

ADMINISTERING NALOXONE

Background

Across Pennsylvania, the rate of deadly heroin and prescription opioids overdose is unprecedented. Act 139 of 2014 permits an individual who is in a position to assist a person at risk of an opioid overdose to obtain and administer Naloxone, an opioid antagonist that displaces the opioid from receptors in the brain to potentially reverse an opioid overdose. Naloxone is a non-narcotic, non-addicting drug with no euphoric properties and minimal side effects and, if administered to a person who is not experiencing an opioid overdose, it will do no harm. Naloxone has been available in an injectable form since the 1960s and has recently been developed as a nasal spray.

Objective

The objective of this policy is to authorize the Administration to maintain a supply of nasal Naloxone in all school buildings and to develop and implement safe and responsible procedures and protocols for administering Naloxone to individuals who are believed to be experiencing an opioid overdose.

Policy

Each school nurse within the District, and any other individual(s) authorized by the Superintendent, shall be trained in the administration of Naloxone to individuals who are believed to be experiencing an opioid overdose.

Naloxone may be administered when there is reasonable cause to believe that the person is suffering from an opioid overdose. Naloxone must be administered in accordance the individual's training and the manufacturer's instructions. In conjunction with the the administration of Naloxone, 911 must be contacted for additional medical attention.

A person who acts in good faith and with reasonable care in administering Naloxone to an individual they believe is experiencing an opioid overdose shall be free from any criminal prosecution or civil liability relating to the administration of Naloxone. The receipt of training and instructional materials that meet the requirements of Act 139, and the prompt call to 911 seeking additional medical attention in conjunction with the administration of Naloxone, create a rebuttable presumption that the person acted in good faith and with reasonable care in administering Naloxone.

Nothing in this policy shall be interpreted as creating a duty on the part of the District to administer Naloxone to any person.

Administrative Responsibility

It shall be the responsibility of the Administration, in conjunction with the Health Services Department, to develop and implement appropriate procedures and protocols for the administration of Naloxone to persons thought to be experiencing an opioid overdose; obtaining, maintaining and storing Naloxone and related materials; establishing security, record keeping and inventory procedures to ensure that Naloxone supplies are refreshed as recommended; establishing internal and external reporting procedures for any incidents where an overdose occurs and Naloxone is administered and requiring/ensuring that persons designated as having the responsibility to administer Naloxone or having custody of Naloxone stocks complete the appropriate training.

Communication

This policy shall be communicated to:

1. All Administrative Personnel, Faculty and Staff
2. All Parents/Guardians and Students
3. The Mt. Lebanon Community

Adopted March 21, 2016