

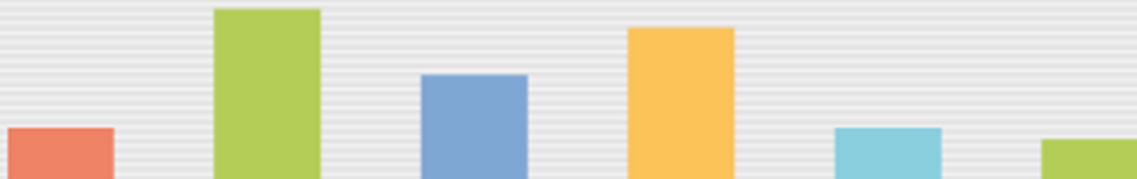


European Monitoring Centre  
for Drugs and Drug Addiction

# Reducing drug-related deaths in Europe: a systemic perspective **with focus on take-home naloxone**

Dagmar Hedrich, EMCDDA

Take-home naloxone: its role in preventing opioid-related deaths in Europe  
LisbonAddictions, 24 October 2019



# Conflict of interest

None to declare.



# Global health goals

## European drug policies

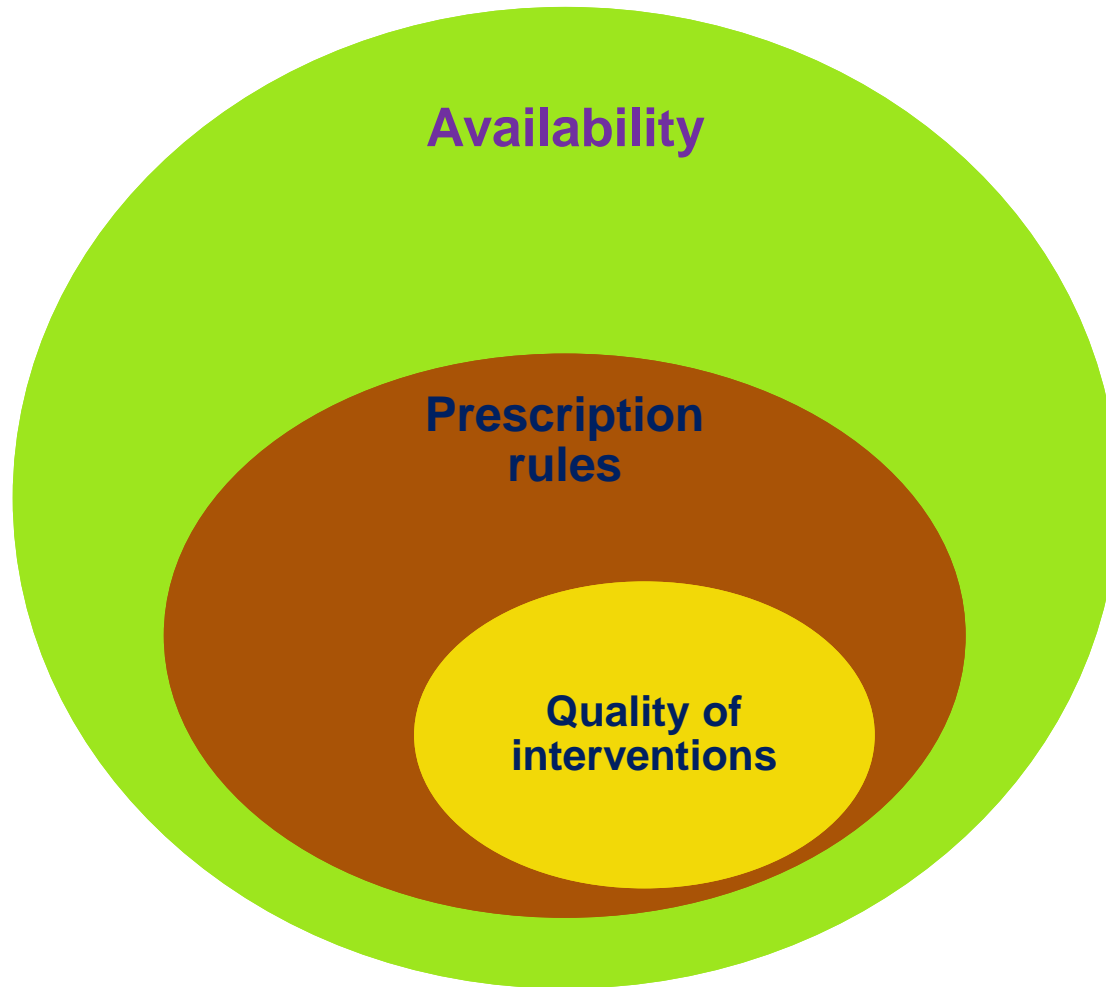


