

Naloxone (NARCAN)

347.1 PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines governing the administration of Naloxone, also known as NARCAN, by trained Louisville Police Department employees who are on scene prior to the arrival of EMS personnel in an effort to reduce the severity of injuries and fatalities from opioid-involved overdoses and accidental exposures.

347.2 POLICY

Employees trained in the use of Naloxone may administer Naloxone to a person when they believe that person is suffering an overdose from an opioid and medical assistance is not immediately available. Trained personnel may also administer Naloxone to themselves, fellow personnel or other employees when they believe exposure to an opioid has occurred. Employees shall administer Naloxone in a manner consistent with current training and shall appropriately document the use of Naloxone.

347.3 DEFINITIONS

Naloxone hydrochloride (Naloxone), also known as NARCAN, or any similarly acting drug that is not a controlled substance and has been approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for the treatment of a drug overdose, is an opioid antagonist that can counter the effects of an opioid drug overdose.

347.4 GENERAL GUIDELINES

347.4.1 ACTIONS PRIOR TO ADMINISTERING THE NALOXONE

- a. The first priority of all personnel is scene safety. Individuals who are revived from an opioid overdose may exhibit symptoms associated with withdrawal and can be combative. Mitigating any potential threats prior to providing medical assistance remains the police officer or other employee's most important task.
- b. When personnel arrive at the scene of a medical emergency, the officer will request an ambulance and make a good faith determination whether the individual appears to be suffering from an opioid overdose. In making this determination, the employee will:
 1. Consider statements of any witnesses and/or family members regarding the individual's drug use and any evidence on scene that verifies such drug usage; and if the person is apparently unconscious, ensure the individual is responsive and a potential candidate for Naloxone usage.
 2. To be considered a candidate for Naloxone administration, the individual should be unconscious/unresponsive and have a lack of (or severely reduced) respirations.

347.4.2 ADMINISTERING THE NALOXONE

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Per CRS §18-1-712, employees have general immunity when acting in good faith to administer an opioid antagonist such as Naloxone to another person whom the employee believes is suffering from an opioid related drug overdose. If the individual is suffering from an apparently opioid overdose, the personnel administering the Naloxone will:

- a. Utilize appropriate personal protective equipment as available.
- b. Administer the Naloxone as instructed in the training program and in compliance with instructions provided.
- c. Request that the Communications Center notify EMS that Naloxone was administered.
- d. Move the victim to the recover position on his/her side to prevent pulmonary aspiration in the event of vomiting and continue to monitor the individual until the arrival of EMS. Personnel should remain cautious of the combative actions that may be induced by the drug when regaining consciousness. Officers may restrain, but not handcuff, individuals who may have overdosed to protect the individual and first responders from injury.
- e. Repeat the administration if the individual does not respond within three to five minutes and another dose of Naloxone is available.
- f. Inform arriving EMS personnel, prior to or during transfer of the person to EMS, of the information leading to the belief that the person suffered from an opioid overdose.

347.4.3 DOCUMENTING THE NALOXONE ADMINISTRATION

Employees shall notify their supervisor and complete a report detailing the nature of the incident. If the individual cannot be revived and dies, the employee shall retain the Naloxone kit as evidence and follow normal protocols for a death investigation.

347.4.4 STORAGE OF NALOXONE

Louisville Police Department authorizes all employees trained in the Naloxone program to carry and administer department approved kits. Naloxone kits may be used on individuals who are suspected to be suffering from an opioid overdose. Prior to carrying or administering Naloxone, employees shall complete the Naloxone program training. The training will be coordinated through the Operations Corporal. Due to temperature sensitivity of the kits, personnel who have been issued a Naloxone kit should carry the Naloxone on their person.

347.4.5 NALOXONE MAINTENANCE AND REPLACEMENT

Personnel shall report all lost, stolen, or damaged kits to a supervisor. Employees should contact the Operations Corporal to replace kits that have been damaged, lost or used, Naloxone kits have an expiration date. It is the responsibility of the employee issued the kit to contact the Operations Corporal for a replacement when the expiration date is reached.

347.5 TRAINING

The Operations Corporal is responsible for ensuring pre-service and in-service training, as needed for department personnel, issuance of Naloxone kits, and reporting of Naloxone-related matters documented through a police report.

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347.6 LEGISLATION

- a. Immunity for persons who suffer or report an emergency drug or alcohol overdose event (9-1-1 Good Samaritan Law), C.R.S. §18-1-711
 - 1. The 9-1-1 Good Samaritan Law states that a person is immune from criminal prosecution for an offense when the person reports, in good faith, an emergency drug or alcohol overdose even to a law enforcement officer, to the 9-1-1 system, or to a medical provider. This same immunity applies to persons who remain at the scene of the event until a law enforcement officer or an emergency medical responder arrives, or if the person remains at the facilities of the medical provider until a law enforcement officer, emergency medical responder, or medical provider arrives. The immunity described above also extends to the person who suffered the emergency drug or alcohol overdose event.
- b. Immunity for a person who administers an opiate antagonist during an opiate-related drug overdose event, C.R.S. §18-1-712
 - 1. This law allows for a person other than a health care provider or health care facility who acts in good faith to administer an opiate antagonist to another person whom the person believes to be suffering an opiate-related drug overdose. The individual who administers Naloxone shall be immune from criminal prosecution for such an act.

