

DAT ASSOCIATION DRUG-RELATED DEATHS SUB-GROUP

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The Use of Naloxone

Presentation by Kay Roberts, Co-ordinator Glasgow Pharmacy Needle Exchange Scheme, on behalf of Specialist Pharmacists in Public Health

Naloxone

- For intravenous, intramuscular or subcutaneous injection
- Used for complete or partial reversal of opioid depression induced by natural and synthetic opioids, as well as the mixed agonist/antagonists nalbuphine, pentazocine or dextropropoxyphene
- Prescription Only Medicine
- Not without side effects but does save lives
- Not on list of products that can be administered by anyone in an emergency to save life (See ACMD Report)
- Advice to potential victims/friends/carers must be aimed at a) avoiding overdose b) first aid (recovery position etc.)

How can supply/administer

- By prescription/order of doctor
- By paramedics (see ACMD Report)
- Patient Group Directions
- Supplementary Prescribers???
- Independent Prescribers???
- Extended Nurse Prescribers???

Pharmacists and Naloxone

- Advice to NEX/methadone clients
 - Passive
 - Pro-active
- Supply and/or administration
 - Research undertaken in Glasgow, Aberdeen, Edinburgh and Dublin
 - Fewer willing to stock than prepared to undergo training to administer!
- Australia/ Jersey
- Newer formulation