirements in the OHSA

- The *Occupational Health and Safety Act* (OHSA) was amended in April 2022 to require an employer that becomes aware, or ought reasonably to be aware, that there may be a risk of a worker opioid overdose at a workplace where that worker performs work for the employer to provide and maintain a naloxone kit in that workplace.
- The employer must also ensure that, at any time there are workers in the workplace, the naloxone kit is in the charge of a worker who works in the vicinity of the kit and who is trained to recognize an opioid overdose, to administer naloxone, and in the hazards related to the administration of naloxone.



Naloxone Requirements in the OHSA (continued)

- A new associated OHSA regulation, Naloxone Kits (O. Reg. 559/22), prescribes the contents of a naloxone kit and sets out additional requirements related to the provision and maintenance of naloxone kits, including:
 - Every naloxone kit shall be used, stored and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
 - The contents of each naloxone kit must be kept in a hard case, be for a single use and promptly replaced after such use and must not have expired.
 - The names and workplace locations of the workers who are in charge of the naloxone kit in the workplace and who have received the required training must be posted in a conspicuous place in the vicinity of the kit where their names and workplace locations are most likely to come to the attention of other workers.
- The amendments and regulation will come into force on **June 1, 2023**.
- Guidance outlining how employers can comply with the naloxone provisions has been posted to [Ontario.ca](https://www.ontario.ca).

Workplace Naloxone Program

- On December 14th, the ministry announced the *Workplace Naloxone Program* which gives eligible employers access to **free training for up to two (2) workers and one (1) free nasal spray naloxone kit per workplace.**
- This time limited program will provide more than 22,000 free nasal spray naloxone kits to businesses at risk of opioid overdoses. Through our funded program providers eligible businesses will have access to free training to equip workers to respond to an opioid overdose.
- The Ministry of Health's take-home naloxone programs: the Ontario Naloxone Program and Ontario Naloxone Program for Pharmacies, remain targeted to individuals and their families and friends. These programs will **not** provide naloxone to employers or for occupational safety purposes.

For more information on how to obtain free kits and/or free training, including guidance material and links to program providers, please visit:
Ontario.ca/workplacenaloxone