

# **Naloxone** (Narcan)

**Indication(s):** Pain Management Protocol

**Contraindications:** Hypersensitivity to naloxone.

**Precautions:** Naloxone may have a half-life as short as 30 min. In the case of narcotic overdose, the patient should be closely observed for a change in mental state. The patient may require further naloxone if the underlying problem in order to achieve or maintain therapeutic effect.

**Drug Interactions:** There are no known significant drug-drug interactions with naloxone.

**Adverse Effects:** The following adverse reactions have been reported; the incidence is unknown: Nausea and vomiting, hyperventilation, seizures, tremulousness, reversal of analgesia, excitement, sweating tachycardia, hypertension, hypotension, ventricular tachycardia and fibrillation

**Pharmacology:** Opioid antagonist. Onset of action: IV: 2-3 min, SC/IM: up to 15 min. Duration of action: variable, but usually 1hr or less.  $T_{1/2}$ : ~ 1hr.

**Dosage and Administration:** Naloxone 0.4mg IV (or 0.8 mg IM/SC) q 3min PRN to a maximum dose of 5mg for resp rate < 10.