



## **NALOXONE (NARCAN) POLICY**

**GENERAL ORDER NO. 2015-65**

This Order contains the following numbered sections:

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### **1.0 Policy**

It is the policy of the Edenton Police Department that all sworn officers will be trained in the use of Naloxone (Narcan). Employees assigned a vehicle and who are trained to administer Naloxone (Narcan) will carry the kit in their assigned vehicles at all times while on duty.

### **2.0 Personnel Affected**

All Sworn Officers

### **3.0 Purpose**

The purpose of this directive is to establish guidelines and procedures governing the utilization of the Nasal Naloxone (Narcan) administered by officers of the Edenton Police Department. The objective of administering Nasal Narcan is to treat opioid overdoses and to minimize the effects of an overdose caused by opioids.

## 4.0 Discussion

Nasal Naloxone (Narcan) is a single dose cartridge that is intended to reduce deaths associated with opioid overdose. As first responders to most emergency calls, patrol officers have the ability to assess a situation and administer lifesaving treatment via this drug, if the officer believes, or has reason to believe, the overdose is from opioids. The immediate result of reversing the effects of the opioid will allow time for more advanced medical treatment by trained Emergency Medical Services (EMS) personnel. The administration of a Narcan treatment, does not mean that officers are operating as emergency personnel.

The Edenton Police Department greatly understands the substance abuse issues within the community and strives to implement practices that can increase community awareness and decrease injury or death resulting from such issues. As a result, the Edenton Police Department is a frequent participant in Operation Medicine Drop events and has implemented a permanent drop-box to aid in the disposal of unused medications.

## 5.0 Definitions

### **Signs of Opioid Overdose (may include, one or more of the following):**

- \* Unresponsive, are absence of breathing, or no pulse
- \* Blood-shot eyes
- \* Pinpoint pupils, even in a darkened room/area
- \* Lack of response to sternal rub
- \* Depressed or slow respiratory rate
- \* Difficulty breathing (labored breathing or shallow breaths)
- \* Bluish lips, skin, or nail beds
- \* Low blood pressure
- \* Lack of alertness or drowsiness
- \* Seizures

**Narcan:** (Naloxone) is a pure opioid antagonist that is used to completely or partially counter the effects of opioid overdose, such as heroin, morphine, or other narcotic painkillers.

### **Side-effects of Narcan (may include, one or more of the following):**

- \* Change in mood to include confusion or agitation
- \* Increased sweating
- \* Severe nausea and/or vomiting
- \* Nervousness or anxiety
- \* Restlessness or Trembling
- \* Allergic reactions such as rash or swelling

- \* Dizziness or Fainting
- \* Fast pulse, irregular pulse, heart rhythm changes
- \* Flushing
- \* Severe headache
- \* Seizures or convulsions
- \* Sudden chest pain or pulmonary edema
- \* Dry cough, wheezing, or feeling short of breath

**Narcan kit:** Includes Narcan cartridge, atomizer, instructions for administering Narcan, one (1) face mask for mouth-to-mouth resuscitation, and one (1) pair of gloves.

**Overdose Responder:** Is a sworn officer of the Edenton Police Department that has completed the in-service training and has been issued a Narcan kit.

## 6.0 Procedures

### A. Responsibilities of Responding Officers

It is the policy of the Edenton Police Department that all sworn officers will be trained in the use of Narcan. Officers shall deploy Narcan in accordance with the Edenton Police Department training protocol. The use of Narcan shall be reported by the officer to his/her immediate supervisor. The officer shall document the use of Narcan in writing in an incident report, detailing the reason it was used, circumstances surrounding the use, and the care the patient received.

At all times, patrol officers shall carry a fully stocked Narcan kit and it shall be stored in the officer's patrol vehicle. Missing, damaged or expired kits should be reported in writing directly to the officer's immediate supervisor.

Narcan may be used when responding to an overdose or when an officer reasonably believes that a person is in an overdosed state based on the following observations/information:

- 1) When advised by the Communication personnel prior to arrival or when advised while on scene.
- 2) When observing drugs, drug paraphernalia or any other drug instruments with the subject (needles, spoons, tourniquets, needle tracks, bloody nose, etc.).

Upon arrival to the incident scene an officer shall:

- 1) Assess the situation.

- 2) Notify the Communications Center that the subject is in a potential overdose state and request EMS.
- 3) Open the Narcan kit, take out the pair of gloves, and place them on. Then determine if the individual that appears to be suffering from an opioid overdose is breathing. If breathing move to step 4. If not breathing, from the Narcan kit use the face mask to perform a few quick breaths of mouth-to-mouth resuscitation remembering always to maintain universal precautions while rendering first aid.
- 4) From the Narcan kit, affix the nasal atomizer (applicator) to the needleless syringe and then assemble the glass cartridge of Narcan (refer to your in-service training or see instructions within the kit for the diagram).
- 5) Tilt the head back and spray half of the Narcan up one side of the nose (1cc) and half up the other side of the nose (1cc).
- 6) If there is no breathing or breathing continues to be shallow, continue to perform rescue breathing for them while waiting for the Narcan to take effect or EMS arrives.
- 7) If there is no change in 3-5 minutes, administer another dose of Narcan (by repeating steps 4-5) and continue to breathe for the individual. If the second dose of Narcan does not revive the individual, something else may be wrong (it has been too long and the heart has already stopped, there are no opioids in their system, or the opioids are unusually strong and require more Narcan).
- 8) Continue to render first aid until relieved by EMS personnel.

