Naloxone is a medicine that temporarily reverses the effects of opioid overdose. It can be obtained by prescription or from a pharmacist.

Naloxone has no effect other than reversing opioid overdose – it cannot be misused to get high.

As of April 2017, Naloxone comes in:

a) single-dose ampoules or b) a five-dose prefilled syringe known as Prenoxad

People carrying naloxone may need to carry needles to administer the medicine. People carrying the ampoule version also need to carry syringes.

Penington Institute’s COPE program supports doctors to prescribe naloxone to at-risk patients and potential overdose witnesses (such as their families, friends and loved ones).

Victoria Police is part of COPE’s high-level reference group, along with Ambulance Victoria, the Australian Medical Association and other organisations.

For more information, contact Penington Institute on 03 9650 0699 or visit penington.org.au