

OPTIC-Vetted Naloxone Policy Data

This is the final documentation for the Naloxone Access law variables (1990-2017) included in the OPTIC Vetted Policy Data Warehouse.

Specific dimensions of naloxone policy data included in this public version of the data are based on a review of relevant protections granted through different variations of these laws as described in:

- Davis, C. S., & Carr, D. (2015). Legal changes to increase access to naloxone for opioid overdose reversal in the United States. *Drug and alcohol dependence*, 157, 112-120.
- Davis, C., & Carr, D. (2017). State legal innovations to encourage naloxone dispensing. *Journal of the American Pharmacists Association*, 57(2), S180-S184.

Unless specified otherwise, information was obtained from PDAPS (originally downloaded May 27, 2016, and redownloaded March 4, 2020), with a few modifications made in consultation with Corey Davis (who was also consulting with PDAPS to update their laws).

Constructed Variables Contained in Analytic Files

Variable Name	description
any_nal	Fraction of year any type of Naloxone law is effective
nal_protocol_standing	Fraction of year state has an effective Naloxone law allowing distribution through a standing or protocol order
nal_Rx_prescriptive_auth	Fraction of year state has an effective Naloxone law allowing pharmacists prescriptive authority
date_any_nal	Date (MY) any type of Naloxone law effective
date_nal_protocol_standing	Date (MY) Naloxone law allowing distribution through a standing or protocol order effective
date_nal_Rx_prescriptive_auth	Date (MY) Naloxone law allowing pharmacists prescriptive authority effective

Fractions are calculated based on the number of months out of 12 that a law is effective. A law is considered effective for a given month

- if a law becomes effective by the 7th for January
- if a law becomes effective by the 3rd for February – December

These naloxone variables can be found in the following data files:

- Excel File: WEB_NAL.xls
- Stata File: WEB_NAL.dta

Last Updated: July 29, 2020

Please cite the use of these data as "RAND-USC Schaeffer Opioid Policy Tools and Information Center. [YEAR]. OPTIC-Vetted Naloxone Policy Data. Obtained from <https://www.rand.org/health-care/centers/optic/resources/datasets.html> on [DOWNLOAD DATE]."

Notes on effective dates:

- In Iowa, the legislature adopted two different bills (one house bill and one senate bill) regarding this section, both with an effective date of May 27, 2016. However, one amended the section and made those amendments retroactive to April 6, 2016. However, given no action could be taken on the retroactive date, we assume the PDAPS effective date of 5/27/2016 – thus, it is coded as June 2016.
- In Jan 2008, California piloted naloxone programs in several counties (including the most populous LA and SF). However, this was not expanded statewide until January 2014. PDAPS uses the pilot date for the first law (2008), which is what we use here for "any NAL." However, one could make the argument that the 2014 date is preferable.