


Section: Drug Reference
Subject: NALOXONE (NARCAN®)
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Naloxone (Narcan®)

1. CLASSIFICATION
 - a. Synthetic Narcotic Antagonist.
2. ACTIONS / DESCRIPTIONS
 - a. Competitive narcotic antagonist.
 - b. Used in the management and reversal of overdoses caused by narcotics and synthetic narcotic agents
3. INDICATIONS
 - a. For the complete or partial reversal of CNS and respiratory depression induced by narcotics.
4. PRECAUTIONS
 - a. Use with caution in narcotic-dependent patients who may experience withdraw syndrome (including neonates of narcotic-dependent mothers).
5. ADVERSE REACTIONS
 - a. Adverse reactions are rare
 - b. Tachycardia
 - c. Hypertension
 - d. Dysrhythmias
6. DRUG ACTION TIME
 - a. Onset: 1 – 2 minutes
7. INFORMATIONAL/DISCUSSION POINTS
 - a. Use naloxone before attempting intubation
 - b. May not reverse hypotension
 - c. Complete reversal may cause withdraw symptoms of seizures, hypertension, tachycardia, & violent behavior
 - d. Shorter half life than narcotics. May need to repeat dosing.
 - e. Newborns of addicted mothers and their respiratory depression post delivery
 - f. If no response, but strong possibility of narcotic involvement, then repeat the dose