

SCIOTO COUNTY BOARD OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

POLICY 4.05 Use of Naloxone/Narcan

I. Introduction

The Scioto County Board of Developmental Disabilities has accepted the designation of a service entity with personnel who have access to naloxone and are trained and authorized to administer it to any person believed to be experiencing an opioid-related overdose. (Ref. ORC 3707.562)

II. Definition

Naloxone (also known as Narcan) is a medication that can reverse an overdose caused by an opioid drug natural or synthetic (e.g.; heroin or prescription pain medications). When administered during an overdose, naloxone reverses the effects of opioids, including respiratory depression, sedation and hypotension.

Naloxone has one critical function: to reverse the effects of opioids in order to prevent overdose death. If naloxone is given to a person who is not experiencing an opioid overdose, it exhibits essentially no pharmacologic effect. If naloxone is administered to a person who is dependent on opioids, it will produce withdrawal symptoms. Withdrawal, although uncomfortable, is typically not life-threatening. Naloxone does not reverse overdoses that are caused by non-opioid drugs, such as cocaine, benzodiazepines (e.g. Xanax, Klonopin and Valium), methamphetamines, or alcohol. (Ref. Ohio Department of Health)

III. Policy

- A. In partnership with the Portsmouth City Health Department, SCBDD will acquire and store the drug naloxone at in the Vern Riffe School building and The Carousel Center.
- B. A procedure will be developed by administration to include, but not limited to, the following:
 1. A list by title of employees who will be authorized to administer the drug;
 2. The training type and frequency for these employees;
 3. Appropriate storage for the drug where it is secure from misuse and theft, yet accessible if needed, and the requirement that it be stored in its original packaging;

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4. A system for replacing expired doses and the disposal of same, including the employees assigned this duty;
 5. A record of the names of employees who are authorized and trained to administer the drug and the frequency of their training;
 6. The protocol for the recordkeeping/reporting that follows the use of the drug.
 7. The requirement that emergency services (9-1-1) be contacted to respond as early as possible when an overdose is suspected.
 8. The steps required to gain permission for students to receive the drug, if necessary.
- C. Limited Criminal Immunity (Ref. ORC 2925.11)

Ohio's overdose Good Samaritan provisions include the actions required to receive immunity and the individuals covered. The law provides that an individual may not be arrested, charged, prosecuted, convicted, or penalized for a minor drug possession offense, if certain conditions are met.

Even though criminal immunity may be granted, an employee experiencing an overdose at work will be subject to the applicable personnel policies of the Board.