



FACT SHEET:

Making Prescription Drugs More Affordable

Governor Newsom announces a new CalRx contract to bring \$30 insulin to Californians, and that California will seek to manufacture Naloxone next.

WHY THIS MATTERS: On Governor Newsom's first day in office, he signed an executive order taking on Big Pharma and leveraging California's market power to bring down the cost of prescription drugs. Today's announcement of \$30 insulin through CalRx will bring down the price of insulin by 90%, saving many patients between \$2,000 and \$4,000 a year. California will next use this same model to manufacture Naloxone as part of Governor Newsom's master plan to fight the opioid crisis.

Increased Insulin Affordability and Access:

- A 10mL vial will be made available for no more than \$30 (normally \$300).
- A box of 5 pre-filled 3mL pens will be made available for no more than \$55 (normally more than \$500).
- No new prescription will be needed. Californians will be able to ask for the CalRx generic at their local pharmacy or via mail order pharmacies.
- CalRx plans to make biosimilar insulins available for: Glargine, Aspart, and Lispro (expected to be interchangeable with Lantus, Humalog, and Novolog respectively).

With CalRx, and unlike private companies, we're getting at the underlying cost – the price is the price. It'll cost us \$30 to manufacture and distribute, and that's how much the consumer can buy it for. You don't need a voucher or coupon to access this price, and it's available to everybody regardless of insurance plan. This is a crucial step in not just cutting the cost for the consumer, but cutting costs across the board in order to bring cheaper prescription drugs to all Californians.

What Comes Next:

- CIVICA is working with the California Health and Human Services Agency to identify a potential California-based manufacturing facility.
- California is exploring bringing Naloxone to the market next – as part of California's Master Fentanyl Plan.

Governor Newsom's Master Plan for Tackling the Fentanyl and Opioid Crisis:

This Plan is a multi-pronged approach that works to:

- **Crack down** and prevent drug-trafficking transnational criminal organizations – through the California National Guard;
- **Reduce and Prevent Overdoses** by making Naloxone and fentanyl test strips more available; and
- **Raise Awareness** through the state's opioid task force, youth opioid education campaigns, expanded trainings, and seeking additional innovative proposals from organizations on the ground.

California has **invested over \$1 billion in funding to fight the opioid crisis** by removing opioids from the streets, providing resources to communities in need, and increasing education and awareness about the dangers of opioids to prevent harm in the first place.

This announcement expands on Governor's Newsom's efforts already underway to get overdose medication to all middle and high schools across the state.