**3.4** By 2030, reduce by one third premature **mortality** from non-communicable diseases through prevention and treatment and promote mental health and well-being.

**EU Drugs Strategies** aim at reduction of the health and social risks and harms caused by drugs, namely the number of drug-related deaths.

**Action Plan 2017-2020:** provide access to naloxone to trained laypeople (Action 8b).

# Reducing drug-related deaths: ...multiple factors play a role ...



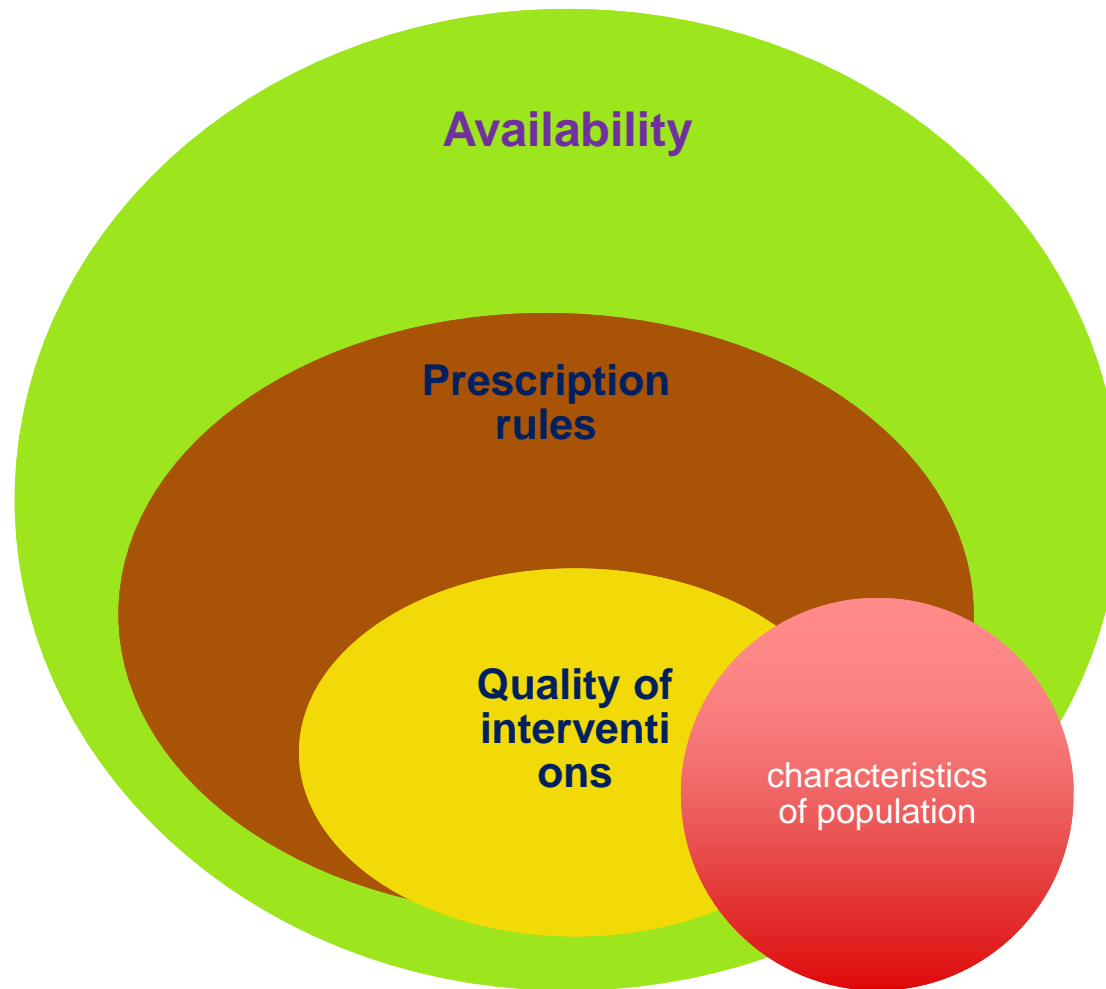
Supply-related factors;  
monitoring of market cycles;  
sudden changes in purity;  
low price

