The Danish Naloxone Scheme

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Oktober 2014
Data presented with the permission from The Danish Naloxone Project
Background for introduction of national Naloxone scheme

Reasons leading to decision on national Naloxone scheme

• Political agenda: Focus on harm reduction
• High level of DRD`s 1994-2011, 250-275 annually (2012 drop to 210)
• Positive results from Naloxone pilot project in Copenhagen
• In 2011 still a high number of opioid related OD’s, which was the number that was known when the decision was taken in 2012
• The national scheme came to action in March 2013.
Framework

Objective
• To reduce harm, injuries and adverse health effects of non-fatal ODs
• To develop stable and sustainable organizations for OD prevention in the participating municipalities with connection to existing drug treatment systems

Participants
Opioid users and other potential OD bystanders, e.g. family, relatives and friends, social service agency staff

Setting
4 municipalities in Denmark with a street scene for opioid drug use
National project organization with leadership and data collection in Copenhagen

30.10.2014
Intervention

1. Production of training manual and Naloxone kit

2. Training of trainers

3. Training of participants/target population
   - Engagement of emergency services
   - Delivery of nasal Naloxone
   - Observation
   - Implications of acting as the doctors assistant
   - How to recognise and respond to overdose
   - Resuscitation/rescue breathing
   - After training:
     - a Naloxone kit
     - 3 pieces of paper: certificate, action card and data card

30.10.2014
Present situation

- 100 persons have been trained as trainers
- 121 users have been trained
- 121 Naloxone kits have been distributed
- 7 instances of reported Naloxone use

30.10.2014
Highlights

• There has been a great local interest for the project
• The training situation makes a suitable situation for discussing other health issues than OD’s
• Naloxone as a prescription drug leads to heavy organizational burdens
• Users are difficult to make appointments with (for training)
• We will not be able to evaluate cost-effectiveness on OD death prevention in Denmark because there has been taken so many initiatives in the last years and there was a remarkable drop in DRD’s before the project began.
Thank you for your attention!

- Thanks to the national project for allowing data presentation.