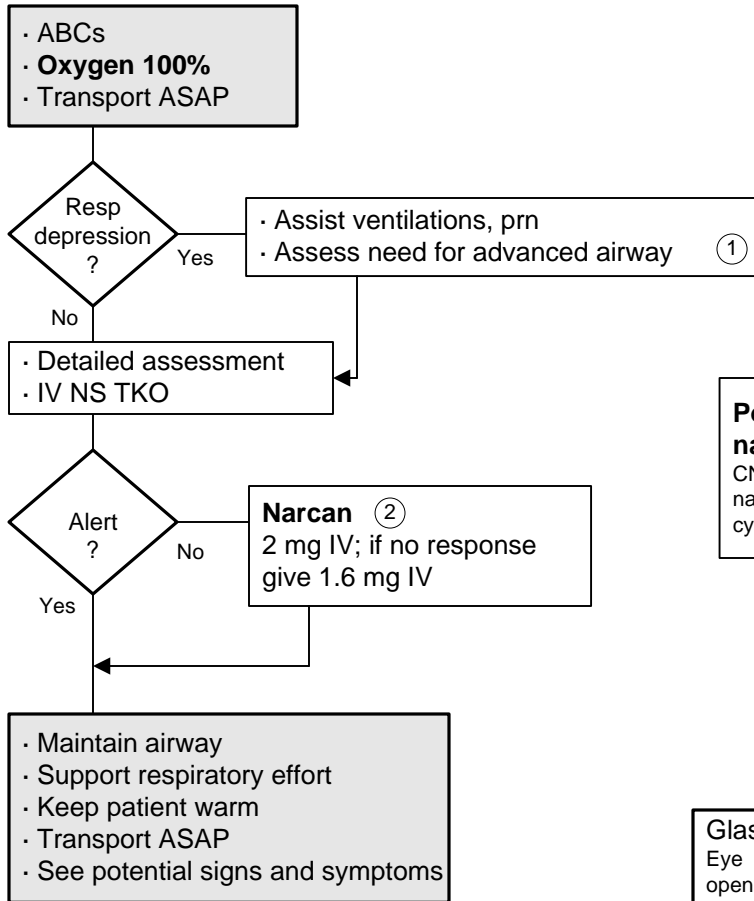



# Overdose: Narcotic



**Potential signs and symptoms of narcotic overdose:**  
CNS and respiratory depression, drowsiness, nausea, vomiting, pinpoint pupils, coma, cyanosis, bradycardia

Glasgow Coma Scale		
Eye opening	Spontaneous	4
	To voice	3
	To pain	2
		1
Best verbal response	Oriented	5
	Confused	4
	Inappropriate words	3
	Incomprehensible words	2
		1
Best motor response	Obeys commands	6
	Localizes pain	5
	Withdraws (pain)	4
	Flexion	3
		2
		1

 Document:

- Signs and symptoms
- Treatment
- Clinical response to treatment
- Vital signs, SpO<sub>2</sub>
- Cardiac rhythm
- Airway management

**1** Consider administering **Narcan** (while assisting ventilations) before intubation. A brief trial of **Narcan** may quickly reverse the patient's condition and eliminate the need for intubation. At no time should aggressive and adequate airway management be delayed. A trial of **Narcan** may be given before intubation only if the airway is secure.

**2 Narcan:** Half-life is short, 30–80 min. Be prepared to repeat treatment, as the effect of **Narcan** may wear off. Anticipate a rapid onset. Be prepared to restrain combative and/or confused patients.