

Students
Administering Medication

5141.213(a)

Opioid Overdose Prevention (Emergency Administration of Naloxone)

The Board of Education (Board) recognizes that many factors, including the use and misuse of prescription painkillers, can lead to the dependence on and addiction to opioids, and that such dependence and addiction can lead to overdose and death among the general public, including District students and staff. The Board wants to minimize these deaths by the use of opioid overdose prevention measures.

No school nurse or staff member shall be liable for civil damages which may result from acts or omissions relating to the use of the opioid antagonist which may constitute ordinary negligence; nor shall the school personnel be subject to criminal prosecution which may result from acts or omissions in the good faith administration of an opioid antagonist. This immunity does not apply to acts or omissions constituting gross negligence or willful or wanton conduct. No school nurse or staff member shall be subject to penalty or disciplinary action for refusing to be trained in the administration of an opioid antagonist.

Definitions

Drug overdose means 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; non consciousness; 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 (Narcan) means 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 means illegal drugs such as heroin, as well as prescription medications used to treat pain such as morphine, codeine, methadone, oxycodone (OxyContin, Percodan, Percocet), hydrocodone (Vicodin), fentanyl, hydromorphone (Dilaudid), and buprenorphine.

Delegation of Responsibility

The Superintendent or his/her designee, in consultation with the school nurse(s) and the school physician/School Medical Advisor shall establish appropriate internal procedures for the

5141.213(b)

acquisition, stocking and administration of Naloxone (Narcan) and related emergency response procedures pursuant to this policy.

The school physician/School Medical Advisor shall provide and annually renew a standing order for the administration of Naloxone to students, staff members or other individuals believed or suspected to be experiencing an opioid overdose on school grounds or at a school-sponsored activity. The standing order shall include at least the following information:

1. Type of Naloxone (intranasal and auto-injector)
2. Date of issuance
3. Dosage
4. Signature of the school physician/School Medical Advisor

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

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

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.

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.

5141.213(c)

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

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.

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NORTH CANAAN BOARD OF EDUCATION

North Canaan, Connecticut