Title: Pre-Hospital Use of Naloxone in Adults with Suspected Opiate Overdose: Guidelines and Clinical Effectiveness

Date: 21 November 2007

Research question:

1. What is the clinical benefit and harm of pre-hospital use of naloxone in adult patients with opiate overdose?

2. What is the clinical evidence of the different routes of administering naloxone in adult patients with opiate overdose? (in a pre-hospital setting)

3. Are there guidelines for pre-hospital administration of naloxone to adult patients with opiate overdose?

Methods:

A limited literature search was conducted on key health technology assessment resources, including PubMed, the Cochrane Library (Issue 4, 2007), University of York Centre for Reviews and Dissemination (CRD) databases, ECRI, EuroScan, international HTA agencies, and a focused Internet search. Results include articles published between 2001 and the present, and are limited to English language publications only. No filters were applied to limit the retrieval by study type. Internet links are provided, where available.

Results:

Health technology assessments

No literature found

Disclaimer: The Health Technology Inquiry Service (HTIS) is an information service for those involved in planning and providing health care in Canada. HTIS responses are based on a limited literature search and are not comprehensive, systematic reviews. The intent is to provide a list of sources of the best evidence on the topic that CADTH could identify using all reasonable efforts within the time allowed. HTIS responses should be considered along with other types of information and health care considerations. The information included in this response is not intended to replace professional medical advice, nor should it be construed as a recommendation for or against the use of a particular health technology. Readers are also cautioned that a lack of good quality evidence does not necessarily mean a lack of effectiveness particularly in the case of new and emerging health technologies, for which little information can be found, but which may in future prove to be effective. While CADTH has taken care in the preparation of the report to ensure that its contents are accurate, complete and up to date, CADTH does not make any guarantee to that effect. CADTH is not liable for any loss or damages resulting from use of the information in the report.

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Links: This report may contain links to other information on available on the websites of third parties on the Internet. CADTH does not have control over the content of such sites. Use of third party sites is governed by the owners’ own terms and conditions.
Systematic reviews and meta-analyses

No literature found

Randomized controlled trials


Observational studies


Guidelines and recommendations


Note: See Appendix 2 page 2-11 *Altered LOC – Suspected Opioid Overdose Protocol*
Appendix – Further information:

Review articles


Guidelines

   Note: See page 5

Additional references


