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## About Prescribing Naloxone

### 1: What are the benefits of naloxone?

- Naloxone is an opioid antagonist indicated for the emergency treatment of a known or suspected opioid overdose manifested by respiratory and/or central nervous system depression<sup>1</sup>
- Naloxone may be administered IV, IM or intranasally

### 2: Why prescribe naloxone?

- Patients are often unaware that even at medically appropriate doses, opioids have significant risks
- Patients are often unaware that naloxone is a potentially life-saving agent that reverses respiratory and central nervous system depression
- Data suggests that despite statewide expanded access initiatives, naloxone is underutilized<sup>2</sup>
- Even if your state doesn't require a formal prescription to access naloxone, patients may be more likely to obtain it if a prescription is provided

### 3: Who should receive a prescription for naloxone?

- Patients prescribed greater than or equal to 50 MME ( morphine milligram equivalents) per day<sup>3</sup>
- Patients taking opioids at any dose who have one or more of these risk factors:<sup>4</sup>
  - History of prior overdose, misuse of opioids, or IV drug use
  - On antidepressants or benzodiazepines
  - Has respiratory conditions such as chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) or obstructive sleep apnea
  - Drinks alcohol
  - History of a mental health disorder
  - Has limited emergency medical care access