Fortunately, **naloxone** is an effective medication that can reverse an opioid overdose and restore breathing within minutes if administered in a timely manner. However, with multiple products on the market, it can be challenging for grassroots organizations, government agencies, and policymakers to know which to prioritize and supply to consumers.

In short, we recommend policymakers keep legislative language broad so that those engaged in bulk purchasing and direct service and distribution can cater to their clients’ changing needs.

The following graphic provides some guidelines to help bulk purchasers identify which products might be most suitable for their specific consumer audiences. These recommendations are intended to help purchasers and distributors prioritize certain products—not for medical guidance. Witnesses to an overdose should administer whatever naloxone formulation they have available according to product instructions, engage in rescue breathing, and call 911 for follow-up medical support.

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**PRODUCT BUYING PRIORITY FOR EACH CONSUMER CHARACTERISTIC**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CONSUMER CHARACTERISTICS</th>
<th>Standard Dose Injectable</th>
<th>High Dose Injectable</th>
<th>Standard Dose Intranasal</th>
<th>High Dose Intranasal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Opioid Dependent Recipient</td>
<td>PRIORITY PURCHASE</td>
<td>ONLY OPTION PURCHASE</td>
<td>PRIORITY PURCHASE</td>
<td>ONLY OPTION PURCHASE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opioid Dependent Recipient</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>PRIORITY PURCHASE</td>
<td>PRIORITY PURCHASE</td>
<td>PRIORITY PURCHASE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrator Comfortable With Needles</td>
<td>PRIORITY PURCHASE</td>
<td>PRIORITY PURCHASE</td>
<td>PRIORITY PURCHASE</td>
<td>PRIORITY PURCHASE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrator Comfortable With Needles</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>PRIORITY PURCHASE+</td>
<td>PRIORITY PURCHASE+</td>
<td>PRIORITY PURCHASE+</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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1. Organizations that distribute naloxone report that providing basic training helps needle-wary individuals become comfortable giving an emergency injection.
2. It is difficult to know if a naloxone recipient is truly opioid naïve.
3. Standard-dose naloxone should be prioritized for people who use opioids on a regular basis, but overdose rescuers should administer the naloxone available to them—even high-dose formulations.

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VIEW THE COMPREHENSIVE ANALYSIS HERE.