



## OPIOID OVERDOSE RESPIRATORY EMERGENCY: NALOXONE NASAL SPRAY (NARCAN™)

### Skills and Procedures

#### PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVE:

Demonstrate competency in:

- Recognizing and assessing for signs of respiratory depression, distress, and/or arrest related to opioid overdose
- Administering nasal naloxone nasal spray

#### PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

To demonstrate competency, each listed skill must be performed successfully. Scene safety must be practiced. The signs and symptoms of respiratory depression, distress, and/or arrest caused by opioid overdose must be quickly assessed and recognized.

Preparation	
Skill Component	Key Concepts
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assess scene safety</li> <li>• Evaluate need for personal protective equipment (PPE)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mandatory personal protective equipment – gloves (if removing items from the mouth)</li> <li>➤ <b>Do not delay treatment if gloves are not available</b></li> <li>• Examine environment; get information from bystanders</li> <li>• Situational – assess need for face mask</li> </ul>

Procedures	
Skill Component	Key Concepts
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assess the individual and initiate CPR.</li> <li>• Assess for indications of opioid overdose.</li> <li>• If suspected, administer naloxone nasal spray as per instructions below.</li> <li>• Continue to maintain airway with head tilt or jaw thrust maneuver.</li> <li>• Prepare the naloxone nasal spray</li> <li>• Remove nasal spray from packaging</li> <li>• Administer (spray) 4 mg/0.1ml of naloxone into nostril.</li> <li>• Re-assess alertness.</li> <li>• Monitor patient until paramedics arrive on scene.</li> <li>➤ If desired response is not achieved after 2 or 3 minutes, give a second dose intranasally into alternate nostril.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the patient is in full arrest, initiate CPR. Send for the naloxone nasal spray and AED. Activate EMS/9-1-1.</li> <li>• Check for blue lips and fingertips, altered mental state, depressed/arrested respiratory rate, respiratory distress, &amp; constricted pupils.</li> <li>• The only contraindication to naloxone is an allergy to the medication. Do not delay treatment if you do not have this information.</li> <li>• If trauma suspected, maintain airway using jaw thrust technique.</li> <li>• Ensure proper placement with fingers touching bottom of nose.</li> <li>• Check for breathing. If not, resume CPR.</li> <li>• If respirations recur, place patient in recovery position monitoring airway.</li> <li>• Additional doses may be administered every 2 to 3 minutes in alternating nostrils until emergency medical assistance arrives.</li> </ul>