



Green Cross for Safety® Awards 2025 Finalist | Advocate

Emergent BioSolutions Case Study

Opioid poisoning fatalities continue to rise in the workplace. The number of drug overdose deaths at work has risen every year since 2012, accounting for almost 10% of all occupational injury deaths. Yet only 17% of employers report being extremely well-prepared to address this issue according to a National Safety Council survey.

In 2024, following over-the-counter approval and availability of NARCAN® Nasal Spray, Emergent began working with businesses to prepare for accidental opioid emergencies. Through outreach and education, Emergent sought to increase access to this potentially life-saving solution in workplaces including job sites, brick and mortar stores, airlines, hospitality venues and other locations, where emergency response tools such as AED kits are commonplace.

In its own offices and facilities, Emergent installed more than 40 opioid emergency wall units near first aid stations and AEDs and provided over 1,300 cartons of the product to its employees. In addition, Emergent's national awareness campaign, *Ready to Rescue*, has handed out more than 2,700 opioid emergency kits containing one carton of the product and educational resources across several college campuses and public venues.

Since Emergent began focusing on these efforts, there's increased momentum for workplace opioid overdose preparedness. Over 250 organizations across the country have made public commitments to increase training on, and access to, life-saving opioid overdose reversal medications. Emergent's goal is to normalize having naloxone on hand—like any other over-the-counter medications—and is making great strides in doing so.