...Regulatory system; , e.g.  
(prohibition of) advertising  
of prescription medications;  
Guidance on prescribing for  
medical professions

.... Training and  
implementation practice: e.g.  
quality of OST implemen-  
tation affects its  
effectiveness

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...multiple factors play a role ...  
a 'systems-approach' is needed

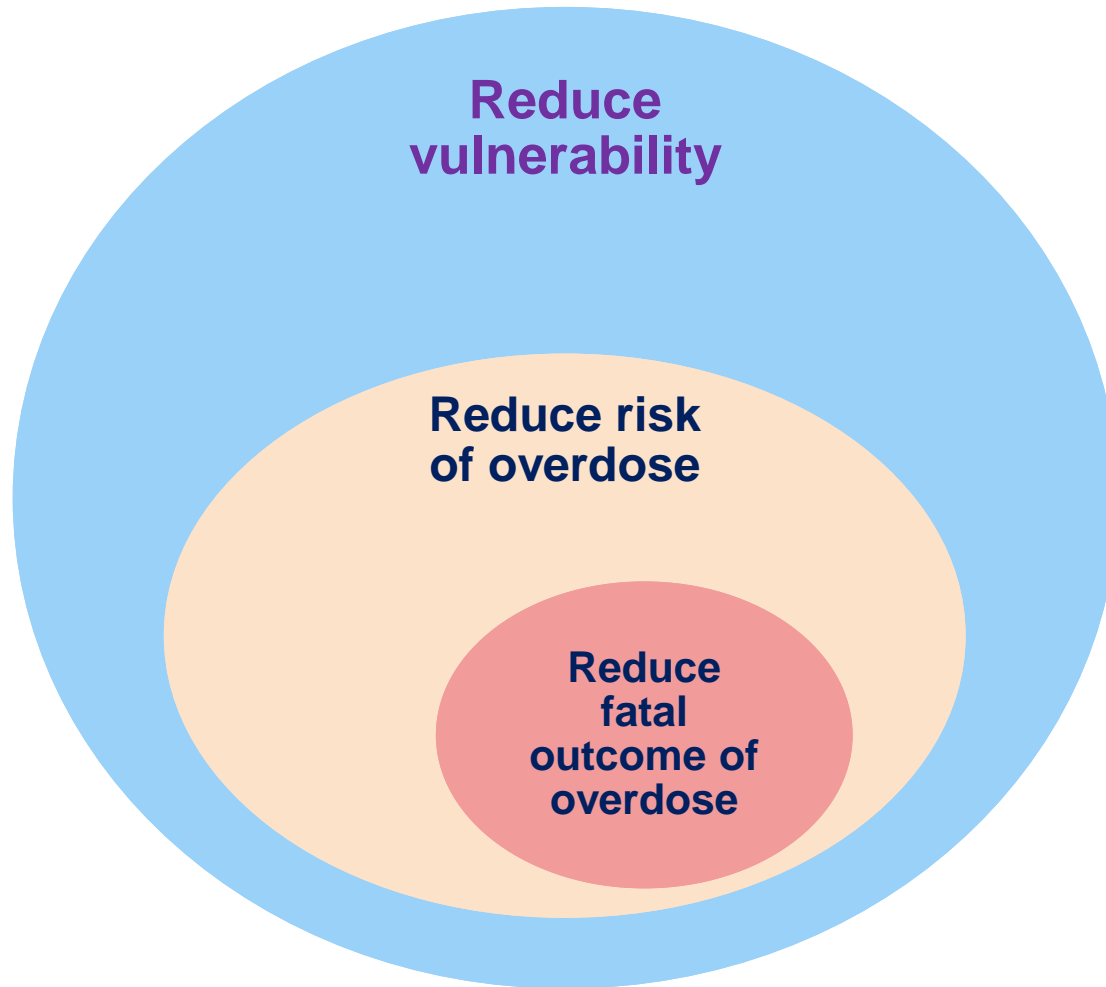


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# How to reduce opioid-related deaths:



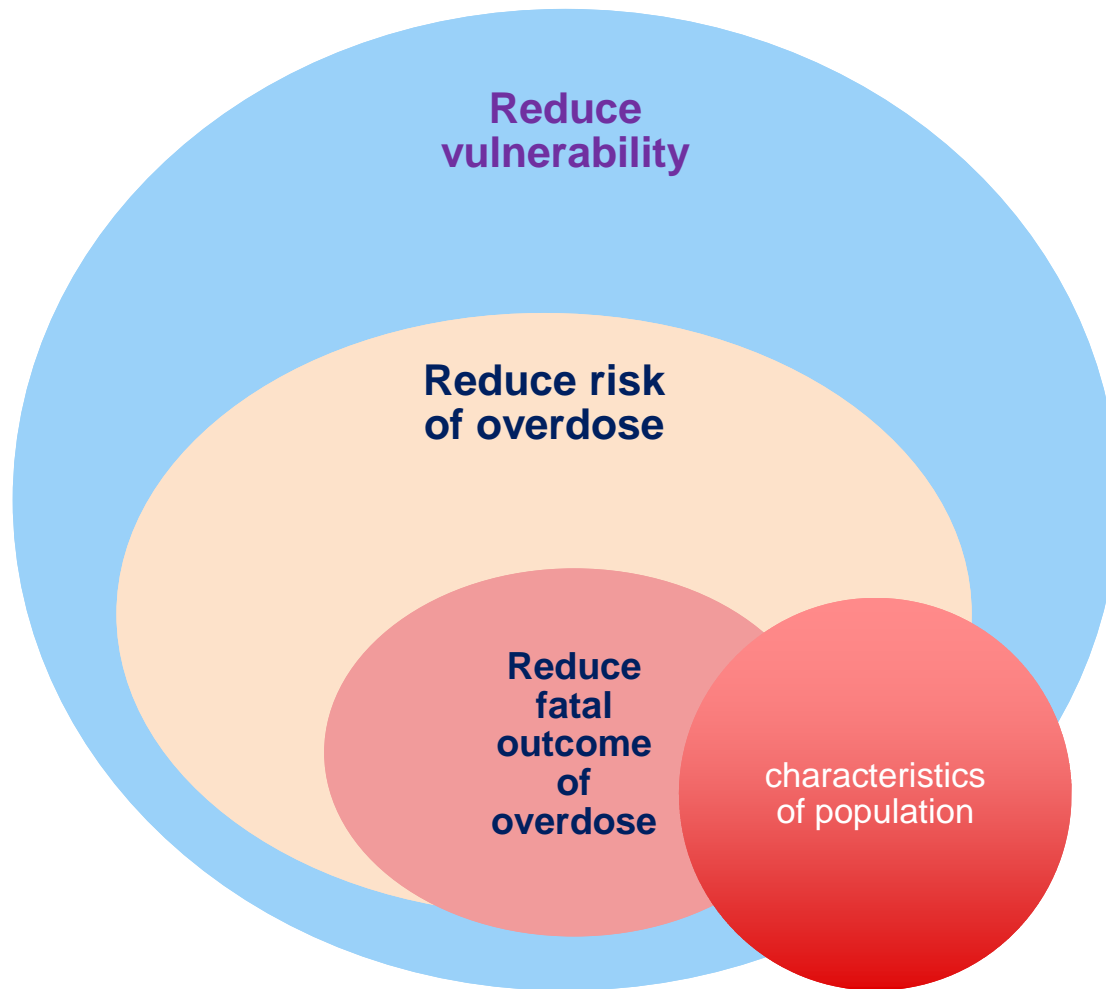
Better accessibility of services, enabling environment no barriers; reduce stigma; empowerment of PWUD; integration;

