



Expanded Criteria for Co-Prescribing Naloxone

New recommendations released from HHS

On December 19, 2018, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) released recommendations about prescribing naloxone to patients at risk for opioid overdose. These recommendations are separate from the requirements Health Net* communicated in provider update 18-844, *Reversing Opioid Depression with Naloxone Hydrochloride*, distributed on November 16, 2018.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Naloxone is highly effective and has saved lives from opioid overdoses, but can only do so if it is in the right hands, at the right time. Health care providers have a critical role in assuring this occurs across all populations at risk.

In order to reduce the risk of overdose deaths, clinicians should strongly consider prescribing or co-prescribing naloxone, and providing education about its use for the following patients who are at risk of opioid overdose:

- Patients prescribed opioids who:
 - Are receiving opioids at a dosage of 50 morphine milligram equivalents (MME) per day or greater (the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) MME calculator can be accessed online at www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/prescribing/app.html).
 - Have respiratory conditions, such as chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) or obstructive sleep apnea (regardless of opioid dose).
 - Have been prescribed benzodiazepines (regardless of opioid dose).
 - Have a non-opioid substance use disorder, report excessive alcohol use, or have a mental health disorder (regardless of opioid dose).
- Patients at high risk for experiencing or responding to an opioid overdose, including individuals:
 - Using heroin, illicit synthetic opioids or misusing prescription opioids.
 - Using other illicit drugs, such as stimulants, including methamphetamine and cocaine, which could potentially be contaminated with illicit synthetic opioids like fentanyl.
 - Receiving treatment for opioid use disorder, including medication-assisted treatment with methadone, buprenorphine or naltrexone.
 - With a history of opioid misuse who were recently released from incarceration or other controlled settings where tolerance to opioids has been lost.

THIS UPDATE APPLIES TO CALIFORNIA PROVIDERS:

- Physicians
- Participating Physician Groups
- Hospitals
- Ancillary Providers

LINES OF BUSINESS:

- HMO/POS/HSP
- PPO
- EPO
- Medicare Advantage (HMO)
- Medi-Cal
 - Kern
 - Molina
 - Los Angeles
 - Riverside
 - Sacramento
 - San Bernardino
 - San Diego
 - San Joaquin
 - Stanislaus
 - Tulare

PROVIDER SERVICES

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EnhancedCare PPO (IFP)

1-844-463-8188

provider.healthnetcalifornia.com

EnhancedCare PPO (SBG)

1-844-463-8188

provider.healthnet.com

Health Net Employer Group HMO, POS, HSP, PPO, & EPO

1-800-641-7761

provider.healthnet.com

IFP – CommunityCare HMO, PPO, PureCare HSP, PureCare One EPO

1-888-926-2164

provider.healthnetcalifornia.com

Medicare (individual)

1-800-929-9224

provider.healthnetcalifornia.com

Medicare (employer group)

1-800-929-9224

provider.healthnet.com

Medi-Cal – 1-800-675-6110

provider.healthnet.com

PROVIDER COMMUNICATIONS

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Providers are encouraged to refer to the formularies and drug lists on the Health Net provider portal for naloxone, as coverage varies by formulation.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

If you have questions regarding the information contained in this update, contact the applicable Health Net Provider Services Center within 60 days at:

Line of Business	Telephone Number	Provider Portal	Email Address
ENHANCEDCARE PPO (IFP)	1-844-463-8188	provider.healthnetcalifornia.com	provider_services@healthnet.com
ENHANCEDCARE PPO (SBG)	1-844-463-8188	provider.healthnet.com	
HEALTH NET EMPLOYER GROUP HMO, POS, HSP, PPO, & EPO	1-800-641-7761	provider.healthnet.com	
IFP (COMMUNITYCARE HMO, PPO, PURECARE HSP, PURECARE ONE EPO)	1-888-926-2164	provider.healthnetcalifornia.com	
MEDICARE (INDIVIDUAL)	1-800-929-9224	provider.healthnetcalifornia.com	
MEDICARE (EMPLOYER GROUP)	1-800-929-9224	provider.healthnet.com	
MEDI-CAL	1-800-675-6110	provider.healthnet.com	N/A