

Naloxone for life: expanding access to naloxone rescue kits across multiple practice settings in Colorado

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Opioid Epidemic in Colorado



- Reportable heroin death rate: Denver
 - 1.1/100,000 in 2004
 - 6.5/100,000 in 2012
- Mortality rate for prescription opioids: Denver
 - 5.4/100,000 in 2003
 - 11.3/100,000 in 2012
- Colorado primary treatment admissions:
 - 2008: 4.6%
 - 2013: 9.7%





- **Harm Reduction Organizations**
- **First responders**
 - Denver, Boulder, San Luis Valley
- **Releasing inmates**
 - Denver, Jefferson, Arapahoe, Boulder Counties
- **Emergency Departments**
 - Denver Health, University of Colorado
- **Primary Care**
 - Denver Health opioid safety clinics
- **Pharmacies**



- **First responders: statewide**
 - *Highest priority*
- **Harm Reduction organizations**
- **Substance use treatment facilities**
- **Pharmacies**
- **Releasing inmates**
- **Emergency Departments**
- **Primary Care**
- **Schools**

Barriers to implementation



- Funding
- Fragmentation
 - Law enforcement organizations, hospital EDs, county jails independent
- Focus
 - Competing demands of pharmacists, clinicians
- Familiarity
 - Majority of public unaware



The way forward: initial steps



- Secure funding for kits for FRs statewide
- Disseminate policy and training resources for FRs
- Create central reporting tool for reversals
- Advertise/educate to improve public awareness



Thank you

