Subjective Information

The Prescription
- Has missing or unreadable information
- Appears altered or irregular
- Is from outside the surrounding area

The Patient
- Is paying in cash
- Has physical presentation of withdrawal
- Refuses to show identification

Action Item: Consult with the patient

Objective Information

Safety Triggers
- Opioid dosage significantly higher than necessary
- Combination of medications poses risk
- Prescriptions have been filled too frequently
- Combination of contradicting medications
- Patient is seeing multiple prescribers / pharmacies

Action Item: Contact prescriber and share notes

Assessment of Situation

Come to the conversation with recommendations as part of the health care team
- “Based on the information I have access to...”
- “I recommend...”

Action Item: Create plan for follow-up

Plan or Recommendation

With the prescriber, decide on a plan:
- Cancel or fill prescription?
- Refer patient back to prescriber?
- Introduce naloxone?

Action Item: Communicate plan to patient

See the RESPOND Algorithm for Patient Communication Tips