

## Take Home Naloxone in Lambeth:

We started the project in earnest in January 2009, which was way ahead of the majority of the UK. These days' terms like co production and collaboration are used regularly for us it was truly from day one right up to now. We began with a small core group of 2 clients from the Lambeth Service User Council and 2 Consortium staff to create the training pack and agree how to move the project forward. The initial aim was to train and get the Take Home Naloxone (THN) kits into the hands of as many Lambeth Consortium opiate users as possible. We deliver training to our peers across the borough in LHH, Lambeth hostels and day centres and the Consortium staff would dispense the kits. Then over time we saw changes in the law that would not only make our aim easier to reach but to also open it up. The change in law allowed Lambeth to be the first part of the UK to use NHS Honorary contracts to let consortium clients not only train staff and peers but to actually dispense the kits also.

Over time we would change our aims slightly too also focus on getting the kits into the hands of anyone who may witness an opiate OD including family and friends, in hostel's, homeless and other outreach workers, opiate users on the street through outreach etc. This work has become the norm in Lambeth over many years while other parts of the UK are only beginning. From January 2021 to date we have dispensed at least 430 Take Home Naloxone kits. This year we have been offering take home naloxone and OD awareness to all Lambeth hostels, day centres etc and, we have provided weekly training sessions to meet the need posed by the pandemic and recent drug alert. We have now increased the offer to 6 training sessions for workers a week over the next few weeks because of the speed and simplicity of the new Nyxoid nasal devices. So as workers and residents change or move on we continue to train and dispense so Lambeth can continue to prevent and reduce the amount of accidental overdose fatalities.

The next step for us in Lambeth is an exciting one as we have now received the Nyxoid nasal devices, so it means Lambeth residents will now be offered the THN injection kit or the Nyxoid which is a simple nasal spray with no needles needed so ideal for family and friends who have no experience of using syringes. Alongside the 2 main devices through the Lorraine Hewitt House (Lambeth's integrated drug and alcohol) needle exchange we offer small one dose Naloxone ampoule keyrings so opiate users are also carrying Naloxone on them as they are out and about. These keyrings have proven to be really popular because of their small size as well as being an engagement tool no other part of the UK currently offer. The keyrings we have been forced to stop for now as the correct size keyring capsules are no longer being made but up until the stoppage we had dispensed just fewer than 400 keyring ampoules. Recently we have found a solution to carrying the ampoules by using Exchange Supplies Unicases which have 2 slots for ampoules so once Consortium staff are trained on the Unicases we can continue to supply the ampoules. The keyring ampoule is not an alternative to the 2 main devices but an added extra.

None of this work would have been possible without the immense amount of time and effort put in by Prof Sir John Strang, Dr Mike Kelleher and Nurse Prescriber Reuben Cole. These people have been the driving force behind Take Home Naloxone in Lambeth.

