Risk Management Step 3:
Risk Mitigation

Strategies Limit Future Adverse Outcomes

+ Establish realistic goals: Pain and functional improvement 30%
+ Use of alternatives to opioids – caution: they have risks too
+ Consider opioids with lower risk of addiction: buprenorphine, tramadol, tapentadol
+ Calculate and address morphine milligram equivalents (MMEs)
+ Prescribe naloxone + provide overdose rescue instructions
+ Avoid co-prescribed respiratory depressants, notably benzodiazepines
+ Provide informed consent: Risks, Benefits, Alternatives
+ Provide instructions for secure storage
+ Provide instructions for safe disposal
+ Plan for drug testing based on assessed level of controlled substance risk
+ Plan for online prescription database review based on level of controlled substance risk
+ Consider assessment of respiratory status: oxygenation status, underlying conditions

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