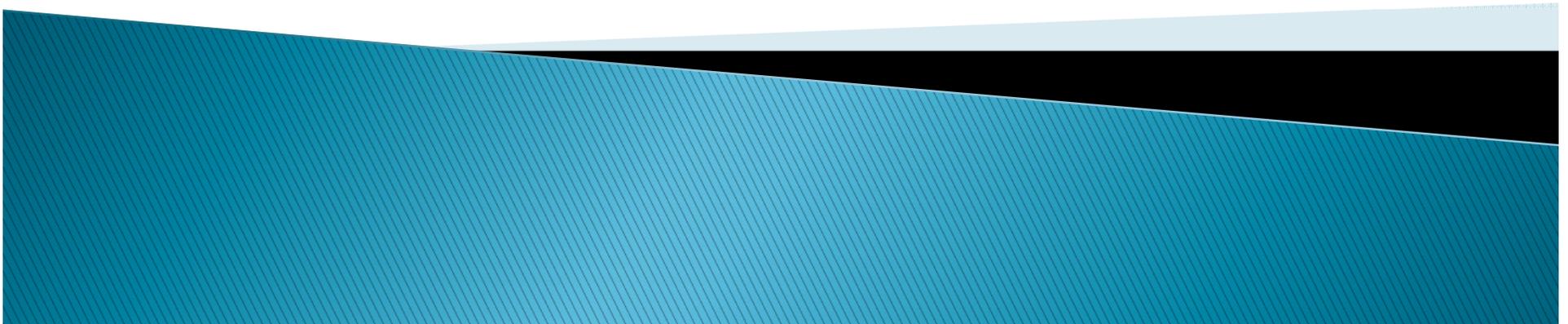


Naloxone Prescribing by Pharmacists

Department of Consumer Protection
Drug Control Division



Governor Malloy

- ▶ “Alcohol and substance use disorders are diseases affecting every common community in the state of Connecticut.”
- ▶ “It is time for our state to take a coordinated and evidence-based approach to preventing and treating addiction and preventing overdoses”
- ▶ **Governor Malloy letter convening ADCP,**
October 29, 2015



Holistic Approach is Essential

- ▶ Multiple points in time to prevent and treat substance use disorders
 - Educate prescribers on safe prescribing practices
 - Raise awareness among patients and the public on the risks of opioid misuse
 - Enhance and facilitate addiction treatment opportunities
 - Reverse an overdose
- ▶ Naloxone is a final opportunity to reverse an overdose and save a patient when earlier interventions fail



Multiple Prescribers of Naloxone

- ▶ Physicians (MD, DO)
- ▶ Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN)
- ▶ Physician Assistant (PA)
- ▶ **Pharmacists**
 - On July 15th, 2015, Public Act 15–198, *An Act Concerning Substance Abuse and Opioid Overdose Prevention*, as part of the initiative to combat prescription opioid and heroin abuse was signed into law. A key component of Public Act 15–198 allows pharmacists who have been certified, to prescribe naloxone (brand name Narcan®).



DCP's Program Is An Important Piece of the Larger Puzzle

- ▶ Integrates Naloxone prescription into holistic prevention and treatment strategy
- ▶ Everyone seeking a Naloxone prescription knows someone suffering from substance use disorder
- ▶ Time of dispensing creates a new opportunity to educate on treatment options so overdose can be prevented, not simply reversed



Training Allows Pharmacists to be Part of Larger Solution

- ▶ Information shared with patients or their caregivers:
 - Signs of a substance abuse problem
 - Opportunities for treatment
 - Signs of an overdose
 - Information on product options
 - Proper administration
 - Best practices during overdose emergency
 - Appropriate follow-up post-administration



Multiple Training Opportunities are Available

- ▶ The Department of Consumer Protection approves Pharmacist training programs
- ▶ Already approved training programs include
 - UCONN/CPA – CE credit available
 - Pharmacist Letter – CE credit available
 - Walgreens (coming soon)



Hundreds of Pharmacies Can Now Prescribe Naloxone

- ▶ Total # of Pharmacies – 321 (As of 7/22/16)
- ▶ Total # of Pharmacists – 981 (As of 7/22/16)

