

# Narcan for the MFR and EMT

Administration of Epi-pen® & Narcan®



**MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN  
SERVICES**



# Pharmacology



- Objectives

- At the end of this session, the student will:

- ✦ Be able to recite the 5 rights to medication administration
- ✦ Understand the indications for administering medication
- ✦ Understand the contraindications for the patient needing medication
- ✦ Understand the side effects of a narcotic antagonist
- ✦ Be able to perform on simulation, the steps in performing medication administration
- ✦ Be able to perform a thorough assessment pre and post medication administration

# Pharmacology



- In Michigan, the Medical First Responder and Emergency Medical Technician must be trained in the administration of a narcotic antagonist medication.
- Every MDHHS licensed EMS vehicle will be equipped with a narcotic antagonist by October 14, 2015.

# Pharmacology



- Pharmacology defined is: The study of drugs
  - Medication
    - ✦ A substance used to remedy an illness
  - Drug
    - ✦ A chemical substance used to treat or prevent a disease or condition



# Pharmacology



- Specifics regarding medication administration
  - Scope of practice
    - ✦ MFR & EMT will now have the scope of practice to administer Narcan<sup>®</sup> auto-injector and nasal atomizer
  - Medical direction
    - ✦ Know your local protocol
  - Side effects
  - Thorough patient assessment must be performed prior to administration
  - 5 rights

# Pharmacology



- Routes of medication administration approved for MFR in Michigan
  - Auto-injector
  - Intranasal



# Pharmacology



- **Before administration of any medication, you must:**
  - Perform a thorough patient assessment
  - Obtain an order (via on-line medical direction, or by written protocol)
  - Select the proper medication
  - Check the expiration date
  - Check for discoloration or impurities
  - Verify the form, route and dose

# Pharmacology



- The 5 Rights
  - 1: Right patient
  - 2: Right medication
  - 3: Right route
  - 4: Right dose
  - 5: Right date & time



# Pharmacology



- **Documentation**
  - Pre medication assessment notes
    - ✦ Including vital signs
    - ✦ Pupillary status is important for possible overdose patients
  - Time and dose of medication administered
  - Post medication assessment notes
    - ✦ Including vital signs
  - Transfer of care report



# Pharmacology



- Narcan<sup>®</sup>
  - Narcotic antagonist
    - ✦ Narcan completely or partially reverses the effects of opioids including respiratory depression, sedation and hypotension.
    - ✦ Narcan<sup>®</sup> will produce withdrawal symptoms
    - ✦ Opiate withdrawal symptoms may appear within minutes of Narcan<sup>®</sup> administration and subside in about 2 hours.

# Pharmacology



- **Narcan<sup>®</sup>**
  - Side effects:
  - Abrupt reversal of opioid depression may result in nausea, vomiting, sweating, tachycardia, increased blood pressure, tremors, seizures, combativeness, ventricular tachycardia and fibrillation, pulmonary edema, and cardiac arrest which may result in death
    - ✦ Source: Physician's Desk Reference, 2014.

# Pharmacology



- **Narcan<sup>®</sup>**
  - After assessment, if a patient has an altered mental status with respiratory depression, you may be required to administer Narcan<sup>®</sup>
  - Focus first on a patent airway. If LALS or ALS is greater than 5 minutes out, prepare for Narcan<sup>®</sup> administration
  - 0.4 mg auto-injector or,
  - 2 mg intranasal
  - Intranasal includes 1 mg via nasal atomizer in each nostril

# Pharmacology



- Narcan®
  - Auto-injector
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CiCvIXBhros>
  - Nasal Atomizer
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jis6NlZMV2c>
- Know your protocols
  - 5 rights
  - documentation
- Be alert for side effects after administering either of these medications

# Pharmacology



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