



John Nygren

WISCONSIN STATE REPRESENTATIVE ★ 89TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

Co-Chair, Joint Committee on Finance

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Contact: Rep. John Nygren

September 30, 2015
(888) 534-0089

CVS Pharmacies in Wisconsin to Offer Narcan Without Prescription

Madison – Today, Representative John Nygren (R- Marinette) released the following statement applauding the decision for certain CVS pharmacies in Wisconsin to offer the lifesaving anti-overdose drug Narcan without a prescription:

“I am proud of the steps we are taking in Wisconsin to combat our state’s heroin and opiate epidemic. Last year, I authored seven bills that became the foundation of the Heroin, Opiate Prevention and Education (HOPE) Agenda. One of these bills increased access to Narcan -- a lifesaving drug that is used by first responders to reverse the effects of an overdose.

“Now, CVS has announced that they will soon be offering Narcan without a prescription at certain pharmacies throughout Wisconsin. This will provide quicker access to this lifesaving drug when it is needed most – at the site of an overdose. There is no doubt that this change will save lives.

“Expanding access to Narcan will not be the silver bullet that fixes our state’s heroin and opiate problem, but it’s an important step in the right direction. If this change saves just one life, it’s worth it.

“This session, we are building upon our legislative effort to fight this epidemic by offering four additional HOPE Agenda bills aimed at curtailing prescription opiate abuse and addiction. We look forward to continuing to work with the medical community, law enforcement, my colleagues in the legislature, and advocates throughout the state to help combat this problem.”

CVS announced that they plan to have Narcan available to the public without a prescription at certain pharmacies in Wisconsin, as well as 11 other states, by the end of this month.

There have been some concerns raised regarding the legality of dispensing Narcan with a standing order. We will work with the Attorney General and the Department of Justice to find a solution.

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