

# Shining The Light on a Public Health Crisis: Utilizing Education to Prevent Opioid Overdoses

LincolnHealth Obstetrics Unit

LincolnHealth-MaineHealth

## ABSTRACT

The problem of opioid overdose has only worsened over time. Overdose deaths increased 20% in 2020-2021. Thirteen percent of pregnancy associated deaths in 2020 were due to opioid overdose, and 2/3 of Maine's women who died 12 months post partum were identified as substance users. The universal postpartum Naloxone project has 3 goals. The aim of the project is improved collaboration between community, public health, and recovery services will led to greater access of resources to those individuals in need. This poster will explain the steps the LH OB team took to bring this initiative forward.

## OBJECTIVES

1. Educate hospital staff and providers on harm reduction, effects of substance use, stigma and discrimination, Overdose prevention
2. Increase Naloxone saturation in the community by providing naloxone to post partum people as part of a family first aid kit
3. Improve coordination with community recovery resources through referrals for these services

## Methods

- Every post partum person is provided a Naloxone containing first aid kit prior to hospital discharge
- Nursing staff educates post partum person on Naloxone use
- The first aid kit contains instructions on recovery resources and poison control magnet
- Naloxone use instructions and supplies for newborn care
- Post partum people may decline, but naloxone education emphasis provide the take home kit not just offering it



## RESULTS

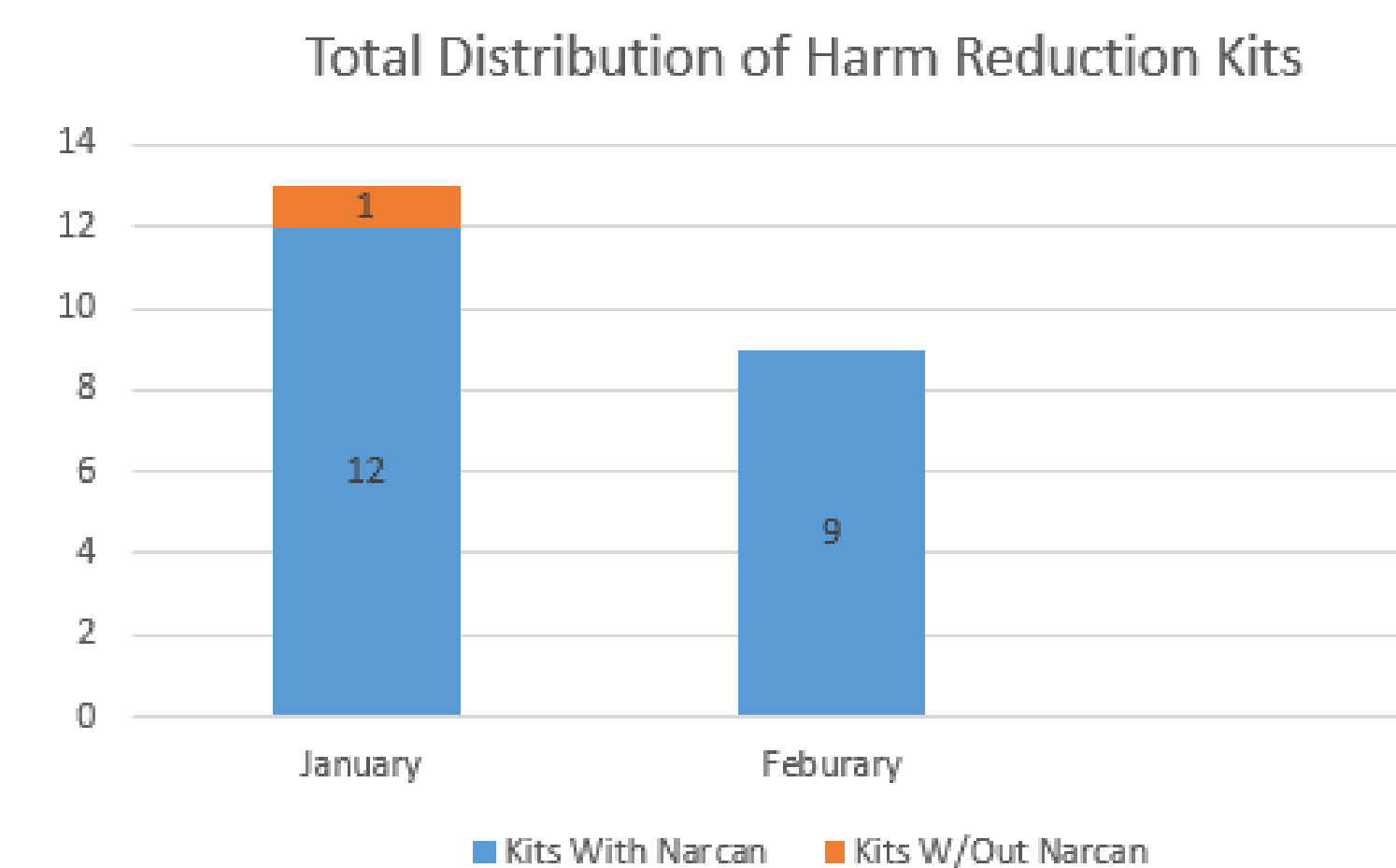


Table 1. LincolnHealth began initiative on January 1, 2023.

## Conclusions

Educating OB staff and providers on implicit bias and harm reduction activities promoted universal overdose education and acceptance of home first aid kits containing Naloxone. There has been overwhelming positive response to the initiative. Furthermore, gaining widespread interest across northern New England.

## REFERENCES

Naliboff, Jay A. MD, FACOG; Tharpe, Nell CNM, MS, FACNM. Universal Postpartum Naloxone Provision: A Harm Reduction Quality Improvement Project. Journal of Addiction Medicine (J):10.1097/ADM.0000000000001118, December 6, 2022. | DOI: 10.1097/ADM.0000000000001118

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Franklin Medical Center launched program May 1, 2021

### Provider Engagement

- During prenatal care visits

### Community Collaboration

- Health Lincoln County
- Ongoing staff education
- Provide Free development of kits
- Roll play dialogue

### Patient & Family Education

- Education for use of Narcan
- Removing the bias
- Education focused on the unintentional as well as intentional overdose