Naloxone Standing Order:

Moose Style

July 2016

Prepared by: Shannon Rudolph and Cody Clifton
Who is an “Eligible Candidate?”

What do I do when I recognize an “Eligible Candidate?”

What do I dispense? What do I include in a naloxone kit?

What do I include in counseling?

How do I bill naloxone?
Who is an “Eligible Candidate?”

- Current/history of heroin or nonmedical opioid use
- History of emergency medical care involving opioid poisoning/intoxication/overdose
- Persons with a high dose opioid prescription (>50 morphine mg equivalents daily)
- Persons with an opioid prescription and known or suspected concurrent alcohol use
- Recent discharge from opioid detox or abstinence-based program
- Patients entering methadone maintenance treatment (addiction or pain)
- Persons with opioid prescription and smoking/COPD or other respiratory illness or obstruction
- Persons with an opioid prescription who also suffer from renal dysfunction, hepatic disease, cardiac disease, HIV/AIDS
- Persons who may have difficulty accessing emergency medical services
- Persons enrolled in prescription lock in programs
- Persons who voluntarily request naloxone and are the family member or friend of a person at risk of experiencing an opiate-related overdose
- Persons who voluntarily request naloxone and are in the position to assist a person at risk of experiencing an opiate-related overdose
- Concurrent benzodiazepine prescription with opioid prescription (also sleep aids, muscle relaxants)
- Multiple physicians and pharmacies
- Households with member(s) who take opioid medications which include small children and/or teenagers
Who is an “Eligible Candidate?”
Patient Identification

Who is accountable?

- **Pharmacists**
  - Identify patients during prescription filling, CIPAs, and MTM sessions (see previous list: patients who are on chronic opioid therapy, etc)
  - Attach an opioid identification card with each identified patient’s label
  - Educate patients that are identified as Eligible Candidates on the uses and benefits of naloxone
  - Counsel patients

- **Technicians**
  - Review patient profile when filling or refilling prescriptions
  - Attach an opioid identification card with each identified patient’s label to be noticed by pharmacist
  - Document in the patient profile if not receptive
  - Inform the pharmacist of non-receptive patient so the pharmacist can reassess patient’s willingness

- **Cashiers**
  - Recognize the opioid identification card that is attached to the patient’s bag at check out and inform the pharmacist
What do I do when I recognize an “Eligible Candidate?”

Patient or patient’s family member or friend may pick up the naloxone kit for the patient. Bill to the intended patient.

Fax primary care provider within the same business day to ensure they are aware of naloxone dispensing.

COUNSEL, COUNSEL, COUNSEL

Avoid stigma: “Overdose” may turn off or scare patient

Patients underestimate their risk: “Opioids can slow or some times stop your breathing”

Non-judgmental, less scary, use their language

I want to improve the safety of your pain medication.

Has your spouse ever mentioned you snoring or being hard to awake?

“Just in case”

In case you have an unexpected reaction
Talking Points for Dispensing Naloxone

1. Patients that are on high-dose opioids or opioids in combination with benzodiazepines or muscle relaxants:
   - “Improves the safety of your pain medication…”
   - “Sometimes the risks are underestimated with opioids”
   - “In case you accidentally double up on a dose…”
   - “The combination of these medications (or the addition of one of these medications) can slow your breathing, which can be dangerous or even deadly…”
   - “As our bodies get older, these medications can accumulate in the body and cause problems that they may not have in the past…”

2. Patients that are known opioid abusers
   - These patients generally know about naloxone, but may not ask for it due to stigma
   - Can use the same talking points listed above

3. Patients with young children in the household
   - “In case a young child accidentally got into the medicine…”
   - “In case of an emergency…”
### What do I dispense? / What do I include in a naloxone kit?

