

# NIDA Case Study: ROI for Naloxone/Narcan®

Federal investment in Naloxone R&D has yielded one of the most cost-effective and impactful public health tools in modern history



**Federal Investment:** ~\$54 million annually to distribute Naloxone/Narcan®, totaling ~\$380 million since 2017 following the federal declaration of the opioid epidemic



**Lives Saved:** ~100,000 lives saved since 2017; 27,000 lives saved in 2024 alone

- 1 life saved per 14 doses distributed
- \$1 trillion in economic value since 2017 (*\$10M statistical value of a life, VSL*)



**Public Health Savings:** >\$100 billion annually since 2017 from decreased:

- EMS calls, hospitalizations, and ICU stays
- Productivity loss
- Incarceration and court costs



**Market Value of Naloxone/Narcan®:** \$7–9 billion in sales (2017-2024)

Development of new interventions:

- Nalmefene/Opvee® - long-acting antagonist for opioid overdose (FDA approved in 2023)
- Zimhi® - high-dose naloxone injection for EMS/community response

## Bottom-Line

**Naloxone/Narcan® Works:**

**Public Investment Delivers Over \$1.4 Billion Annually in Value  
ROI Estimate of ~5,000%**