



Foundations of Opioid Safety: Naloxone Tip Sheet

*“Each day we lose 115 Americans to an opioid overdose. It is time to make sure more people have access to this lifesaving medication. Be prepared. Get naloxone. **Save a life.**”*

- U.S. Surgeon General
Jerome Adams, MD
MPH

How Pharmacists Can Help

Since December 2016, Georgia pharmacies are authorized to dispense naloxone without a patient-specific prescription under the State Standing Order for Naloxone.

Dispensing pharmacies are required to keep a copy of the **current standing order**:

dph.ga.gov/naloxone

Everyone is Eligible to Obtain Naloxone

Anyone person or entity who may be in a position to respond to an opioid-related overdose including an opioid user, friend, relative, co-worker, health worker, bus driver, church, clinic or business.



Tips for Success

- 1 Screen Patients for Opioid Risk**
Define ‘high-risk’ criteria to trigger a recommendation based on the opioid prescription, PDMP record and history.
- 2 Fit the Standing Order into your workflow**
Activate technicians in screening, processing claims and preparing the prescription with education materials.
- 3 Have Naloxone Ready when Recommending**
Avoid delays, coverage surprises and hesitancy by preparing naloxone along with the rest of the patient’s medicines.
- 4 Stock Nasal Spray and Injectable Forms**
Cost and coverage varies but most patients who accept your recommendation will accept the formulation that is covered or affordable.
- 5 Avoid Stigma when Counseling**
Think risky medicines not risky people. Instead of overdose use bad reaction or opioid breathing emergency. Consider risks to anyone in the household.
- 6 Promote Naloxone**
Use posters, counter signs, banner ads, social media posts, marquees and more to alert your customers and community to start the conversation.

Have other tips to share? Would you like recognition for your success in promoting safe opioid use?

Visit GPhA.org for the Georgia Pharmacy Foundation’s opioid safety recognition program Foundations of Opioid Safety