

1  **Nasal Naloxone Administration Training**

2  **What is naloxone?**

- Naloxone is a medication that reverses the effects of an opioid in the body, which can be used to treat an opioid overdose

3  **What can cause an opioid overdose?**

- Opioids are a class of medications and drugs which cause intoxication, sleepiness, and decrease respiratory effort. When high doses of opioids are taken, breathing may stop – which can cause death.
- Examples of opioids include
  - Heroin
  - Codine (also known as Tylenol #3 or Tylenol #4)
  - Hydrocodone (also known as Norco, Vicodin, or Lortab)
  - Fentanyl (also known as Actiq, Subsys, Duragesic, Sublimaze)
  - Hydromorphone (also known as Dilaudid)
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4  **What can cause an opioid overdose?**

- More examples of opioids include
  - Demerol
  - Oxycodone (also known as Oxycontin, Percocet, or Roxicodone)
  - Morphine (also known as MS contin, Kadian)
  - Oxymorphone (also known as Opana)
  - Tramadol (also known as Ultram)
  - Buprenorphine (also known as Butrans, Subutex, Suboxone)
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5  **What does an opioid overdose look like?**

- Fortunately, all of the different opioid produce the same effects in overdose (so you don't have to worry about all the names)
- Signs of overdose on opioids:
  - Unresponsiveness
  - Small pupils
  - Slow breathing
  - Gurgling, shallow, or absent breathing

6  **Other signs that suggest overdose**

- What are other signs that a person may be unresponsive from an opioid overdose?
  - Bystander or family/friend history
  - Drug paraphernalia on scene
  - Empty prescription drug bottles on scene
  - The presence of medical patches on the body or in the person's possession

7  **What type of overdose will naloxone not treat?**

- Meth
- Valium
- Xanax
- Alcohol
- Soma

- - Naloxone will ONLY reverse an overdose from an opioid
- 8  **Personal protection**
- Standard protocols for scene safety should be followed at all times
  - Standard protocols for personal protective equipment for a medical call should be followed at all times
  - As a nasal spray is used, there is no risk of a needlestick exposure
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  - As a side effect of opiate withdrawal caused by naloxone, people receiving the drug may vomit
    - To avoid any exposure, once nasal naloxone is given, patients – if safety allows – should be rolled onto their side in the recovery position – with the mouth aimed away from the officer
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- 9  **Indications for naloxone**
- A person who is unresponsive, breathing slowly, or not breathing at all – with the cause known or suspected to be an opioid overdose
- 10  **Contraindications to naloxone**
- Allergy to naloxone
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  - How would I know this?
    - Look for a medic alert band on the patient's wrist that may suggest an allergy
    - Ask any bystanders on scene or family for a history of naloxone allergy
  - How common is this?
    - Extremely rare
    - No reported cases in the National Library of Medicine Database between 1975-2017
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  - Don't hold back out of fear of a possible allergy!
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- 11  **Side effects of naloxone**
- In patients, chronically on opioids, treatment of an opioid overdose with naloxone can induce opioid withdrawal
  - Symptoms may include
    - Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea
    - Sweating, Goosebumps
    - Yawning, Sneezing
    - Anxiety, Irritability
    - A transient elevation in blood pressure
- 12  **Side effects of naloxone**
- If naloxone is given to a person who does not have opioids in their system – there are no clinical effects
- 13  **Dosing and administration**
- Nasal naloxone comes in a pre-packaged nasal spray, containing 4 mg
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  - How to give it:
    - If you suspect a person is unresponsive or not breathing from an opioid overdose, administer the entire contents of one nasal spray into one nostril
    - If there is no response in 2 minutes, provide a second dose into the other nostril
- 14  **Mechanisms of Drug Action**

- Naloxone works in the body at site where opioid molecules bind to opioid receptors
- Naloxone removes the opioid from the receptor, and binds to the receptor, blocking the effects of opioids

15  **Medical asepsis**

- As naloxone is given as a nasal spray without needles, there is no need for any pre-treatment with any sort of aseptic compound

16  **Disposal of used items**

- After a nasal spray unit is used, it should be placed back in the packaging, and returned to the department station for inventory purposes
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- The used spray unit and packaging can be thrown away in any trash receptacle out of the reach of children

17  **<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hGVSaO1oxpg&t=334s>**

Training video from Adept Pharma, the maker of Nasal Narcan Spray

18  **Tips on administration**

- As many users of heroin use needles, officers should make sure there are no needles on the ground or on the victim that could injure the officers before administering nasal naloxone
  - Routine safety procedures and precautions should be followed
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- Administration of naloxone nasal spray is not a substitute for Emergency Medical Care
  - All patients receiving nasal naloxone must be assessed by EMS providers

19  **Tips on administration**

- In patients chronically on opioids, administration of naloxone can precipitate withdrawal
  - For this reason, to avoid unnecessary withdrawal – do not administer naloxone to patients who are simply intoxicated
  - Naloxone is indicated for life-threatening overdose – such as when a patient is unresponsive, breathing poorly, or not breathing at all
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- If someone is dying from an overdose, do not hold back out of fear of causing withdrawal – as without naloxone, death may occur.

20  **Law Enforcement Use of Naloxone Policy**

- EMS System Policy 4512
- Prescribes procedure to administer naloxone
  - Recognize opioid overdose
  - Ensure EMS responds
  - Good First Aid, Rescue Breathing, and CPR, if indicated
  - Administer naloxone
  - Report use of naloxone to EMS Agency
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21  **Post Use Reporting**

- Report through chain of command to EMS Agency within 48 hours
  - Department and Officer Information
  - Tracking Information
  - Initial Assessment
  - Treatment
  - Assessment After Treatment
- Protected Health Information (confidential)

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