B. Responsibilities of the Immediate Supervisor:

Upon receipt of notification that Narcan has been administered, the supervisor will forward the information to the Program Coordinator and submit a request for the replacement of the Narcan kit to the Office of Personnel and Recruitment. The supervisor will review the incident report to ensure that the responding officer has documented the incident appropriately and in accordance with the requirements provided by the Chowan County Medical Director as reviewed during in-service training.

C. Responsibilities of the Program coordinator:

The Program Coordinator will consult with the Chowan County Medical Director to oversee all clinical aspects of the Narcan overdose prevention program. The Program Coordinator shall create a training curriculum and ensure the Department's lesson plan is up to date with current material. The lesson plan must be approved by the Chowan County Medical Director and the Training Coordinator.

On a monthly basis, the Program Coordinator shall:

- 1) Ensure that each sworn officer of the Edenton Police Department is qualified as an overdose responder. Meet with the Chowan County Medical Director to have training certificates reviewed, approved, and signed off on.
- 2) Ensure all overdose reversals will be recorded in the narrative section of the incident report and reviewed by the employees' immediate supervisor.
- 3) Be a liaison with local EMS, where appropriate.
- 4) Upon request, provide the Chowan County Medical Director with redacted overdose incident reports pertaining to Narcan administration and will assist in the review process.
- 5) Maintain records of the receipt and assignment of each Narcan kit and refill, along with the administration of any Narcan kit (per requirements provided by the Chowan County Medical Director).
- 6) Monitor the number of reversals and identify any trends. If there are more than two reversals in a week or if there are specific concerns over either the strength or contamination of drugs in the community, the concern will be discussed with the Chowan County Medical Director and reported immediately to the local health department.
- 7) When a Narcan refill is needed, the Program Coordinator will provide direction to the department quartermaster on how to obtain the refill.

G. Training and Recertification:

It is the responsibility of the Training Coordinator:

- 1) To obtain a lesson plan approved by the Chowan County Medical Director or designee.
- 2) To collaborate with the Program Coordinator to approve and implement any lesson plan updates.
- 3) Upon request from the Office of Personnel and Recruitment, provide validation of Narcan training certificates prior to the issuance of a replacement Narcan kit.
- 4) To check training records for accuracy when an officer requests a new kit due to loss, use, or expiration.
- 5) To maintain Narcan training program records.
- 6) To ensure all officers that have completed the training program are issued certificates of completion. Each certificate must be approved and signed by the Chowan County Medical Director.

All training will address at a minimum the following:

- 1) Risk factors for opioid overdose
- 2) Signs of an overdose
- 3) Actions to be taken
  - Call the Communications Center
  - Rescue breathing
  - Recovery position
  - Use of Narcan

At the conclusion of initial training, each person who has demonstrated adequate understanding of the course material will receive a certificate of completion and be issued their Narcan kit from the instructor. This certification is valid for two (2) years. Annual in-service refresher training will be required for all officers to ensure current knowledge regarding overdose protocol is provided and to engage in practical exercises regarding how to properly assemble and administer the Narcan device.

Narcan training instructors may include Edenton Police Department personnel; however they must train with support from a licensed health-care professional. Certified EMT's or higher may also conduct training if appointed by the Chowan County Medical Director.

The Training Coordinator shall maintain a log of:

- 1) Training Dates
- 2) Training Locations
- 3) Instructor's name
- 4) Attendees names
- 5) Date of Completion/Certificate Received
- 6) Current list of certified Narcan Instructors

H. Storage and Inventory of Narcan:

The department quartermaster will ensure that the Narcan is stored safely and consistently with the manufacturer's guidelines and that an adequate inventory of Narcan is maintained, based on projected demand. The Narcan inventory shall be routinely monitored to ensure that all trained overdose responders are furnished Narcan that has at least nine (9) months before it expires. The Uniform Operations Commander, or designee, shall maintain Narcan usage records and inventories of Narcan supplies and materials. The Narcan kit will be inspected during the

Annual Uniform Operations Vehicle Inspection to ensure the kit has not expired and is fully stocked.

If for any reason the Narcan kit must be taken out of service, the department quartermaster shall notify the affected officer's immediate supervisor.

7.0 Effective date

The effective date of this General Order is November 27, 2015.

By the order of

Jay H. Fortenbery  
Chief of Police