... improve OD risk awareness, e.g. info on risk behaviour, early warnings on composition and potency of drugs; effective treatment of opioid dependence (e.g. OST, HAT)

... supervise drug consumption (DCR); Take-home naloxone programmes to train bystanders and have antidote naloxone at hand.

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# Interventions to reduce opioid-related deaths



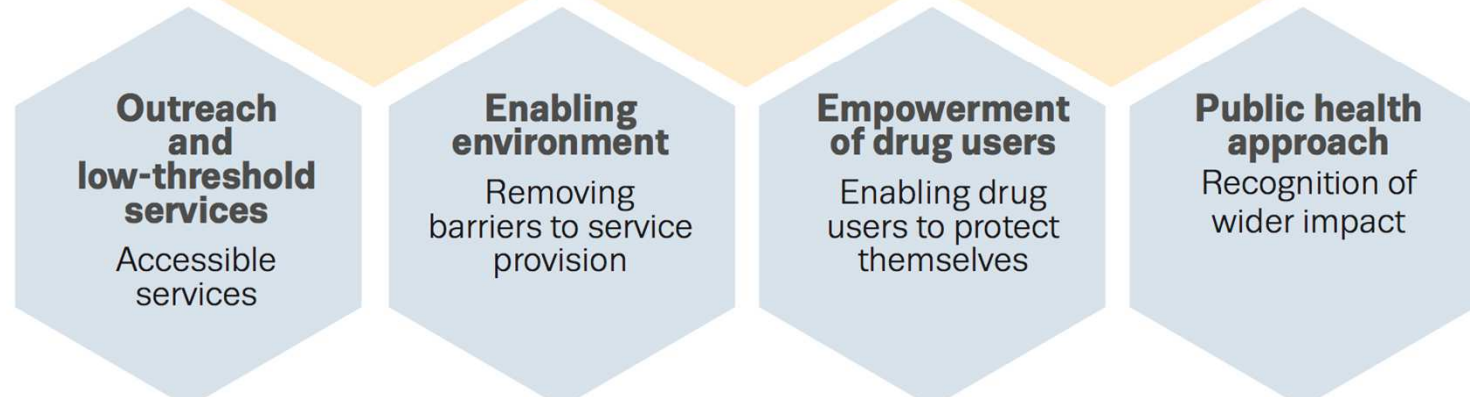
## Reducing fatal outcome of overdose



## Reducing risk of overdose



## Reducing vulnerability



Source: EMCDDA (2017) Health and social responses to drug problems: a European guide.



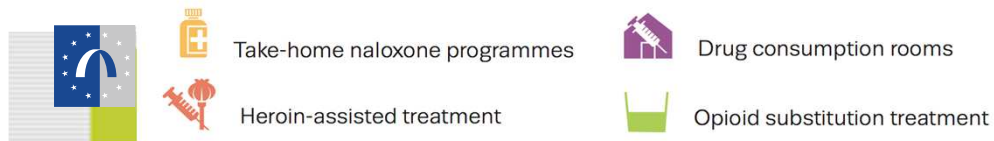


# Availability of selected interventions



Source: EMCDDA Health and social responses to drug problems: a European guide, 2017 (updated for AT, BE, PT & SE).

