

## **IMPACT OF PHARMACIST-LED EDUCATION ON PROVIDERS' PRESCRIBING RATES AND PERCEPTIONS OF NALOXONE IN HIGH-RISK OPIOID PATIENTS.**

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Prescription opioids accounted for 35 percent of opioid-related deaths in 2017. High-risk criteria (morphine milligram equivalent (MME) dose, advanced age, etc.) are associated with an increased risk of opioid overdose for patients with chronic pain. Naloxone can help prevent overdose. However, nationally the number of naloxone prescriptions written remains dramatically lower than the number of high-dose opioid prescriptions written. Primary care physicians are apprehensive to prescribe naloxone and cite patient identification, patient education, and lack of familiarity with naloxone as barriers. The primary objective of this study is to evaluate the impact of pharmacist-led education on providers' naloxone prescription rates. The secondary objective is to assess providers' perceptions of naloxone in high-risk patients following pharmacist-led education.

A prospective, observational study was conducted with 30 providers across three primary care clinics. The providers were sent an online link to watch a pharmacist-led education demonstrating the process to identify high-risk opioid patients and instructions on how to order naloxone. The providers were then asked to complete an anonymous, voluntary, online pre and post survey using a Likert scale to assess their perceptions of naloxone for high-risk opioid patients. The percentage of naloxone prescriptions for high-risk opioid patients was evaluated six months before and six months after the pharmacist-led education.

The results of the study will be used to identify trends in naloxone prescription rates pre and post pharmacist-led education.