

Anne Arundel County Department of Health
School Health Services

Standing Order for Administration of Naloxone
(Medical Protocol for Suspected Opioid Overdose)

PURPOSE:

Opioid overdose occurs when the amount of opioid in the body is so great the individual becomes unresponsive to stimuli and breathing becomes inadequate. Lack of oxygen affects vital organs, including the heart and brain, leading to unconsciousness, coma, and eventually death. Naloxone is indicated for the reversal of opioid overdose in the presence of respiratory depression or unresponsiveness. The purpose of this protocol is to provide School Health staff with a standard by which to respond to this life threatening event in the school setting.

AN OPIOID OVERDOSE NEEDS IMMEDIATE MEDICAL ATTENTION

Body System	SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS OF AN OPIOID OVERDOSE
Mouth/Throat	Loud, uneven snoring or gurgling noises (death rattle)
Lungs	Shallow, slow breaths (fewer than 10 per minute) or not breathing at all
Skin	Pale, blue or gray, clammy
Heart	Slow or erratic pulse (heartbeat) Blue lips or fingertips (from lack of oxygen)
Mental	Unresponsive to stimuli such as noise or sternal rub Unconsciousness
Other	Constricted (pinpoint) pupils Very limp body

**FOR UNRESPONSIVE STUDENTS AND ADULTS WHO PRESENT SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS OF OPIOID OVERDOSE:
ADMINISTER INTRANASAL NALOXONE**

Naloxone Hydrochloride (2mg/2ml)	1 ml in each nostril	(2 ml total dose)
NARCAN® (4mg/0.1ml)	1 full spray in 1 nostril	(0.1ml total dose)

1. Attempt to rouse and stimulate the student/patient (perform sternal rub by making a fist; rub your knuckles firmly up and down the breast bone).
2. Call 911, Request AED.
3. If possible, monitor and record respirations, heart rate, and note suspected opiate overdose (as evidenced by pinpoint pupils, depressed mental status, etc.).
4. If available, administer naloxone or NARCAN®. If you do not have naloxone or NARCAN®, send someone to get it.

Naloxone Hydrochloride - syringe with atomizer	NARCAN® nasal spray
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Remove yellow caps from needle-less syringe. Attach the nasal atomizer (applicator) onto the top of needle-less syringe, remove purple cap from prefilled vial of naloxone, then assemble by gently twisting naloxone vial into delivery device until you feel it "catch". b. Tilt the person's head back and spray half (or 1 ml) of naloxone up one nostril and the other half (or 1 ml) of naloxone up the other nostril. <p><i>IMPORTANT: In an emergency, if you do not have the atomizer, you can squirt the naloxone into the person's nose (one-half or 1 ml in each nostril) instead.</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Remove NARCAN® nasal spray from the box by pulling back the tab with the circle. b. Hold the NARCAN® nasal spray with your thumb on the bottom of the plunger and your first and middle fingers on either side of the nozzle. c. Tilt the person's head back and gently insert the tip of the nozzle into either nostril until your fingers are against the bottom of the person's nose. d. Press the plunger firmly to give the dose of NARCAN®. e. Place person on their side in recovery position.

5. Start rescue breathing if not breathing or CPR if there is no pulse.
6. Notify parent and school administrator.
7. **Allow 1-3 minutes for medication to work.** If there is no change to the person's condition after 2-3 minutes, give another dose of naloxone (if available) as in **Step 4** above and continue rescue breathing or CPR as indicated.
8. Stay with the person until medical help arrives. Notify EMS of naloxone administration.

Director of Nursing, School Health

Medical Director

Effective Date

Expiration Date