#### **Toledo-Lucas County Health Department Policy**



# **Emergency Administration of Intranasal Naloxone (Narcan) Policy**

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Website: www.lucascountyhealth.com/employee-login/					
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		Requisite Signatures	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
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	James Munkery	MD	1  29/2017		
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#### **Toledo-Lucas County Health Department Policy**



## **Emergency Administration of Intranasal Naloxone (Narcan) Policy**

#### I. Policy

It is the policy of the Toledo-Lucas county Health Department (TLCHD) to provide all employees with the guidance and means to respond to a suspected opioid overdose.

#### II. Scope

This policy applies to all TLCHD employees.

#### III. Purpose

To provide standing orders and guidelines for TLCHD Employees to respond to a suspected opioid overdose including: the recognition of signs and symptoms of an opiate overdose; activating the 911 System; the administration of intranasal naloxone (Narcan); and supportive care pending the arrival of the Lucas County Emergency Medical System (LCEMS). The administration of intranasal naloxone (Narcan) is indicated for the reversal of respiratory depression or unresponsiveness in the setting of an opioid overdose or suspected opioid overdose.

#### IV. Background

The increasing numbers of opioid overdoses in Lucas County represent a significant public health issue. Pursuant to the 2015 revisions of Ohio Revised Code (ORC) section 2925.61\*, an individual who is in a position to assist an individual who is apparently experiencing or at risk of experiencing, an opioid-related overdose, is not subject to criminal prosecution for a violation of ORC section 4731.41\* or criminal prosecution under this chapter if the individual, acting in good faith, does all of the following:

- **A.** Obtains naloxone pursuant to a prescription used by a licensed health professional or obtains naloxone from one of the following:
  - 1. A licensed health professional;
  - 2. An individual who is authorized by a physician under ORC section 4731.941 or a board of health under ORC section 3707.561 to personally furnish intranasal naloxone (Narcan).
  - 3. A pharmacist or pharmacy intern who is authorized by a physician or board of health under ORC section 4729.44 to dispense intranasal naloxone (Narcan) without a prescription.
- **B.** Administers the intranasal naloxone (Narcan) obtained as specified in section (IV)(A) above and in the *Emergency Administration of Intranasal Naloxone (Narcan) Procedure*.

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**C.** Attempts to summon emergency services as soon as practicable.

\*Refer to the handout attached *Dispensing of Naloxone by Pharmacists and Pharmacy Interns without a Prescription* for more information.

#### V. Policy Provisions

- **A.** In an effort to reduce overdose mortality amongst TLCHD clients, visitors, and the population of Lucas County, all TLCHD staff will be trained to recognize an opioid overdose, call 911, administer intranasal naloxone (Narcan), and provide supportive care pending the arrival of LCEMS.
- **B.** A Standing Order for The Administration of Naloxone by TLCHD Employees approved by TLCHD's Medical Director under the authority of ORC 2925.61, grants that trained TLCHD staff can administer intranasal naloxone (Narcan) to clients, visitors, and the population of Lucas County experiencing a suspected opioid overdose.
- **C.** Intranasal naloxone (Narcan) will be distributed to TLCHD employees who volunteer to carry the opioid antagonist for administration under the appropriate circumstances.

#### VI. Intranasal naloxone (Narcan)

- **A.** Narcan is a prescription medication that can reverse an overdose that is caused by an opioid drug. When administered during an overdose, intranasal naloxone (Narcan) blocks the effects of opioids on the brain and restores breathing.
- **B.** Intranasal naloxone (Narcan) has no potential for abuse. If it is given to a person who is not experiencing an opioid overdose, it is relatively harmless. If naloxone is administered to a person who is experiencing an opioid overdose, it will produce withdrawal symptoms. Intranasal naloxone (Narcan) does not reverse overdoses caused by non-opioid drugs. (See attached information on Narcan Nasal Spray).

#### VII. Naloxone Kits are Kept in the following TLCHD Locations:

Kits of intranasal naloxone (Narcan) will be located within each of TLCHD's buildings (both 635 N. Erie St. and the WLLC) for use in response to an opioid overdose.

- Front Desk\*
- 2. Adult Medical Clinic
- 3. Pediatric Clinic
- 4. Vital Statistics

- 5. Shots4Tots n Teens Office/Mobile Kit
- 6. Environmental Health Desk
- 7. Women, Infants, Children (WIC) 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

<sup>\*</sup> Indicates both Downtown and Western Locations

#### VIII. Maintenance

#### A. Review

1. The Emergency Administration of Intranasal Naloxone (Narcan) Policy is to be reviewed biennially to ensure compliance with both agency standards, intranasal naloxone (Narcan) product availability, and accreditation standards.

#### **B.** Revision

- 1. All changes made to this policy are to be noted on the **Record of Change**. Substantial changes will require renewed signatures from all applicable parties. This includes changes to the intent, scope, procedures, or policy statement.
- 2. Changes in style, format, grammar or minor error correction will not require renewed signatures but must be indicated on the Record of Change.

#### IX. Glossary

- **A.** <u>Drug Dependence</u>: is an adaptive state that develops from repeated drug administration, and which results in withdrawal upon cessation of drug use. Compulsive and repetitive use may result in tolerance to the effect of the drug.
- B. <u>Opioids</u>: are a class of drugs derived from the opium poppy. Opiates include both heroin as well as prescription medications used to treat pain such as morphine, codeine, methadone, oxycodone (OxyContin, Percodan, Percocet), hydrocodone (Vicodin, Lortab, Norco), fentanyl (Duragesic, Fentora), hydromorphone (Dilaudid, Exalgo), and buprenorphine (Subutex, Suboxone).
- **C.** <u>Opioid Withdrawal</u>: can be extremely uncomfortable. The important thing to remember is that opioid withdrawal is not life threatening if you are withdrawing only from opioids and not a combination of drugs.
- **D.** <u>Tolerance</u>: is a person's diminished response to a drug, which occurs when the drug is used repeatedly and the body adapts to the continued presence of the drug. *Merck Manual*

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### **Record of Change**

(Required for all policies)

Date of Change	Changes Made By	Changes Made/Notes	Approved By
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