

## STOP OVERDOSE



**Overdose deaths in North Dakota increased from 20 deaths in 2013 to 61 deaths in 2015.**

CDC/NCHS, National Vital Statistics System, Mortality

**Naloxone competitively binds opioid receptors and is the antidote to acute opioid toxicity. With proper education, patients on long-term opioid therapy and others at risk may benefit from a naloxone prescription.**

**Consider prescribing intranasal spray or auto-injector naloxone to patients who are:**

- Taking high doses of opioids for long-term pain management
- Receiving rotating opioid medication regimens (at risk for incomplete cross-tolerance)
- Using opioids for legitimate medical need, coupled with a suspected or confirmed history of substance use disorder or non-medical use of prescription or illicit opioids
- Using a combination of opioids plus a benzodiazepine or other sedative
- Combining opioids with alcohol, OTC, or other central nervous system depressants
- Recently released from incarceration or an abstinent based program (and presumably with a reduced opioid tolerance and high risk of relapse)
- On certain opioid preparations that may increase risk for opioid overdose such as extended release/long-acting preparations

**Most private health insurance plans, Medicare, and Medicaid cover naloxone for the treatment of opioid overdose.**

## LEGAL AND LIABILITY CONSIDERATIONS

Prescribing naloxone is consistent with the drug's FDA-approved indication, resulting in no increased liability so long as the prescriber adheres to general rules of professional conduct.

**You are protected under North Dakota law:**

North Dakota offers immunity from civil and criminal liability to individuals who prescribe, distribute, dispense, receive, possess, or administer an opioid antagonist under North Dakota Century Code 23-01-42.

Source: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. SAMHSA Opioid Overdose Prevention Toolkit. HHS Publication No. (SMA) 16-4742. Rockville, MD: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, 2016.



For more information, visit  
[prevention.nd.gov/stopoverdose](http://prevention.nd.gov/stopoverdose)

Created in partnership with the Reducing Pharmaceutical Narcotics in our Communities Task Force

NORTH DAKOTA  
**PREVENTION**  
RESOURCE & MEDIA CENTER

# NALOXONE PRESCRIBING FOR PHARMACISTS IN NORTH DAKOTA

Prescribing naloxone is a vital link in preventing overdose deaths from opioid pain medications and heroin.

## FOLLOW THESE STEPS TO BECOME A NALOXONE PRESCRIBER

1

Review the revised North Dakota Board of Pharmacy rule at [www.nodakpharmacy.com/pdfs/61-04-12.pdf](http://www.nodakpharmacy.com/pdfs/61-04-12.pdf).

2

Complete one of the available training programs:

- Pharmacist Letter: accessible to any NDSU preceptor or via a subscription to Pharmacists Letter: <https://pharmacistsletter.therapeuticresearch.com/logon.aspx?bu=/ce/ceCourse.aspx?pc=16-242>
- Boston College and SAMHSA Program: [http://www.opioidprescribing.com/naloxone\\_module\\_1-landing](http://www.opioidprescribing.com/naloxone_module_1-landing)
- College of Psychiatric & Neurologic Pharmacists: <https://cpnp.org/guideline/naloxone>
- California Society of Addiction Medicine: <http://www.csam-asam.org/naloxone-resources>
- Prescribe to Prevent Videos for Pharmacists, Prescribers and Patients: <http://prescribetoprevent.org/video/>
- Substance Abuse and Mental Health Service Administration SAMSHA: <http://store.samhsa.gov/product/Opioid-Overdose-Prevention-Toolkit-Updated-2016/SMA16-4742>

3

Sign up as a trained pharmacist by visiting the ND Board of Pharmacy website: [www.nodakpharmacy.com/naloxone.asp](http://www.nodakpharmacy.com/naloxone.asp). Signing up allows the public to access you and your pharmacy when needing a prescription.

4

Help save lives. Prescribe naloxone.

For More Information Please Visit:  
[www.nodakpharmacy.com/naloxone.asp](http://www.nodakpharmacy.com/naloxone.asp)