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Checklist for setting up a take-home naloxone programme

This checklist provides 19 actions to consider when setting up a take-home naloxone (THN) programme.

Though listed chronologically, the actions do not need to be followed strictly in this order. In addition, some may not be applicable to all communities and there may be additional actions that arise as the THN programmes develop.

Setting up a THN programme is not a complicated process. It will require active involvement from key stakeholders and a legal framework that allows naloxone distribution to the wider community.

Actions for setting up a THN programme: Identify and meet with key stakeholders a. If you are trying to incorporate THN into an established system or facility (e.g. prisons), involve high-level staff in discussions from the beginning Top tip: Key stakeholders might include healthcare professionals, social workers, prison staff and peers of people who use drugs Create a needs assessment that supports THN in your area of interest a. Use overdose mortality statistics, qualitative surveys and personal accounts specific to your area of interest b. Carry out further surveys where necessary Seek advice from organisations that have successfully implemented THN programmes in other communities Determine setting(s) in which THN should be implemented 5 Research current local policies and guidelines regarding THN, including legal status of naloxone and current availability of different products a. If there are legal barriers for THN, identify possible strategies to overcome these by seeking advice from policy makers or contacting other countries that have overcome similar legislative hurdles Set clear and measurable objectives **Specify timelines and milestones**





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8	Develop standard operating procedures for the programme	
9	Determine the structure of the training programme and who will do the training and dispense naloxone	
10	Create a budget, taking into account costs of the following elements: a. Naloxone kits i. Choose suitable naloxone product based on price, availability, legal status and acceptability b. Other possible expenses: training materials, CPR manikins, salaried programme coordinator, participant incentives	
11	Secure funding for the programme	0
12	Plan where the naloxone kits will be stored safely and securely	
13	Create overdose management training materials (e.g. pamphlets or presentation slides)	
14	Set up "train the trainer" sessions, to train all individuals who will go on to distribute naloxone and provide overdose training to people at risk of overdosing or likely to witness an overdose	
15	Raise public awareness of THN programmes by campaigning and highlighting the success of THN programmes in saving lives	
16	Liaise and educate relevant groups about naloxone Top tip: Relevant groups may include the police, ambulance services, hostel staff, coroners and pharmacies in the community	•
17	Determine how naloxone kits will be re-supplied	
18	Consider how the programme (specifically the number of people trained, and number of kits distributed and used) will be monitored, recorded and evaluated for further reporting and quality assurance	
19	Consider how you will present the results of quality evaluations to key stakeholders to continue improving the THN programme after it has been set up	

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