

CONTACT:

Janis Rizzuto
Director, Communications
jrizzuto@caloptima.org
714-246-8837

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CALOPTIMA HEALTH PROVIDES NALOXONE IN ONGOING OVERDOSE PREVENTION EFFORT

Provider organizations will boost access to the life-saving medication; more naloxone is available

ORANGE, Calif. (July 22, 2024) — To combat the growing fentanyl epidemic, CalOptima Health recently distributed more than 16,000 free doses of naloxone during an event in Orange where representatives from doctor offices, hospitals and community organizations attended. The participants picked up the medication in cases and committed to speeding the life-saving medication into the hands of CalOptima Health members as a tool to prevent accidental opioid overdoses.

The event was part of CalOptima Health’s Drive to Revive campaign, a Board of Directors-approved effort to arm members and community members with nasal spray doses of Kloxxado, naloxone’s brand name, and information on how to use it. CalOptima Health has distributed naloxone at six prior health fairs as well.



“The fentanyl and opioid overdose epidemic can affect anyone, and naloxone can make all the difference in an emergency situation, just like a defibrillator for cardiac arrest or epinephrine for an allergic reaction,” said Richard Pitts, D.O., Ph.D., CalOptima Health’s Chief Medical Officer. “Our free distribution program enables CalOptima Health to put this lifesaving medicine in more hands when seconds count to save someone’s life.”

More Free Naloxone Available to Providers and Community Organizations

- Email naloxone@caloptima.org with the name and email address of your organization’s authorized representative, who will complete an electronic distribution agreement. Once that person completes the agreement, CalOptima Health will deliver the naloxone during business hours.
- For questions about the naloxone distribution program, email naloxone@caloptima.org.

About CalOptima Health

A county organized health system, CalOptima Health provides quality health care coverage for low-income children, adults, seniors and people with disabilities in Orange County, California. CalOptima Health’s mission is to serve member health with excellence and dignity, respecting the value and needs of each person. CalOptima Health serves more than 923,000 members with a network of 11,200 primary care doctors and specialists and 40 acute and rehab hospitals.