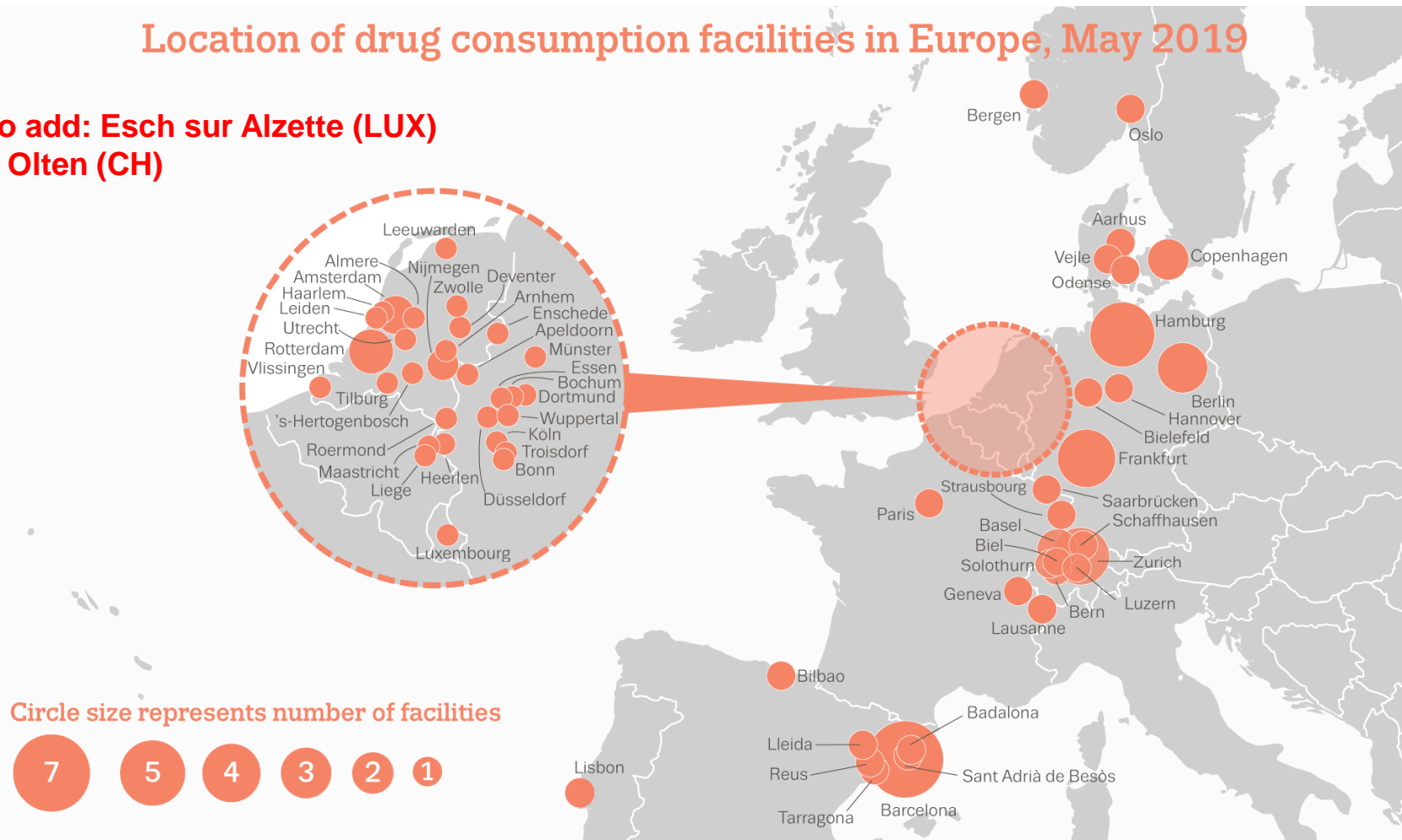
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# Geographical distribution of DCRs in Europe

## Location of drug consumption facilities in Europe, May 2019

To add: Esch sur Alzette (LUX)  
+ Olten (CH)



Source: Drug consumption rooms: an overview of provision and evidence. EMCDDA, 2018 (updated for PT) [emcdda.europa.eu](http://emcdda.europa.eu)



# Preventing opioid overdose deaths with take-home naloxone

20



## Take-home naloxone programmes in Europe

Source: Reitox reporting 2018/2019



# Since 2015: New Nasal Kits

**USA** (Nov 2015)  
**Canada** (Oct 2016; OTC)



NARCAN 4mg/0.1ml  
(also 1.8mg/3.6mg/0.1ml)