#### Intranasal naloxone (generic) Kit
- Two naloxone 2 mg/2 mL pre-filled syringes
- 2 atomizers
- Patient Information sheet which includes step-by-step instructions for responding to an opioid overdose and directions for naloxone administration
- Label kit with prescription label after billing

#### Narcan® (naloxone) Kit
- Two-pack of single use intranasal devices with each container containing 4 mg/0.1 mL for a total volume of 8 mg/0.2 mL
- Patient Information sheet which includes step-by-step instructions for responding to an opioid overdose and directions for naloxone administration
- Label kit with prescription label after billing
What do I include in counseling?

### Signs & Symptoms of an Overdose:
- Unconscious or unresponsive
- Slowed or shallow breathing (breathing may sound like “gurgling”)
- Blue lips or nailbeds
- Pinpoint pupils
- Clammy skin

### What is Inside the Naloxone Kit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INTRANASAL NALOXONE (GENERIC)</th>
<th>NARCAN®</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Two 2mg/2mL pre-filled syringes, atomizers</td>
<td>Two-pack of 4mg/0.1mL intranasal device</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patient instructions and education</td>
<td>Patient instructions and education</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Administration:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INTRANASAL NALOXONE (GENERIC)</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pull or pry off yellow caps of syringe</td>
<td>Peel back tab to open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pry off red cap of naloxone capsule</td>
<td>Hold nasal spray with thumb on plunger; first and middle fingers on either side of the nozzle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grip clear plastic wings and connect to syringe</td>
<td>Insert nozzle into one nostril and firmly press plunger to give dose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Screw capsule of naloxone into barrel of syringe (completes the 3-piece assembly)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insert white cone into nostril; give a short, vigorous push on end of capsule to spray naloxone into nose: one half of the capsule</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If no response in 2-5 minutes, repeat dose. It is VERY IMPORTANT to still seek medical attention as naloxone wears off

### Adverse Effects:
- Nausea and/or vomiting
- Anxiety and/or combativeness
- Increased heart rate
- Fever and/or sweating
- Runny nose, tearing of eyes, chills
- Muscle discomfort and/or body aches
How Do I Bill Naloxone?

The 2 atomizers needed for administration are billed separately and directly to the patient.

Use Moose Prescription Plan Pricing Rules

For cash-paying customers.
How Do I Bill Narcan®?

As of July 2016, NC Medicaid pays for Narcan®

Use Moose Prescription Plan Pricing Rules

For cash-paying customers

Use Dr. Randall Williams since he signed the NC Standing Order

For brand, bill Narcan® 2-pack

Bill for each device for a total quantity = 2

Use built-in sig “naloxone”
Possible side effects include sweatiness, shakiness, anxiety, nausea, or vomiting as they go through withdrawal. It is very important to get emergency help so that the overdose symptoms as overdose symptoms may come back as the naloxone wears off.
**Patient Information: Narcan®**

### What Increases the Risk for an Overdose?
- Taking opioids after a period of time of not being on opioids
- Mixing opioids with certain other medicines, illegal drugs, or with alcohol
- Taking high doses of opioids
- Previous overdose event
- Having kidney, liver, or breathing problems

### What Are the Signs of an Overdose?
- Unconscious or unresponsive
- Slowed or shallow breathing (breathing may sound like “gurgling”)
- Blue lips or nailbeds
- Pinpoint pupils
- Clammy skin

### If You Suspect Someone is Having an Overdose:
1. Call 9-1-1
2. Give naloxone
3. Follow the 9-1-1 dispatcher’s instructions
4. Give a second dose in 3-5 minutes if there is no response
5. Make sure they receive emergency medical help!

### How Do I Give Narcan®?

1. Open NARCAN® Nasal Spray and peel back tab to open.
2. Hold nasal spray with thumb on plunger and first and middle finger on either side of nozzle.
3. Insert nozzle into one nostril and press plunger firmly with thumb to give dose of NARCAN®. If no response after 2-5 minutes, open second NARCAN® and spray in other nostril.

Possible side effects include sweating, shakiness, anxiety, nausea, or vomiting as they go through withdrawal. It is very important to get emergency help so that the overdose symptoms as overdose symptoms may come back as the NARCAN® wears off.