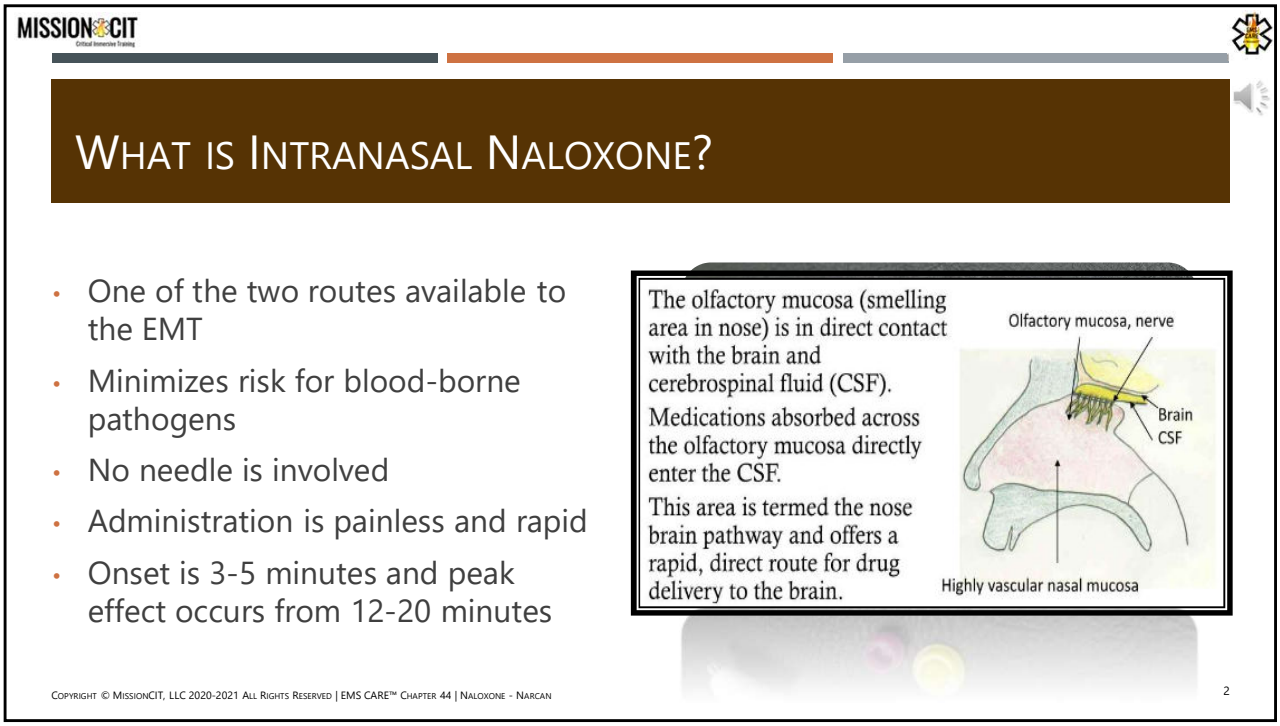


Thank you, Justin!

We have seen details regarding naloxone, and the guidelines for administration. As you are well aware, naloxone has significant efficacy in reversing the impact of an opioid overdose. Now let us get into the details of how to administer naloxone through the intranasal route. We'll discuss the preparation and use of an atomizer.

Good Studying.



The intranasal route is one of the two ways of administering Naloxone.

For the EMT, intranasal is the preferred route in many cases because it minimizes the risk for bloodborne pathogens exposure as no needle is involved. Also, it can be administered painlessly and rapidly.

The onset of action is anywhere from 3 to 5 minutes, and the peak effect occurs between 12 to 20 minutes.

Note that the hospital or ALS provider may administer Naloxone intravenously.

Why Use an Atomizer?

- Best option is to use an atomizer
- Device that reduces liquid to a fine spray
- Broader mucosal coverage
- Better chance of absorption into the bloodstream than liquid drops



Copyright © MissionCIT, LLC 2020-2021 All Rights Reserved | EMS CARE™ Chapter 44 | Naloxone - Narcan

3

The best way to administer Naloxone through the intranasal route is by using an atomizer.

