

Naloxone Prescription Checklist



Naloxone is a medication approved by the Food and Drug Administration as an antidote to opioid overdose. When administered during an opioid overdose, naloxone can reverse and block the effects of opioids on the brain, and restore breathing. Please note naloxone's formulary availability in the chart below.

Candidates for naloxone may be:

- Receiving/or received emergency medical care involving opioid intoxication or overdose.
- Those with suspected history of substance abuse or nonmedical opioid use.
- Using methadone or buprenorphine for addiction.
- Prescribed a high dose (>50mg morphine equivalents/day) opioid prescription.
- Receiving any opioid prescription, plus:
 - Prescribed an additional opioid especially a long acting product.
 - Diagnosed with COPD, emphysema, asthma, sleep apnea or respiratory infection.
 - Diagnosed with renal dysfunction, hepatic disease, cardiac illness, HIV/AIDS.
 - Known or suspected of concurrent alcohol or tobacco use.
 - A concurrent benzodiazepine or other sedative prescription.
 - A concurrent antidepressant.
- Having difficulties accessing emergency medical services.
- Requesting the drug, or it may be requested by their caregiver.

Important considerations:

- Naloxone only works for an opioid overdose and may temporarily (for approximately 30-45 minutes) reverse opioid overdose to help a person start breathing again. The individual will still need prompt medical care (call 911).
- During an overdose the user cannot react, so someone else will need to administer naloxone.
- Encourage family and significant others to learn how to use naloxone, and where to store the drug.
- Naloxone should be stored at room temperature (59^o to 77^o F), away from light. Avoid extremes of heat or cold (e.g., do not freeze).

Prescribing naloxone:

Naloxone is on Texas Medicaid's Vendor Drug Program's formulary. As of 9/4/2018 formulary preferred products are:

| Product | NDC | Notes |
|------------------------------|-------------|---|
| NALOXONE 0.4 MG/ML CARPUJECT | 00409178269 | This is generally not recommended for use in the out-patient setting due to complicated assembly/directions. Quantity limit is 2 ml per fill. |
| NALOXONE 0.4 MG/ML VIAL | 67457029202 | Quantity limit is 2 ml per fill. |
| NALOXONE 0.4 MG/ML VIAL | 00409121525 | Quantity limit is 2 ml per fill. |
| NALOXONE 0.4 MG/ML VIAL | 00409121501 | Quantity limit is 2 ml per fill. |
| NALOXONE 0.4 MG/ML VIAL | 70069007110 | Quantity limit is 2 ml per fill. |
| NALOXONE 0.4 MG/ML VIAL | 70069007210 | Quantity limit is 2 ml per fill. |
| NARCAN 4MG NASAL SPRAY | 69547035302 | Quantity limit is 1 package of 2 inhalers at 0.2ml per fill. |

Please note: Preferred products can be found at <https://www.txvendordrug.com/formulary/prior-authorization/preferred-drugs>. These products are subject to health plan quantity limit requirements as noted above.

Texas Pharmacist's standing order for naloxone:

For the purpose of facilitating the prescribing of opioid antagonists to combat the effects of opioid overdose, the Texas Pharmacy Association has obtained a physician signed standing order. The standing order authorizes a pharmacist that is active and in good standing with the Texas State Board of Pharmacy to dispense an opioid antagonist to a recipient in any of the currently available naloxone formulations. This order is sanctioned by Texas State Board of Pharmacy Section 295.14. "Dispensing of Opioid Antagonist by Pharmacist".

A Pharmacist may also dispense any other items necessary for the administration of opioid antagonists as determined by the Pharmacist (including, but not limited to, syringes and mucosal atomization devices). Prior to dispensing an opioid antagonist, pursuant to the standing order, a Pharmacist shall complete a course provided by Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education. Thus, both the Provider who may write a prescription for naloxone and the Pharmacist who may use the standing order to dispense the drug may both proactively help get naloxone to members who need it.