

Communication from Public

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Comments for Public Posting: Access to naloxone is critical for saving lives, and I am therefore in support of this item. However, getting naloxone into the hands of people who use drugs is a key element in reversing overdose fatality numbers. Street-based harm reduction programs, like the organization with which I volunteer, are best positioned to get naloxone directly into the hands of people who are most likely to witness an overdose. It is critical that naloxone access is not filtered through larger organizations in order to "trickle down" to street-based groups. What we have been doing is not working - a recent study shows that California's naloxone distribution efforts are not meeting the needs of people who use opioids.* Think beyond LAHSA, and expand naloxone access where it is most likely to save a life. *Michael A. Irvine, et al., Estimating naloxone need in the USA across fentanyl, heroin, and prescription opioid epidemics: a modelling study, The Lancet Public Health, February 10, 2022.