An atomizer is a device that reduces the liquid to a fine spray, and it is the preferred mechanism for administering liquid medications like Naloxone because it converts the liquid to an aerosolized mist.

An aerosol results in broader mucosal coverage and a better chance of absorption into the bloodstream, versus drops that run straight back into the throat.

Intranasal Naloxone Preparation | Step 1

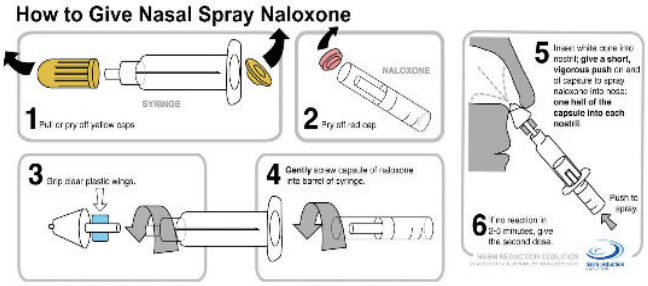


Copyright © MissionCIT, LLC 2020-2021 All Rights Reserved | EMS CARE™ Chapter 44 | Naloxone - Narcan

MISSION CIT

How to Administer Intranasal Naloxone – I

- Ventilate the patient with BVM
- Suction the patient if necessary
- Control the patient's head gently with one hand
- Place the atomizer inside one nostril, occluding the other
- Aim upwards towards the ear on the same side
- Compress the syringe to administer half dosage
- Repeat in the other nostril
- Continue to ventilate



Copyright © MissionCIT, LLC 2020-2021 All Rights Reserved | EMS CARE™ Chapter 44 | Naloxone - Narcan

5

Now that you have the atomizer ready, it's time to administer it to the patient.

To do this,

- Ventilate the patient with a BVM.
- Suction the patient if necessary.
- Control the patient's head gently with one hand.
- Place the atomizer inside one nostril carefully, occluding the other nostril.
- Aim slightly upwards and towards the ear on the same side as that of the nostril.
- Briskly compress the syringe to administer half the

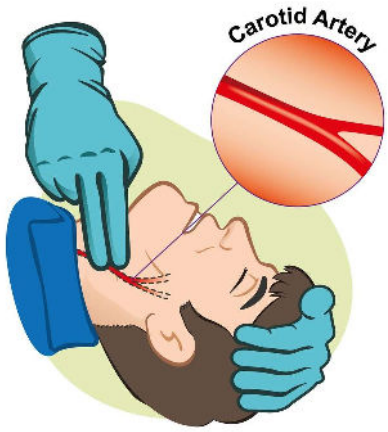
dosage, typically one milligram.

- Next, repeat the same in the other nostril, and
- Continue to ventilate the patient with the BVM.

The effect will kick in within 3 to 5 minutes and will peak around 12 to 20 minutes.

How to Administer Intranasal Naloxone – II

- Look for a strong carotid pulse
- If the pulse is not strong, start CPR
- Prepare the patient for rapid transport
- Apply AED and arrange for an ALS intercept.



Copyright © MissionCIT, LLC 2020-2021 All Rights Reserved | EMS CARE™ Chapter 44 | Naloxone - Narcan

While administering, ensure that the patient maintains a strong carotid pulse by performing continuous pulse checks. If the patient no longer has a strong carotid pulse, begin CPR starting with compressions. Also, prepare the patient for rapid transport. In the meantime, apply the A E D, and arrange for an ALS intercept if available.

NALOXONE NASAL SPRAY

- FDA approved
- Needle free
- Intranasal route
- One spray contains a single dose



COPYRIGHT © MISSIONCIT, LLC 2020-2021 ALL RIGHTS RESERVED | EMS CARE™ CHAPTER 44 | NALOXONE - NARCAN

While administering, ensure that the patient maintains a strong carotid pulse by performing continuous pulse checks. If the patient no longer has a strong carotid pulse, begin CPR starting with compressions. Also, prepare the patient for rapid transport. In the meantime, apply the A E D, and arrange for an ALS intercept if available.

So, this is how you must administer Naloxone through the intranasal route. Next, Justin will explain how you can do it through the intramuscular path.