

TOWN OF CHEEKTOWAGA POLICE DEPARTMENT

Effective: June 17, 2015	Subject:
Rescinded:	NARCAN USAGE

GENERAL ORDER 0-11-10a

Purpose:

The purpose of this policy is to inform sworn members of the Cheektowaga Police Department of circumstances under which the use of Narcan is appropriate and to record instances where Narcan was administered.

Symptoms of Opioid Overdose:

Symptoms of an opioid overdose include unconsciousness, lethargy, and confusion, as well as shallow or no breathing. Additional symptoms may also include a change in one's skin color, especially in the lips and fingernails. If left untreated, an opioid overdose may lead to death as these substances can inhibit a person's autonomic breathing reflex and suppress cardiac function. Narcan works by temporarily reversing the effects of the abused substance, allowing the victim to regain consciousness and resume normal breathing. Narcan is safe to administer to anyone including children, pregnant women, and the elderly. If Narcan is administered to an individual whose condition was not caused by an opioid overdose, the drug will have no negative effect. Members of the Department should be aware that Narcan is not effective on the class of drugs known as benzodiazepines (e.g., Xanax, Klonopin, Valium, etc.) nor is it effective on those who have abused non-opioid drugs such as bath salts, cocaine, methamphetamines, or alcohol.

Policy:

The use of Narcan is appropriate when the symptoms of the subject are those of an opioid overdose. A properly trained sworn member of the Department may administer Narcan whenever he or she reasonably believes that a subject is the victim of an opioid drug overdose.

Definitions:

NARCAN – An intranasal prescription medication that can be used to reverse the effects of an opioid drug overdose.

OPIOIDS – Opioid drugs include, but are not limited to, heroin, morphine, oxycodone, methadone, hydrocodone, and codeine.

Procedure:

When a sworn member of the Department reasonably believes that an individual is suffering from an opioid drug overdose:

1. Request the response of Emergency Medical Service (EMS).
2. If the subject is unconscious, perform a sternum rub in an attempt to regain consciousness.
3. Administer Narcan in the following manner:
 - a. Pry the caps from the plastic tube.
 - b. Remove the cap from the narcan ampule.
 - c. Insert the nasal cone into the appropriate end of the plastic tube.
 - d. Gently screw the narcan ampule into the barrel of the plastic tube.
 - e. Insert the nasal cone into a nostril while depressing the Narcan ampule into the tube.
 - f. Spray one half of the Narcan into each nostril.
4. Request dispatch to notify responding EMS personnel that Narcan was administered.
5. If the subject has not responded within three to five minutes after administering the first dose, administer a second dose.
6. Request dispatch to notify responding EMS personnel that a second dose of Narcan was administered.
7. Inform responding EMS of the circumstances in which the subject was found that led to the belief that subject is suffering from an opioid drug overdose (i.e., physical signs, statements by witnesses, etc.).
 - a. Report any attempt to revive subject (e.g., CPR, AED, etc.).
 - b. It is generally not necessary to accompany a subject who has been administered Narcan to the hospital, unless subject is unconscious or unidentified.
8. Complete a Police Report; being sure to include:
 - a. Type of location (house, apartment, business, etc.).
 - b. Type of controlled substances the subject was suspected of using, including name of prescription drugs, if known.

- c. Condition of subject (i.e., if subject was conscious and breathing before administration of Narcan).
- d. If CPR was administered.
- e. If subject survived.
- f. Number of doses of Narcan administered.

In the event the subject passes away, the sworn member must notify their immediate Supervisor, who will make any additional notifications necessary.

- 9. Complete a New York State Public Safety Naloxone Quality Improvement Usage Report (located on the I-Drive: Police Forms: NYS Naloxone Usage Report) and any other report deemed necessary. The NYS report will be saved using the CD# of the incident and emailed, or printed out and delivered to, the Department Program Director.
- 10. Dispose of the used Narcan device (plastic tube, narcan ampule, nasal cone) into trash receptacle, unless the subject passed away and, if that should occur, preserve the Narcan device and submit as evidence.
- 11. Obtain replacement Narcan device/kit, as necessary.
 - a. Notify the Department Program Director when a replacement kit is needed.
 - b. If a Narcan device/kit is lost or stolen, a Police Report must be completed detailing the circumstances.

The Department will also keep a log detailing the Narcan device/kits issued, used, expired, damaged, lost or stolen.

Additional Data:

Tactical Considerations

Narcan is generally effective within five to ten minutes of administration. If an individual was suffering from an opioid drug overdose, Narcan will cause that person to regain consciousness and resume normal breathing. However, members of the service are reminded to use proper tactics when administering this drug; subjects who are revived from an opioid overdose may regain consciousness in an agitated and combative state and may exhibit symptoms associated with withdrawal. Additionally, Narcan will wear off after thirty to forty minutes. Therefore, it is critical that whenever this drug is administered the aided individual be immediately removed to the hospital.

Members should also follow universal precautions when administering Narcan.

Operational Considerations

While officers are on duty, Narcan kits may be kept in officer's gear bag or on officer's person. Recommended storage conditions are between 59 and 86 degrees Fahrenheit. Officers should be mindful of temperature fluctuations.

Members are to ensure that expired or damaged Narcan kits are returned to the Department Program Director and a replacement kit is obtained.

<u>Date:</u>	<u>Chief of Police:</u>
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