

**STOP AND  
THINK**

**Is this Patient  
in the Last  
Days of Life?**

## Flow Chart for Naloxone Administration

Is this situation life-threatening i.e.  
respiratory arrest secondary to opioid  
use?

**YES**

**NO**

Maintain airway  
Administer oxygen  
Secure IV access  
Stop opioid

Is resp rate <8

**YES**

**NO**

Administer oxygen  
Stop opioid

If **normal** oxygen  
sats, no cyanosis  
and easily  
rousable then  
"watch and wait"  
  
Consider  
reducing or  
omitting next  
dose of opioids.

Give Naloxone  
400micrograms IV

If no response  
after 1 min

Give Naloxone  
800micrograms IV

If no response  
after 1 min

Give Naloxone  
800micrograms IV

If no response  
after 1 min

Give Naloxone 2-4mg IV

If no response  
consider  
alternative cause.

Dilute 1ml of naloxone  
400micrograms/ml  
ampoule to 8ml in  
sodium chloride 0.9%.  
  
This gives  
100micrograms/2ml

Give  
Naloxone 100micrograms/  
2ml

- IV every 2 minutes
- or
- SC/IM every 5 minutes

Continue until respiratory  
rate improves

If more than 3  
doses have  
been needed,  
consider if a  
naloxone  
infusion is  
needed.

## Monitoring post-Naloxone administration

Patient name:

NHS no:

DOB:

When to check	Date	Time	Resp Rate	Consciousness level	Length of monitoring dependent on drugs/ formulations		
					Immediate release	Modified Release	Patches Methadone Buprenorphine
Baseline							
+15 mins							
+30 mins							
+45 mins							
+1 hour							
+ 1 hour 15mins							
+ 1 hour 30 mins							
+ 1 hour 45 mins							
+ 2 hours							
+ 3 hours							
+ 4 hours							
+ 5 hours							
+ 6 hours							
+ 7 hours							
+ 8 hours							
+ 9 hours							
+ 10 hours							
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