

NALOXONE FAQs (OAR 855-019-0450 to 0460 & OAR 855-041-2330 to 2340)

Q: *How does the 2017 law differ from the 2016 and 2013 laws?*

A: The new law, 2017 HB 3440 removes all previous OHA training requirements. In order for a pharmacist to prescribe naloxone he or she must determine that the individual seeking naloxone demonstrates understanding of opioid overdose prevention, recognition, response and the administration of naloxone. Individuals will no longer need to present a naloxone certificate in order for a pharmacist to prescribe naloxone.

The 2016 law gave the pharmacist the authority to prescribe naloxone and supplies to a person who conducts training and to a person who has successfully completed training. OHA developed a written training that was provided for a person coming to a pharmacy seeking naloxone. The pharmacist could prescribe naloxone to the individual upon his or her determination that the individual seeking naloxone demonstrates understanding of the educational material.

The 2013 law allowed a pharmacy to distribute naloxone to a trained person, pursuant to a certificate of training completion. Historically, the training programs were offered 'in-person' by an Oregon Health Authority (OHA) authorized person or organization.

Q: *What qualifications do I need in order to prescribe naloxone?*

A: A pharmacist acting in good faith, exercising reasonable care and who is educated in opiate overdose and naloxone rescue can prescribe naloxone and the necessary medical supplies to administer the naloxone. There is not a Board-required educational training program to prescribe naloxone.

Q: *What does the Board expect for documentation when prescribing naloxone?*

A: The pharmacist must document the encounter and the prescription, and maintain records for three years.

Q: *What are counseling expectations related to prescribing naloxone?*

A: The pharmacist shall determine that the individual seeking naloxone demonstrate understanding of educational materials. The pharmacist shall provide oral counseling to the a person who receives naloxone, which may include dose, effectiveness, adverse effects, storage conditions and safety.

Q: *What naloxone can the pharmacist prescribe?*

A: An FDA approved formulation included in the OHA training (injectable, nasal spray, or nasal kit).

Q: *How many naloxone units can I prescribe per rx?*

A: A: There are no limitations. You can prescribe enough units for a person or organization to provide training, and use professional judgment when prescribing to a single individual. Any person, having lawfully obtained naloxone may possess, distribute or administer it for the purpose of reversing opiate overdose.

Q: *Can I bill insurance for naloxone?*

A: The Oregon Board of Pharmacy does not regulate billing. Please check with your outlet and contracts.