Making prescription drugs more affordable for Californians

California to Purchase CalRx® Branded Over-the-Counter (OTC) Naloxone for $17.50

California, disrupting the drug industry through CalRx®, is now purchasing life-saving OTC naloxone nasal spray for just $17.50 per twin pack. This is the lowest price in the nation!

How can I obtain naloxone through this initiative?

There are two ways an entity can procure CalRx® naloxone nasal spray:

1. From the California Naloxone Distribution Project (NDP). Additional instructions on how to submit an application to the NDP can be found at the NDP's website.
2. All Californians can purchase naloxone directly from our CalRx® website.

Is the CalRx® naloxone nasal spray product the same as Narcan®?

The CalRx® naloxone nasal spray product is an FDA-approved generic equivalent to OTC Narcan®. (Narcan® is a registered trademark of Emergent Operations Ireland Limited.)

Are the CalRx® naloxone nasal spray product and Amneal product the same?

These naloxone nasal spray products are the same except for the labeling.

Will I need a prescription to purchase CalRx® naloxone nasal spray?

No, CalRx® naloxone nasal spray is an over-the-counter product and can be purchased without a prescription.

Where is the CalRx®/Amneal product made?

Amneal Pharmaceuticals manufactures our OTC naloxone nasal spray at its U.S.-based facility in New Jersey.

Once an entity orders through the NDP, how will long will it take for the local organization to receive the new Amneal Pharmaceuticals product?

DHCS collects and sends NDP orders on a weekly basis. Once the order is received by Amneal Pharmaceuticals, it will take 4-5 business days for the organization to receive the product – the same timeline as today.

Low-cost, Transparent Prices	Make Prescription Drugs Affordable for all Californians	No Rebates or Coupons (other than federally mandated)

Will CalRx® naloxone nasal spray be available to purchase in a pharmacy? Can I buy the CalRx® naloxone nasal spray product online?

CalRx® can be purchased directly from our website. Please visit our CalRx® website.

Is there any cost involved in acquiring naloxone, and if so, what are the details?

Qualifying organizations can obtain CalRx® naloxone nasal spray free of charge from the NDP by completing an online application located on the DHCS website. The application includes instructions, as well as terms and conditions of participating in the NDP.

Other California-based entities can purchase naloxone directly from Amneal Pharmaceuticals at the same $17.50 price per twin pack, subject to certain requirements including establishing an account with Amneal Pharmaceuticals to purchase OTC naloxone nasal spray and a prohibition against resale. More information on this option can be found at our CalRx® website.

Is Amneal going to sell naloxone nasal spray to other states or local governments like they are for California? Can other states purchase CalRx® naloxone nasal spray at the same price?

The $17.50 price is for organizations residing within California that meet the requirements of the agreement with Amneal. CalRx® naloxone can also be purchased by individuals by visiting https://calrxnaloxone.com/.

Amneal is committed to improving access to this life-saving medicine and welcomes the opportunity to engage with other government bodies.

Are there training or educational resources available for the proper use of naloxone?

Instructions for use are available in various formats online at https://amnealnaloxone.com/how-to-use/. The product is packaged with instructions printed on the carton and included with each sprayer device as well.

Whom do I contact if I have side effects or suspect there is something wrong with my CalRx®/Amneal OTC naloxone nasal spray?

To report an adverse event related to an Amneal/CalRx® product contact the Amneal Drug Safety at **1-877-835-5472**, option 3 or at DrugSafety@amneal.com.

Does California recommend people buy naloxone as a precautionary measure?

The CDC recommends carrying naloxone to help save the life of someone experiencing an overdose until emergency medical help arrives, especially if you or someone you know is at increased risk of overdose.

Do Medicaid/Medicare patients get the product for free, and if so, how?

In California, Medi-Cal covers naloxone with no copayment, making it accessible at no cost for Medi-Cal beneficiaries. Medicare coverage for naloxone can vary; some Medicare Advantage plans cover over-the-counter naloxone. It's important to check your specific plan for coverage details.

Will insurance pay for my CalRx® naloxone nasal spray product? Will my insurance cover the CalRx® naloxone nasal spray product?

Insurance coverage for over-the-counter naloxone varies by plan. While it's common for health insurance plans not to cover over-the-counter medications, many are starting to include naloxone due to its importance in reversing opioid overdoses. The coverage depends on the individual insurance plan, so it's recommended to check with your specific insurer to see if they cover naloxone now that it is available over-the-counter.

Can I use my flexible spending account (FSA) funds to purchase CalRx® naloxone nasal spray product?

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, enacted in March 2020, expanded the list of eligible expenses to include several OTC drugs, medicines, and products without the need for a prescription. However, it's important to always check with your benefits administrator to determine which medications are eligible.

Where do I go if I want to find out more information?

California launched a new comprehensive opioid website that gives Californians a single resource for prevention, data, treatment, and support information. The website, opioids.ca.gov, is part of Governor Newsom's multi-pronged approach to connect Californians with information to prevent and reduce overdoses and deaths and support those struggling with substance use and addiction.

All Californians should visit opioids.ca.gov to learn more and help us spread awareness and save lives. Together we can make a difference in combating this crisis.

Is this product FDA approved?

Yes, it received FDA approval on April 23rd, 2024.