

Students

Administering Medication

Opioid Overdose Response (Emergency Administration of Naloxone)

The Board of Education (Board) is committed to enhancing the health and safety of individuals within the school environment. The District will identify specific locations for the storage of Naloxone and protocols for its administration in emergency situations to assist individuals suspected to be experiencing an opioid overdose.

Definitions

Drug overdose is an acute medical condition, including, but not limited to, severe physical illness, coma, mania, hysteria or death, which is the result of consumption or use of one or more controlled substances causing an adverse reaction. The signs of opioid overdose include unresponsiveness; nonconsciousness; shallow breathing with rate less than 10 breaths per minute or not breathing at all; blue or gray face, especially fingernails and lips; and loud, uneven snoring or gurgling noises.

Naloxone is a medication that can reverse an overdose caused by an opioid drug. As a narcotic antagonist, Naloxone displaces opiates from receptor sites in the brain and reverses respiratory depression that usually is the cause of overdose deaths.

Opioid is a class of drugs that includes but is not limited to heroin, morphine, codeine, methadone, oxycodone (OxyContin, Percodan, Percocet), hydrocodone (Vicodin), fentanyl, hydromorphone (Dilaudid), and buprenorphine.

Delegation of Responsibility

The Superintendent or their designee, in consultation with the school nurse(s) and the school physician/School Medical Advisor shall establish appropriate internal procedures for the acquisition, stocking and administration of Naloxone and related emergency response procedures pursuant to this policy.

The school physician/School Medical Advisor shall be the prescribing and supervising medical professional for the District's stocking and use of Naloxone. The Superintendent or their designee shall obtain a standing order from the school physician/School Medical Advisor for the administration of Naloxone.

The standing order shall be maintained in the Superintendent's office and copies of the standing order shall be kept in each location where Naloxone is stored.

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Delegation of Responsibility (continued)

The school nurse shall be responsible for building-level administration and management of Naloxone and management of Naloxone stocks. Each school nurse and any other individual(s) authorized by the Superintendent shall be trained in the administration of Naloxone.

Naloxone shall be safely stored in the school nurse's office or other location designated by the school nurse in accordance with the drug manufacturer's instructions.

The Board permits school nurses to administer Naloxone to any person at school or a school event displaying symptoms of an opioid overdose. The District will store the Naloxone kits in a secure but accessible location consistent with the district's emergency response plan, such as the nurse's office. Naloxone shall be accessible during school hours and during on-site school-sponsored activities.

Acquisition, Storage and Disposal

Naloxone shall be safely stored in the school nurse's office or other location designated by the school nurse in accordance with the drug manufacturer's instructions.

The school nurse shall obtain sufficient supplies of Naloxone pursuant to the standing order in the same manner as other medical supplies acquired for the school health program. The school nurse or designee shall regularly inventory and refresh Naloxone stocks, and maintain records thereof. In accordance with internal procedures, manufacturer's recommendations and any applicable Department of Public Health guidelines.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

10-212 School nurses and nurse practitioners. Administration of medications by parents or guardians on school grounds. Criminal history; records check.

10-212a Administration of medications in schools.

17a-714 Immunity for prescribing, dispensing or administering an opioid antagonist to treat or prevent a drug overdose.

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Legal References (continued)

21a-279(g)Penalty for illegal possession. Alternate sentences. Immunity.

52-557b Immunity from liability for emergency medical assistance first aid or medication by injection. School personnel not required to administer or render.

Connecticut Regulations of State Agencies 10-212a-1 through 10-212a-10, inclusive, as amended.

PA 22-80 An Act Concerning Childhood Mental and Physical Health Services in School

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New London Public Schools
New London, CT