

Naloxone Procedure

Responding to an Opioid Overdose

Before approaching a person in distress, do a quick assessment to ensure safety.
Seek help of colleagues immediately if available.
Survey the scene for sharps, discarded drug-use equipment, hazards, etc.

Call 911. Even if you have a naloxone kit, don't wait to call for help.
Contact emergency services right away.

1. Assess for Overdose

Trained Staff and First Aider will put on gloves

Approach the casualty to assess for overdose by looking and listening for:

- Slow, shallow, or no breathing
- Gurgling, gasping, or snoring
- Clammy, cool, skin
- Blue lips or nails
- Environmental clues such as pill bottles, syringes/injection equipment, or alcohol.

Check responsiveness of casualty:

- Yell their name and shake them.
- Pinch a finger.

2. If not done already, Call 911

Call 911 to report a probable overdose and plan to administer naloxone.

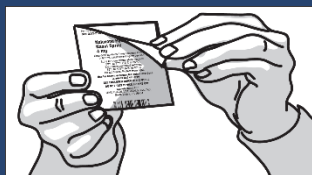
3. Administer naloxone nasal spray

Staff will put on gloves (if not done already) and will administer naloxone nasal spray by following instructions on the other side of this page.

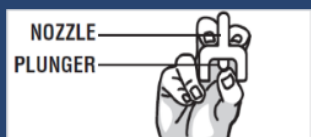


Naloxone Procedure (cont'd)

Lay the individual on their back if possible



Remove the nasal spray from the package. Peel back the tab with the circle to open the nasal spray.



Hold the nasal spray with your thumb on the bottom of the plunger and your first and middle fingers on either side of the nozzle.



Tilt the individual's head back and provide support under the neck with your hand. **Gently insert the tip of the nozzle into a nostril** until either side of the nozzle is against the bottom of the person's nose.



Press the plunger firmly to give the dose of nasal spray. Remove the spray from the nose after giving the dose. One entire spray in one nostril is one dose.

If the individual does not respond within 2-3 minutes of the first dose or if the casualty responds to the first dose but relapses back into abnormal or insufficient breathing, give the **second dose**. Open another spray package and spray the contents **into the other nostril**.

If the individual does not start breathing normally on their own, begin CPR + AED until emergency services take over or the individual responds.



If the individual starts breathing again and it is safe for staff to do so, position the casualty in the **recovery position**.

Naloxone Procedure (cont'd)

4. Stay with the casualty until emergency medical personnel arrive

Naloxone wears off after 30-90 minutes and the overdose can return. It is imperative that the casualty receives medical attention as soon as possible.

- Comfort the casualty. Naloxone can cause the casualty to go into acute withdrawal. (e.g. vomiting, agitation, weakness, sweating, and shivering).
- Be prepared to manage casualty behavior following the overdose reversal, such as confusion, irritability, attempts to leave, and desire to seek more opiates to relieve the withdrawal symptoms.
- Continually assess for need to administer First Aid/CPR if the casualty is not breathing and is unresponsive.

Staff will inform paramedics upon arrival that they administered naloxone nasal spray.

5. Follow-up after the overdose incident (e.g Debrief, Documentation and Reporting)