

NALOXONE (Narcan®)

PHARMACOLOGY & ACTIONS:

- Narcotic antagonist
- Competitively binds to narcotic sites but exhibits almost no pharmacologic activity of its own.
- Duration of action is 30-80 minutes.

INDICATIONS:

- Reversal of narcotic overdose
- Coma of unknown etiology

CONTRAINDICATIONS:

- None noted

ADMINISTRATION:

- Adult dose: 2 mg IV, IM, SQ. IO ET initial dose titrated to patient's respirations
 - If no response, repeat 2 mg dose up to 4 mg
 - larger and repeated doses may be required to reverse Darvon overdose

SIDE EFFECTS & SPECIAL NOTES:

- Acute withdrawal symptoms in addicted patients.
- Be prepared to restrain patient.
- Titrate dosing to keep patient awake, responsive and free from respiratory depression but somewhat groggy.
- Patients who have received Narcan must be transported to the hospital because coma may reoccur when Narcan wears off.

CLASS: A

PROTOCOL(S) USED IN: Altered Mental Status