

# HNE AREA Intensive Care

Approved For: JHH ICU and HDU

## NALOXONE INFUSION

**Trade Name:** Narcan

**Presentation:**

**Indications:** Narcosis, decreased level of consciousness due to opiates, reversal of opiate drugs

**Narcosis S & S :**Respiratory depression, pinpoint pupils, decreased level of consciousness

**Administration;** **Bolus:** Dilute 400mcg in 10mls saline.  
Start with 40mcg(1ml), administering every 2 mins, doubling the dose until 400mcg or clinical reversal is reached.

**Infusion:** 2mg (= 5 x 400mcg ampoules) in Normal Saline to 50 mls = 40mcg/ml.

**Infusion Rate:** Usually need half the amount needed as a bolus per hour (eg if a 400mcg bolus had effect, run at 200mcg/hr).

**Dose**

**Precautions** Rapid reversal can lead to haemodynamic instability including ventricular arrhythmias, APO and cardiac arrest

Be cautious in patients who are chronically opiate dependent as withdrawal can be precipitated

**Compatibilities:** Avoid mixing in solution with other drugs

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Created: 01-Jul-06 by Dr A Mullens Reviewed: 01-Jul-06 by Dr A Mullens Guideline to be reviewed before : 01-Jul-10  
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