Narcan (naloxone) Distribution

Indications: This protocol provides general guidance for terminal distribution of Narcan.

Purpose: To identify when a provider may furnish Narcan to a patient or family member. This protocol provides information on Narcan, the labeling/receiving requirements, and patient/family member training objectives.

NOTE: This protocol authorizes a provider to distribute Narcan (naloxone) to a patient or their family member as permitted by the Ohio Board of Pharmacy. It is the responsibility of the provider's employing agency as a Terminal Distributor of Dangerous Drugs to comply with all applicable laws or administrative rules regarding the purchase, storage and dispensing of Narcan (naloxone) to patients and their families. This includes the training of all providers outlining the process of distribution and training of the lay person recognition of an overdose and the usage of Narcan (naloxone).

A "provider" is defined as any full-time, uniformed employee of the City of Whitehall Division of Fire, certified as a Paramedic in the State of Ohio.

Directives:

1. Indications for the use of Naloxone - Complete or partial reversal of opioid depression, including respiratory depression, induced by natural opiates or synthetic opioids.
2. Indications for furnishing Narcan (1 or more must apply):
    a. Previous opioid intoxication or overdose
    b. History of nonmedical opioid use
    c. Initiation or cessation of methadone or buprenorphine for opioid use disorder treatment.
    d. Higher dose (≥50 mg morphine equivalent/day) opioid prescription.
    e. Receiving any opioid prescription plus:
        i. Rotated from one opioid to another because of possible incomplete cross-tolerance.
        ii. Smoking, COPD, emphysema, asthma, sleep apnea, respiratory infection or other respiratory illness.
        iii. Renal dysfunction, hepatic disease, cardiac illness or HIV/AIDS.
        iv. Known or suspected concurrent alcohol use.
        v. Concurrent benzodiazepine or other sedative prescription.
    f. A family member, friend, or other person in a position to assist an individual who there is reason to believe is at risk of experiencing an opioid-related overdose.
3. This protocol authorizes a provider to dispense the following doses of intranasal formulations of naloxone:
    a. Two (2) naloxone 2 mg/2 mL prefilled syringes used with mucosal atomization devices; or
    b. Two (2) NARCAN® Nasal Spray 4mg/0.1 mL FDA-approved nasal spray device
4. Variation in dosage and/or formulation are permissible under any of the following circumstances:
    a. Drug shortage;

b. Dosage no longer available;
c. Different dosages were furnished to the program through grants or other donations.

5. The authorized provider shall do all of the following in accordance with rule 4729-5-17 of the Ohio Administrative Code:
    a. Prepare, package and appropriately label the naloxone.
    b. Conduct a final check of the naloxone prior to personally furnishing on behalf of the prescriber.
    c. Keep and maintain all records in accordance with OAC 4729-9-22.
    d. Conduct patient/family member counseling, including training on the use of the naloxone, as specified in this protocol.
6. Training of Individuals to whom Narcan may be furnished should include the following:
    a. Risk factors for opioid overdose
    b. Strategies to prevent opioid overdose
    c. Signs and symptoms of opioid overdose
    d. Response to opioid overdose, including calling 911 and performing rescue breathing
    e. Precautions and Contraindications for administration of naloxone
    f. Procedures for assembling and administering naloxone
    g. Information on naloxone, including possible adverse reactions
    h. Proper storage of naloxone
    i. Expiration date of the medication
    j. Procedure for reporting an overdose reversal
    k. Procedure for obtaining a replacement dose of naloxone
    l. Information on where to obtain a referral for substance abuse treatment
7. All individuals to whom Narcan is dispensed must be specifically instructed to summon emergency services as soon as practicable either before or after administering naloxone
8. Labeling, Storage, Record-Keeping, and Administrative Requirement
    a. Records of receipt shall include:
        i. Description of naloxone received
        ii. Kind and quantity of naloxone received
        iii. Name and address of the person from whom naloxone is received
    b. Records of distribution shall include:
        i. Description of the kind and quantity of naloxone dispensed
        ii. Name and address of the person to whom, or for whose use, the naloxone was dispensed
9. Each box of naloxone distributed must be labeled, pursuant to OAC 4729-5-17, with the following:
    a. Name and address of the prescriber (i.e. the physician authorizing this protocol)
    b. Full name of the person to whom the naloxone is furnished
    c. Strength and formulation of naloxone
    d. Date that naloxone is dispensed
    e. Directions for use