

Naloxone (Narcan)

Formulary

Douglas County Kansas EMS System

March 2021

Approved Provider: EMR, EMT (for IN only)

AEMT, Paramedic (all routes)

Referenced Protocols: [Drug Overdose/Poisoning](#)

Dosing and Administration	
ADULT Medications: <ul style="list-style-type: none">0.4 - 2.0 mg IV, IO IN, IM<ul style="list-style-type: none">Titrate/repeat to effect	PEDIATRIC Medications: Refer to HandTevy <ul style="list-style-type: none">0.1 mg/kg IV, IO, IN, IM<ul style="list-style-type: none">Titrate/repeat to effect

Pharmacology and Actions:

- Opiate antagonist which blocks opiate effects by occupying, without activating, narcotic receptor sites. The duration of action is 20 to 60 minutes
- Reversing Respiratory depression, Sedation and Hypotension

Indications:

- Used for the reversal of opiate effects, especially respiratory depression, due to overdose of opiate drugs by any route
- Used diagnostically in coma of unknown etiology to rule out (or reverse) opiate depression

Contraindications:

- None

Precautions:

- Airway and ventilation always take priority over an IV and Naloxone
- In appropriate clinical situations (i.e. a known or suspected opiate abuser) it may be advisable to restrain the patient prior to administering Naloxone
- In patients who are physically dependent on narcotics, withdrawal symptoms may be precipitated

Administration:

- For specific doses refer to the applicable protocol
- Acceptable routes of administration include intravenous (IV), intraosseous (IO), or intramuscular (IM), (IN) Intranasal

Special Considerations:

- The duration of action of Naloxone is shorter than many narcotics and so the patient must be monitored closely for return of CNS or respiratory depression. Patients who receive this drug should be transported
- Very large doses may be needed to reverse some narcotics