

Consultation to expand access to naloxone

The Department of Health and Social Care have launched a UK wide consultation on measures to expand access to the lifesaving drug naloxone, which if accepted will require amendments to the UK Human Medicines Regulations 2012.

The consultation (full details:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/consultation-on-expanding-access-to-naloxone/consultation-on-expanding-access-to-naloxone#introduction-to-naloxone>) will be open for 8 weeks, closing on **28 September 2021**, and the response form can be accessed here:

<https://consultations.dhsc.gov.uk/60e8601f8a321f259e2f104b> .

Naloxone is a drug that reverses the effects of an opioid overdose, and therefore can help to prevent overdose deaths. The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC), the Department of Health in Northern Ireland (NI DoH), the Scottish government, and the Welsh government are seeking responses to this consultation to assess the viability of proposals to widen access to naloxone by expanding the list of services and individuals that can give it out without a prescription or other written instruction. The intention is to prevent at-risk people who use drugs from dying due to an opioid overdose.

Full details of the proposals are available at the above link and all interested parties and stakeholders are encouraged to complete the survey and share their views. We would welcome that this information is shared with your colleagues encouraging them to respond to the consultation to enable a full range of views to be obtained. If you could please forward this email, rather than sharing the link directly, that would be most appreciated.

Thank you

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