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 abstinence-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.


For more information, visit prevention.nd.gov/stopoverdose

Created in partnership with the Reducing Pharmaceutical Narcotics in our Communities Task Force
NALOXONE PRESCRIBING FOR PHARMACISTS IN NORTH DAKOTA

FOLLOW THESE STEPS TO BECOME A NALOXONE PRESCRIBER


2. Complete one of the available training programs:
   - Boston College and SAMHSA Program: 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. Signing up allows the public to access you and your pharmacy when needing a prescription.
