

Naloxone Rescue Therapy for Opioid Overdose (16-242)

Needs: Pharmacists should be able to identify patients who are at risk of opioid overdose and who may potentially benefit from life-saving reversal of fatal respiratory depression with naloxone. Pharmacists need to know about the use of naloxone for opioid overdose since they are accessible to patients and can serve as an important resource for patients by furnishing and teaching about the safe and appropriate use of naloxone.

Target Learners: This activity is intended for all pharmacists in any setting. There are no prerequisites for this course.

Goals and Objectives: The goal of this application-based activity is to help pharmacists in all settings develop the skills necessary to assist patients and family members in appropriately using naloxone for opioid overdose. Upon completion of this course, the learner will be able to:

- 1. Explain the risk factors for opioid abuse and overdose and discuss strategies for preventing overdose.
- 2. Identify patients who meet the criteria for the provision of naloxone, and explain how to respond to opioid overdose.
- 3. Give the mechanism, indications, contraindications, safety, any drug interactions, and adverse effects of naloxone rescue therapy.
- 4. Compare the different formulations of intranasal and IM naloxone, including how they are prepared, stored, and administered.
- 5. Explain how a patient will respond to naloxone rescue therapy.
- 6. Discuss managing adverse events following the use of naloxone rescue therapy.
- 7. Recommend support programs and resources for patients and caregivers for follow-up care for opioid use disorder.

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Time to Complete

It should take participants about two hours to read the material and answer the questions.

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Date of Last Review

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