

Naloxone for Patients

You or a loved one may be at risk for an accidental drug overdose.

Drug overdose is the leading cause of injury death in the United States. Most overdoses involve opioids, which include certain prescription pain relievers and heroin.

Common Opioids	Morphine (MS Contin®), Oxycodone (OxyContin®/Percocet®), Hydromorphone (Dilaudid®), Oxymorphone (Opana®), Fentanyl (Duragesic®), Hydrocodone (Vicodin®/Norco®), Codeine, Methadone, Heroin
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Thousands of people die each year from accidental overdoses related to prescription drugs they were taking as directed. The pharmacist has determined you or a loved one may be at risk for an accidental opioid overdose for one or more of the following reasons:

✓	Risk Factors for Opioid Overdose
	History of opioid poisoning or overdose
	History of illicit or nonmedical opioid use
	Use of methadone or buprenorphine for opioid use disorder
	High-dose prescription opioid use (>50 milligram morphine equivalents daily)
	Long-term prescription opioid use (>90 days continuously for non-cancer pain)
	Long-acting or extended-release prescription opioid use
	Use of opioids from multiple prescribers or multiple pharmacies
	Use of interacting drugs or medications (alcohol, sedatives, antidepressants)
	Underlying disease of key organs (lung, kidney, liver, heart, HIV/AIDS)
	Recent release from drug treatment/detoxification or correctional facility

You should have naloxone at home to keep you and your loved ones safe.

Naloxone is the antidote to an opioid overdose. If you take too much of an opioid medication, your brain will stop telling your lungs to breathe. If this occurs, taking naloxone can save your life by allowing you to breathe again. Naloxone is not a controlled substance and it cannot be abused.

If you give naloxone to someone who is not experiencing an opioid overdose, nothing will happen. The only serious side-effect of naloxone is that it can cause withdrawal symptoms if the overdose victim has developed a physical dependence to opioids. While acute opioid withdrawal is not generally life-threatening, it is still essential to call emergency medical services. If you try to save someone's life with naloxone, you are protected by law from any liability regardless of the outcome.

Naloxone is available in several different versions. Some versions of naloxone are injected into the victim's muscle, while others can be squirted into their nose. Your pharmacist can help you determine which version of naloxone is right for you based on cost and ease-of-use. Check out OperationNaloxone.org to learn more about staying safe with opioids.