

NaloxOne



An Innovative Solution Designed and Manufactured in Quebec to Respond to Opioid Overdoses

Sterinova of St-Hyacinthe launches its Ready-to-Administer syringe NaloxOne – an easy-to-use, fast, and safe solution

May 12, 2025, St-Hyacinthe — As opioid overdose deaths in Quebec surged by 33% in 2024, Saint-Hyacinthe-based Sterinova is launching NaloxOne, a sterile, single-dose, Ready-to-Administer naloxone hydrochloride syringe that is quick and easy for anyone to use. Naloxone is a medication that reverses the effects of an opioid overdose, providing enough time for first responders to intervene. NaloxOne is approved by Health Canada.

The new product is available free of charge in all pharmacies, without a prescription, to all Quebecers aged 14 and over, with or without a health insurance card.

Only 12% of the generic pharmaceutical products consumed by Canadians are manufactured in Canada. Currently, health authorities in Quebec and other Canadian provinces spend tens of millions of dollars on their free naloxone distribution programs. A significant portion of this market—representing over three million doses annually in Canada—benefits American companies. However, Sterinova’s production capacity, which amounts to several million units annually, is more than sufficient to meet the needs of all provincial health services in Canada.

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Currently, naloxone is available in vials or ampoules (to be transferred into a syringe) or as a nasal spray. Sterinova’s brand-new [NaloxOne](#) device is safe and easy to administer. It requires no assembly or training and is used intuitively, like an epinephrine auto-injector. It is a single subcutaneous and/or intramuscular injection of a fixed 0.4 mg dose of naloxone.

“Of course, all forms of naloxone are useful, but some formats are more delicate to administer or require medical knowledge. In any place and under any circumstances, there should be quick access to naloxone to easily perform emergency treatment during an opioid overdose. Let’s remember that 77% of opioid overdoses occur at home in Montreal.” says Bernard Bouchard, registered nurse and clinical support manager at Sterinova.

A Ready-to-Administer Syringe

- Pre-dosed, precise, fast, and easy for anyone to use;
- 100% developed and manufactured in Quebec;
- Positively impacts provincial budgets, related to the management of the opioid crisis:
 - Lower cost than increasingly prioritized nasal sprays, coming from the U.S. or elsewhere;
 - Offers a distribution option in a single package, without additional materials or kits that generate extra costs;
 - Safer than ampoules and vials;
 - Ensures full dose absorption by the patient;
 - Reduces the risk of severe withdrawal symptoms;
- Can be stored for 48 months at room temperature;
- Can withstand five freeze-thaw cycles.

“The ease and speed of use of NaloxOne represent a major advancement in democratizing naloxone in all settings. Moreover, by choosing our products, hospitals and pharmacies support local, responsible purchasing while also reducing their budgets,” adds Bernard Bouchard.

About Sterinova

Sterinova was founded in 2012 by two Quebec pharmacists with a mission to develop innovative formats of generic drugs to increase the safety of high-risk medications for users and handling personnel. The use of ready-to-administer injectable products reduces medication errors, contamination during preparation, and the risk of harm to patients. It also offers workflow benefits for nurses and pharmacists and significantly contributes to reducing hospital waste.

Founded in 2012 by two Quebec pharmacists, Sterinova aims to develop innovative formats of generic drugs to enhance the safety of high-risk medications for both users and handling personnel. Ready-to-Administer injectable products minimize medication errors, contamination during preparation, and patient harm. Additionally, they improve workflow efficiency for nurses and pharmacists and significantly reduce hospital waste.

Sterinova’s products are well-received in Canadian hospitals for their economic, ecological, and effective qualities. Over 75% of Canadian hospitals use Sterinova products. The company employs nearly 100 people in Saint-Hyacinthe and complies with the rigorous standards of Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP). Its production capacity reaches several million units annually.

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