- ▶ Almost 1000 additional members of health care community trained to educate the public on substance abuse prevention and treatment

- ▶ These numbers are increasing every day
 - DCP is in the process of reviewing Walgreen's program



Take Advantage of this Program

- To avoid confusion or frustrations
 - Call and ask about the availability of product
 - Can be ordered within 24 hours
 - Call and ask about the availability of a prescribing pharmacist
- Remember . . . all other prescribers can still prescribe naloxone



Prescription vs. Standing Order

▶ Prescriptions

- Appropriate for products such as Naloxone that are administered outside of a health care setting by non-health care professionals such as friends, neighbors and family members

▶ Standing Orders

- Restricted to drugs that are immediately administered by a healthcare professional
- States employing this model still require pharmacist training



Challenges to an Over the Counter (OTC) Model

- Currently not legal under federal law
- Lacks the healthcare component and the education and training that come with it
- Eliminates opportunity for providing information on substance abuse treatment options
- May not qualify for insurance reimbursement



Website

- ▶ www.ct.gov/dcp/naloxone has dedicated resources for pharmacists and the public.
- ▶ <http://www.ct.gov/dcp/cwp/view.asp?a=1620&q=581898> Map will be linked on the page above



Real Time Information on Prescribing Pharmacies

The screenshot shows the official website of the State of Connecticut Department of Consumer Protection. At the top, the state logo and the name of the department are visible. A navigation bar includes links for Home, About Us, Programs & Services, Forms, News Room, and Contact Us. Below this, a secondary navigation bar lists categories: CONSUMERS, BUSINESSES, LICENSES, DIVISIONS, LAWS & REGULATIONS, and BOARDS & COMMISSIONS. The main content area is titled "Naloxone Pharmacies" and provides instructions on how to use an interactive map to find pharmacies. The map, titled "data.T.gov", shows a geographical area of Connecticut with blue dots indicating the locations of pharmacies that prescribe naloxone. The left sidebar contains a profile of Jonathan A. Harris, Commissioner, and various service links such as "Awareness & Prevention", "Complaint Center", and "Online Services".

State of Connecticut | Governor Dannel P. Malloy | Search

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Jonathan A. Harris
Commissioner

Naloxone Pharmacies

How to view the Pharmacy Name, Address and Phone Number

1. Select (click) a map point in the map below
2. In the popup click "View Details of This Row"

The details will now appear below the map

Call Ahead
You must work with a trained pharmacist to receive a naloxone prescription. Please call ahead to ensure that the pharmacist is available.

data.T.gov MENU

Pharmacies with Naloxone

World Street Map

Within Hartford Area and Outside Connecticut
860-713-6100

Toll-Free in Connecticut
800-842-2649

[Hours, Location & Directions](#)

Smart Consumer ct.gov

SET the RULES CT.ORG
IN A FOREIGN LOTTERY, MORE THAN JUST THE ODDS ARE AGAINST YOU.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Calendar

Receive Updates by e-mail
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Naloxone Definition

- ▶ Known as Narcan, Evzio, etc.
 - Naloxone is a mu opioid receptor antagonist that works by reversing both the clinical and toxic effects of the overdose.
 - Naloxone does not treat the underlying substance use disorder



Standing Order Definition

- ▶ Drugs must be administered in response to an order from a practitioner, or on the basis of a standing order which is appropriately authenticated subsequently by a practitioner. (See §482.23(c)(1) (ii) concerning standing orders.) Generally, the ordering practitioner is the practitioner(s) responsible for the care of the patient in accordance with §482.12(c).
- ▶ However, other practitioners not specified under §482.12(c) may write orders for the preparation and administration of drugs and biologicals, if they are acting in accordance with State law, including scope of practice laws, hospital policies and procedures, and medical staff bylaws, rules and regulations. This includes practitioners ordering outpatient services who do not have privileges in the hospital but who are permitted under their State scope of practice and authorized by hospital and medical staff policy to order outpatient services.
- ▶ In accordance with standard practice, all practitioner orders for the administration of drugs and biologicals must include at least the following:
 - Name of the patient;
 - Age and weight of the patient, to facilitate dose calculation when applicable.
- ▶ Policies and procedures must address weight-based dosing for pediatric patients as well as in other circumstances identified in the hospital's policies. (Note that dose calculations are based on metric weight (kg, or g for newborns). If a hospital permits practitioners to record weight in either pounds or using metric weight, the opportunity for error increases, since some orders would require conversion while others would not. Accordingly, hospitals must specify a uniform approach to be used by prescribing practitioners. For example, a hospital could require all prescribers to use pounds or ounces and have the electronic ordering system or the pharmacy convert to metric);
 - Date and time of the order;
 - Drug name;
 - Dose, frequency, and route;
 - Dose calculation requirements, when applicable;
 - Exact strength or concentration, when applicable;
 - Quantity and/or duration, when applicable;
 - Specific instructions for use, when applicable; and;
 - Name of the prescriber.

