



Pharmacist-Initiated Dispensing of Opioid Antagonists

Under 201 KAR 2:360, pharmacists can initiate the dispensing of opioid antagonists pursuant to a physician-approved protocol.

Step 1: Get Opioid Antagonist Certified

- Each pharmacist dispensing opioid antagonists per protocol must be certified.
- Print and complete the Board of Pharmacy's *Application for Pharmacist Certification For Opioid Antagonist Dispensing*: pharmacy.ky.gov/professionals/Pages/Pharmacists.aspx.
- Submit the application to the Board of Pharmacy via mail, email or fax.
- You will be issued a new pharmacist license that includes "Opioid Antagonist Certified."

Step 2: Establish Workflow and Documentation

- Assess and revise your current workflow to meet the education and documentation requirements of the law.
- Develop or obtain written educational materials that you will use for patient counseling.

Step 3: Establish a Protocol with a Physician

- A physician-approved protocol authorizes the pharmacist to initiate the dispensing of opioid antagonists.
- Each pharmacist who will dispense opioid antagonists must be listed, but a single physician can authorize multiple pharmacists.
- A sample protocol is available from the Board of Pharmacy: pharmacy.ky.gov/professionals/Pages/Pharmacists.aspx.
- The Department of Public Health offers a statewide protocol for pharmacists who do not have a medical provider to issue a protocol: <https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dph/dehp/hab/Documents/KYNaloxoneRx.pdf>.

Proof of training is not required to become opioid antagonist certified. However, training is recommended for pharmacists unfamiliar with protocol dispensing or overdose response. Free continuing education is available: healky.learningexpressce.com.

For information or assistance, please contact: monica.roberts@uky.edu
