

## Use of Narcan (Naloxone)

### 414.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines and regulations governing the utilization of Narcan by Berkeley Police Department employees with the objective to reduce the number of fatal opiate overdoses and increase employee safety.

### 414.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Berkeley Police Department that employees are required to be trained in the use and appropriate administration of Narcan.

### 414.3 STANDING ORDER

The Alameda County Emergency Medical Services Agency (EMSA) Medical Director has authorized employees who have received training in the application of Narcan to possess and administer Narcan. [See attachment: BPD Narcan Signed Medical Standing Order](#) .

### 414.4 DEFINITIONS

**Naloxone Hydrochloride (Narcan):** A prescription medication used for the treatment of a known or suspected opioid overdose; a narcotic antagonist which works by affecting opiate receptor sites within the brain.

**Intranasal:** Administered through the nose; the nasal cavity is covered by a thin mucosa, which is extremely vascular and provides a direct route into the blood stream of the subject. Therefore, when Narcan is administered, via spray into the subject's nose it can be quickly effective.

**Opioid Overdose:** An acute, life threatening medical condition caused by the excessive intake of opiates (e.g. heroin, morphine, fentanyl, tramadol, oxycodone, etc.). This serious medical condition causes the victim to suffer from an altered level of consciousness, pinpoint pupils, respiratory arrest, and can lead to death.

**Employee:** Any sworn or non-sworn member of the Berkeley Police Department who is likely to be in a location where narcotics are found, tested or stored.

### 414.5 NARCAN COORDINATOR

The First Aid/CPR Training Coordinator, or their designee, shall act as the Narcan Coordinator. The Narcan Coordinator's responsibilities include:

- (a) Maintaining records of issued Narcan kits
- (b) Maintaining a list of employees trained in Narcan administration
- (c) Obtaining new Narcan kits prior to their expiration
- (d) Coordinating new or continued Narcan training for employees

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#### **414.6 PROCEDURE**

- (a) Only employees who have completed authorized training in the use and application of Narcan shall be assigned to carry and utilize Narcan.
- (b) The Watch Commander, or their designee, shall ensure there are an adequate number of trained employees on every shift who carry Narcan in the field. The Narcan Coordinator shall maintain a list of personnel authorized to carry Narcan in order to aid the Watch Commander in this task.
- (c) Sworn personnel assigned to the Operations Division shall be assigned long-term Narcan kits. The kits shall be maintained in accordance with the provisions of this policy. Other sworn personnel assigned or opting to carry Narcan, shall complete an Equipment Inventory Log, including the Narcan kit number, date and time the equipment is logged out and returned. The Narcan kit and all related equipment must be returned to the designated secure storage area at the end of each shift, unless permission is granted to specific employees for long-term use.
- (d) Employees who are trained in accordance with the Alameda County EMSA mandated training guidelines shall deploy with Narcan kits in the field. However, the officer shall retain the discretion to administer or not administer Narcan to persons experiencing or suspected of experiencing opioid-related overdoses. There is no legal or departmental obligation to administer Narcan.
- (e) Employees who administer Narcan are protected from civil and criminal liability if they “act with reasonable care” and “in good faith.” This is accomplished by administering Narcan according to the established training protocol.
- (f) Narcan must be stored in a climate controlled area and in a location where access to the medication can be secured and controlled.
- (g) Each assigned employee shall conduct a pre-service inspection of the Narcan kit and confirm its condition. The employee shall inspect the secured safety case to ensure it is clean and not damaged or expired.
- (h) Assigned employees shall carry the Narcan kit in a location that can be easily accessed and utilized when needed but out of direct sunlight.

#### **414.7 NARCAN ADMINISTRATION**

- (a) Employees trained in the use of Narcan are authorized to use it without prior approval in cases where an opiate overdose is suspected.
- (b) When using Narcan employees should maintain universal precautions against blood borne pathogens.
- (c) Prior to administration of Narcan, employees must assess the victim for lack of breathing, pulse and unresponsiveness. Employees should conduct a brief visual survey for any obvious evidence of drug use or exposure.
- (d) If an employee determines a victim is suffering from opiate based over-dose, the employee shall request Emergency Medical Services (EMS) immediately prior to the administration of Narcan.

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- (e) Narcan shall be administered by employees utilizing an intranasal method approved by the local EMS Director and in accordance with training guidelines.

#### **414.8 DOCUMENTATION AND REPORTING**

- (a) Any employee administering Narcan shall detail its use in the [BPD Narcan Report](#) .
- (b) The supervisor approving the report shall ensure it contains enough information to meet applicable state reporting requirements and that a copy of the report is routed to the EMSA for auditing purposes.

#### **414.9 MAINTENANCE AND REPLACEMENT**

- (a) The daily inspection of Narcan kits shall be the responsibility of the officers who are assigned the kit for field deployment. The maintenance and replacement of Narcan kits shall be the responsibility of the Narcan Coordinator or their designee. Used, lost, or damaged Narcan kits shall be reported to a supervisor and returned to the Narcan Coordinator for replacement.
- (b) Narcan can only be obtained by prescription and shall be ordered for the Berkeley Police Department on an as needed basis by the Berkeley Police Department's Narcan Coordinator or their designee.

#### **414.10 TRAINING**

Prior to being issued and/or administering Narcan, personnel must complete an Opioid Overdose Prevention Training conducted by a person authorized by the Department to serve as a trainer. The authorized trainer must be trained by Alameda County EMS to conduct Opioid Overdose Responder training. The training shall only be offered to Berkeley Police Department employees and shall be conducted every two years during departmental Continued Professional Training (CPT) sessions.

## **Attachments**

## **BPD Narcan Signed Medical Standing Order.pdf**

## **BPD Narcan Report.pdf**