**Adapt Pharma**



**France:**  
July 2016 (temp.),  
July 2017 (Marketing  
Authorization)



NALSCUE 0.9mg/0.1ml

**Indivior**



**EMA** Nov 2017  
(EU-wide Marketing  
authorization)  
available: AT, DK, DE,  
EE, FR, NO, SE UK



NYXOID 1.8mg/0.1ml  
**Mundipharma**



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# Topic overview (2019)

## Take-home naloxone

### Introduction

#### What is naloxone and why is it important?

Drug overdose continues to be the main cause of death among problem drug users. Heroin or other opioids — often consumed alongside other central nervous system depressants such as benzodiazepines and alcohol — are present in the majority of reported fatal overdoses (1). Overdose is common among opioid users: many of them have experienced a non-

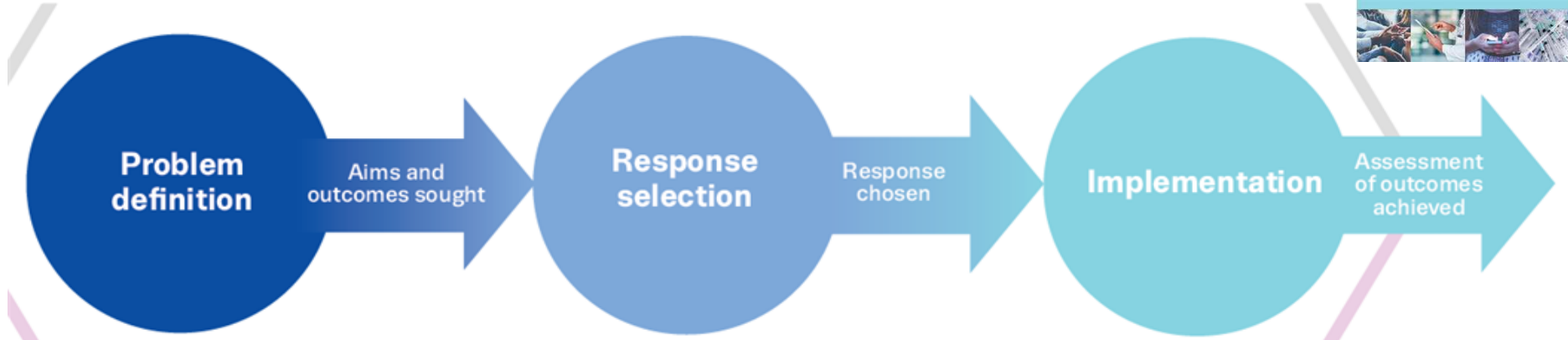
## Factsheets

- General information
- Regulatory challenges
- Medication
- Distribution, re-fill and post-training monitoring
- Performance and resources
- Project reports and evaluations

## ONLINE

[http://www.emcdda.europa.eu/publications/topic-overviews/take-home-naloxone\\_en](http://www.emcdda.europa.eu/publications/topic-overviews/take-home-naloxone_en)

# Toolbox: THN programmes (2020)



**Checklist**

**Diagnostic process**

- Mapping the current DRD situation – Dashboard; Checklist of Barriers to THN, Manual for Roundtable discussion & Action planning

**Vignettes**

**Models of care**

- Factsheets THN programmes in Europe; Compilation of case studies (vignettes) illustrate how to overcome barriers; ‘real-life’ Implementation experience

**Materials for action**

- Information material for drug services to raise OD awareness among staff and clients; Knowledge Questionnaire, Training curricula



Statement	Know this already	Yes	No
1. The level of hepatitis C in the general population in Europe is generally low (below 2%).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. The level of hepatitis C among people who inject drugs in Europe is generally high (above 20%) or even higher.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hepatitis C testing and treatment has benefits for both the individual and for others, as the transmission of the virus is reduced.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hepatitis C is mainly transmitted through blood.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

# Acknowledgements

## CONSULTANTS:

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## EMCDDA:

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Jane Mounteney

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