OTC Definition

- ▶ OTC drugs are drugs that have been found to be safe and appropriate for use without the supervision of a health care professional such as a physician, and they can be purchased by consumers without a prescription. These drugs are sometimes approved under applications like new prescription drugs, but more often they are legally marketed without an application by following a regulation called an OTC drug monograph.
 - May be under review by the FDA
- ▶ Source –
<http://www.fda.gov/AboutFDA/Transparency/Basics/ucm194951.htm>



Massachusetts

- ▶ **Naloxone Rescue Kit**
 - ▶ *Standing Order* for Dispensing Naloxone Rescue Kits to Individuals at Risk of Experiencing or Witnessing an Opioid-Related Overdose
 - ▶ **Overview of Pharmacy Naloxone Rescue Kit Access Program**
 - ▶ The procedures and protocols in this example standing order reflect current medical research and clinical best practice as of February 2016. The standing order can be modified per individual clinical practice and must be signed by a collaborating Massachusetts licensed physician.
 - ▶ **In July 2014, amendments to M.G.L. c 94C § 19B (c) were passed requiring all pharmacists dispensing naloxone rescue kit via standing order to complete at least 1 hour of training on naloxone rescue kits approved by the DPH Commissioner or designee. Currently approved trainings include:**
 - ▶ • Prescribe to Prevent : <http://prescribetoprevent.org/pharmacist-solutions/>
 - ▶ • CVS Pharmacy Training available to employees through the company's intranet
 - ▶ • Pharmacist's Letter: http://pharmacistsletter.therapeuticresearch.com/ce/documents/ce_15552-03.pdf
 - ▶ **Naloxone Standing Order Requirements:**
 - ▶ • A copy of the standing order signed by a Massachusetts licensed physician must be maintained on file and readily retrievable at each participating pharmacy site.
 - ▶ • All registered pharmacists at the site must complete training approved by the DPH Commissioner or designee.
 - ▶ • The Pharmacist Manager of Record must sign the standing order, attest that all registered pharmacists at the site have completed the required training and are familiar with naloxone rescue kits and the patient pamphlet.
 - ▶ • Standing order must be filed with the Board of Registration in Pharmacy (Board) via email: naloxonestandingorders@Massmail.State.MA.US
 - ▶ • Pharmacy must distribute the patient pamphlet at the time of dispensing. <http://www.mass.gov/eohhs/gov/departments/dph/programs/hcq/dhpl/pharmacy/dispensing-of-naloxone-by-standing-order-.html>
- 

Rhode Island

- ▶ In Rhode Island, a collaborative pharmacy practice agreement for naloxone facilitates **pharmacist-initiated prescription** and provision of the opioid overdose antidote to eligible patients.

Under Rhode Island Board of Pharmacy regulations formalized in 2014, participating patients must consent to the exchange of information between their pharmacist and prescriber, receive a handout with overdose education, and then check-in with the pharmacist, who verifies their understanding of naloxone use before it is dispensed.

Pharmacist participation in the naloxone collaborative practice agreement requires 1 hour of continuing professional education annually. As of June 2015, 363 pharmacists—96% of whom were employed by retail chain pharmacies in the state—had completed this training through the University of Rhode Island’s online program.

– See more at: <http://www.pharmacytimes.com/news/how-are-pharmacists-providing-naloxone-to-patients#sthash.KQjtesnk.dpuf>

- ▶ Source: <http://www.pharmacytimes.com/news/how-are-pharmacists-providing-naloxone-to-patients>

