

Who can dispense the Naloxone Kit?

Q. Has as the College of Registered Psychiatric Nurses of Alberta (CRPNA) requested that Registered Psychiatric Nurses (RPNs) be included in the prescribing and dispensing of Naloxone kits?

A. Yes. Registered Psychiatric Nurses have received authorization under a Ministerial Order to prescribe and dispense the Take Home Naloxone Kits (February 12, 2015). The Terms and Conditions have been established, posted and communicated. For more information go to the College web site [The College of Registered Psychiatric Nurses of Alberta \(CRPNA\)](http://www.crpna.ca)

Q. Can we provide a prescription for a Take Home Naloxone Kit and refer the client to a pharmacy?

A. It is important to provide the patient with timely access to a Take Home Naloxone Kit. Pharmacies were not included in the initial rollout and did not have access to the kits. This has changed now (February 17, 2016) and this option may be utilized in some cases, dependant of the needs of the patient. It is the responsibility of the prescriber to ensure that the patient receives training prior to obtaining a kit.

Q. Is there a potential for Social Workers to prescribe and dispense?

A. Social Workers **are not** authorized to prescribe and dispense the Take Home Naloxone kits, but are encouraged to take the e-Learning module so that they can provide THN training to patients and families.

Q. Can Emergency Medical Responders (EMRs) with fire departments or rural Medical Co-response EMRs stock and give Naloxone?

A. Yes, once the EMR has completed the education and receives authorization from the Alberta College of Paramedics they are authorized to stock and administer Naloxone

Q. Are emergency response services on reserves (Paramedics, Emergency Medical Responders, and Emergency Medical Technicians) permitted to give Naloxone?

A. Yes, if the providers have completed the education and received authorization from the Alberta College of Paramedics they are authorized and expected to administer Naloxone to patients experiencing a suspected opioid overdose

Q. Can Licensed Practical Nurses (LPNs) prescribe and dispense Take Home Naloxone Kits?

A. No, LPNs **are not** authorized to prescribe or dispense the kits, but are encouraged to take the e-Learning module so that they can provide THN training to patients and families.

Q. In the acute care setting who would be prescribing the Take Home Naloxone Kits to patients that are going to be discharged home?

A. Physicians, Nurse Practitioners, Registered Nurses and Registered Psychiatric Nurses are authorized to prescribe and dispense the kits. The operational details may vary by site, please contact your local site administration for further details.

- Q. Will Registered Nurses be able to prescribe from triage in urgent care if the patient does not present with other medical concerns or should the patient make a chart to be seen by a physician?**
- A.** To perform this role at triage, the RNs must be authorized to prescribe and dispense the Take Home Naloxone kits. This process requires an assessment of the client, education of the client, completion of the Decision Support Tool and other forms and dispensing the labelled kit. The RN will also be expected to complete a chart for that patient to record the interactions. The workload of this role at triage will need to be reviewed and decided by operational leadership.