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 implementation affects its effectiveness
...multiple factors play a role ... a ‘systems-approach’ is needed

Supply-related factors; 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 implementation affects its effectiveness
How to reduce opioid-related deaths:

- Reduce vulnerability
- Reduce risk of overdose
- Reduce fatal outcome of overdose

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.

emcdda.europa.eu
How to reduce opioid-related deaths:

Reduce vulnerability

Reduce risk of overdose

Reduce fatal outcome of overdose

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.
Interventions to reduce opioid-related deaths

**Reducing fatal outcome of overdose**
- Supervised drug consumption
  - Immediate first-aid in drug emergencies
- Take-home naloxone programmes
  - Improved bystander response

**Reducing risk of overdose**
- Retention in opioid substitution treatment
  - Reduce drug use and injecting
- Overdose risk assessments
  - In treatment facilities and prisons
- Overdose awareness
  - Knowledge of risk and safer use

**Reducing vulnerability**
- Outreach and low-threshold services
  - Accessible services
- Enabling environment
  - Removing barriers to service provision
- Empowerment of drug users
  - Enabling drug users to protect themselves
- Public health approach
  - Recognition of wider impact

## Availability of selected interventions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Take-home naloxone programmes</th>
<th>Drug consumption rooms</th>
<th>Heroin-assisted treatment</th>
<th>Opioid substitution treatment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td><img src="Austria.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Austria.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Austria.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Austria.png" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td><img src="Belgium.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Belgium.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Belgium.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Belgium.png" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bulgaria</td>
<td><img src="Bulgaria.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Bulgaria.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Bulgaria.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Bulgaria.png" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Croatia</td>
<td><img src="Croatia.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Croatia.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Croatia.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Croatia.png" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cyprus</td>
<td><img src="Cyprus.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Cyprus.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Cyprus.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Cyprus.png" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Czech Republic</td>
<td><img src="CzechRepublic.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="CzechRepublic.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="CzechRepublic.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="CzechRepublic.png" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denmark</td>
<td><img src="Denmark.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Denmark.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Denmark.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Denmark.png" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estonia</td>
<td><img src="Estonia.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Estonia.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Estonia.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Estonia.png" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finland</td>
<td><img src="Finland.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Finland.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Finland.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Finland.png" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td><img src="France.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="France.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="France.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="France.png" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td><img src="Germany.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Germany.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Germany.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Germany.png" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greece</td>
<td><img src="Greece.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Greece.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Greece.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Greece.png" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hungary</td>
<td><img src="Hungary.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Hungary.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Hungary.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Hungary.png" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ireland</td>
<td><img src="Ireland.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Ireland.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Ireland.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Ireland.png" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td><img src="Italy.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Italy.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Italy.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Italy.png" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latvia</td>
<td><img src="Latvia.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Latvia.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Latvia.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Latvia.png" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lithuania</td>
<td><img src="Lithuania.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Lithuania.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Lithuania.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Lithuania.png" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luxembourg</td>
<td><img src="Luxembourg.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Luxembourg.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Luxembourg.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Luxembourg.png" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malta</td>
<td><img src="Malta.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Malta.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Malta.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Malta.png" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td><img src="Netherlands.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Netherlands.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Netherlands.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Netherlands.png" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norway</td>
<td><img src="Norway.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Norway.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Norway.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Norway.png" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poland</td>
<td><img src="Poland.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Poland.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Poland.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Poland.png" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portugal</td>
<td><img src="Portugal.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Portugal.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Portugal.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Portugal.png" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Romania</td>
<td><img src="Romania.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Romania.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Romania.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Romania.png" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slovakia</td>
<td><img src="Slovakia.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Slovakia.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Slovakia.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Slovakia.png" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slovenia</td>
<td><img src="Slovenia.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Slovenia.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Slovenia.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Slovenia.png" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td><img src="Spain.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Spain.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Spain.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Spain.png" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td><img src="Sweden.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Sweden.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Sweden.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Sweden.png" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turkey</td>
<td><img src="Turkey.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Turkey.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Turkey.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="Turkey.png" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td><img src="UnitedKingdom.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="UnitedKingdom.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="UnitedKingdom.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="UnitedKingdom.png" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


emcdda.europa.eu
Geographical distribution of DCRs in Europe

Location of drug consumption facilities in Europe, May 2019

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

Circle size represents number of facilities

Take-home naloxone programmes in Europe

Source: Reitox reporting 2018/2019
Since 2015: New Nasal Kits

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

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

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

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

NALSCUE 0.9mg/0.1ml

NYXOID 1.8mg/0.1ml

Adapt Pharma

Indivior

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

ONLINE
Toolbox: THN programmes (2020)

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

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
Acknowledgements

CONSULTANTS:

Ilonka Horvath, ÖBIG
Sibella Breidahl, KCL

EMCDDA:

Nicola Singleton
Isabelle Giraudon
Jane Mounteney