Naloxone Access Policies & the Role of the Pharmacist

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Naloxone: Availability, Safety & Efficacy

- **Availability**
  - Requires a prescription
  - **Cost**
    - Naloxone: $15-45
    - Evzio Autoinjector: $345
  - Lack of intranasal product
  - History of drug shortages

- **Safety**
  - Potential for needle stick injuries
  - No potential for abuse
  - No association with increased drug use

- **Efficacy**
  - Incremental Cost Effectiveness Ratio: $438
  - Evidence suggests decrease in misuse/abuse
  - Co-prescribing with opioids decreases misuse/abuse
  - More likely to seek treatment for addiction

Federal Efforts

- **Congress**
  - HR 953 / S 524: Comprehensive Addiction & Recovery Act (CARA)
    - Authorizes Attorney General to provide grants to law enforcement for naloxone training and purchasing
  - FDA
    - Naloxone as an OTC drug
    - New Drug Application
    - Rulemaking

State Efforts

Heroin, Opiate, Prevention, and Education (HOPE) Legislative Package

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bill</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AB440/Act 199</td>
<td>Identification for unknown patients required when picking up schedule II or III controlled substance</td>
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<tr>
<td>AB441/Act 200</td>
<td>Allows all EMTs, first responders, police, and fire to administer opioid antagonists. Bill to be written to a patient or person in a position to assist in the event of an opioid-related drug overdose</td>
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<td>AB442/Act 198</td>
<td>Grants limited immunity from certain criminal prosecutions for a person seeking assistance for someone experiencing an overdose</td>
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<td>AB443/Act 197</td>
<td>Authorizes DOJ to approve drug-disposal programs in accordance to state and federal law</td>
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<td>AB444/Act 196</td>
<td>Expands Treatment Alternatives and Diversion (TAD) with an appropriation</td>
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<td>AB445/Act 195</td>
<td>Creates regional pilot programs to address opioid addiction in underserved areas and provides referral to county-based or private post-treatment care</td>
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<tr>
<td>AB446/Act 194</td>
<td>Creates &quot;swift and certain&quot; punishments for individuals who violate parole or probation</td>
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Pharmacist Naloxone Distribution: Opportunities

- Prescription from prescriber
- Third-party prescription
  - an order written for medication dispensed to one person with the intention that it will be administered to another person
- Standing orders
  - used to allow one prescriber to write an order covering administration of medication by others to a patient who may be unknown to the prescriber at the time of the order
- Collaborative Practice Agreement / Delegation Protocol
  - practitioner delegates medication management authority to a pharmacist
- Naloxone training & distribution
- State-wide Protocol
- OTC naloxone

Pharmacist Naloxone Distribution: Challenges

- Stigma
  - Provider: enables riskier behavior
  - Patient: privacy concerns
  - Fear of legal consequences
- Payment Policies (does not apply to out-of-pocket)
  - Coverage for direct administration in a medical setting only
  - May not cover syringe or nasal atomizer
  - May not cover third-party prescriptions
- Administration Restrictions
  - Needle phobias
  - Caregiver fear
  - Pharmacist administration barriers

Thank You