Co-Prescribing Naloxone with Opioids

A lack of patient knowledge often leads to opioid misuse and death.

Patients need education on:

- Opioid prescribed including dangers/risks of taking an opioid – many patients do not realize their medication is an opioid
- Naloxone prescribed including importance of naloxone
- Pain expectations patients may expect complete resolution of pain when that is not possible
- Opioid side effects
- Proper storage and disposal

Co-prescribing Statistics:

- Overdose deaths have decreased by 14% in states that have enacted naloxone access laws
- 2. Nearly 50,000 lives have been saved as a result of naloxone
- 3. From 2016-2017 naloxone prescriptions doubled from 134,000 to 330,000.

When should naloxone be co-prescribed?

- 1. History of overdose
- 2. History of substance use disorder
- 3. Higher opioid doses (>50MME/day)
- 4. Concurrent benzodiazepine use
- 5. Co-morbid conditions that cause respiratory depression, such as COPD and sleep apnea



Know your Naloxone Standing Order:

Dispensed by a pharmacist

SALLIANT

HEALTH SOLUTIONS

- No physician prescription needed
- Available in 29 states as of 2019

References:

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