

## 5330.04 ADMINISTERING AN OPIOID ANTIDOTE

New Jersey's "Overdose Prevention Act" encourages the wider prescription and distribution of an opioid antidote to prevent opioid overdose. The New Jersey Department of Education informed school districts they may develop and adopt policies and procedures to maintain and administer an opioid antidote to any student, school personnel, or other person believed to be experiencing an opioid overdose during school hours or during on-site school-sponsored activities to block the opioid's life-threatening effects.

### Administration by Authorized Persons

#### 1. Certified School Nurse and Other Appropriately Licensed School Health Professionals

In accordance with N.J.S.A. 24:6J-4.a.(1)(e), the school district's Physician (Medical Inspector), as a health care practitioner as defined in N.J.S.A. 24:6J-3, may prescribe or dispense an opioid antidote (naloxone hydrochloride or any other similarly acting drug approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) directly or through a standing order to the school district for a school district Certified School Nurse, or any other appropriately licensed school health care professional, or qualified trained volunteer school personnel as stated below, to administer to overdose victims, provided the School Physician deems a school district Certified School Nurse or other duly licensed school health professional, or qualified volunteer school personnel, is capable of administering the opioid antidote to an overdose victim in an emergency. The Physician's standing order must specify a school district Certified School Nurse, or other duly licensed school health care professional, or qualified volunteer school personnel, is authorized to administer the opioid antidote to overdose victims.

In accordance with N.J.S.A. 24:6J-5.a.(1), the School Physician issuing the standing order shall ensure that overdose prevention information is provided to the school district. The overdose prevention information shall include, but not be limited to: information on opioid overdose prevention and recognition; instructions on how to perform rescue breathing and resuscitation; information on opioid antidote dosage and instructions on opioid antidote administration; information describing the importance of calling 911 emergency telephone service for assistance with an opioid overdose; and instructions for appropriate care of an overdose victim after administration of the opioid antidote.



2. Volunteer, unlicensed school personnel.

Volunteer, unlicensed school personnel who have completed training by the school physician, the school district or by a community-based organization or other organization that addresses medical or social issues related to drug addiction and with which the school district maintains a written agreement, may be granted permission by the Superintendent of Schools to administer naloxone, subject to all other requirements of the law. Written evidence of satisfactory completion of the training program must be provided before such permission may be granted. Upon review, the Superintendent of Schools, in consultation with the School Physician and Certified School Nurse shall determine which individuals may administer naloxone or other opioid overdose antidotes. Each such person shall be notified in writing. Copies of the written notification shall be kept on file in the Board of Education office, the School Nurse's office, and in each school's main office. The identity of all such approved personnel shall be disseminated to all staff.

School personnel roles and responsibilities

Upon receiving a report of a possible opioid overdose during school hours or during an on-site school-sponsored activity, the Principal, Principal's designee, or supervising staff member will immediately call 911. The School Nurse, during school hours and if available at an on-site school-sponsored activity, also will be called immediately. If the School Nurse is unavailable, then any other trained school healthcare personnel, or other approved volunteer school personnel shall be contacted. In accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 24:6J-4.d.(1), the School Nurse or other school personnel who has received overdose prevention information pursuant to N.J.S.A. 24:6J-5.a.(1) and has been deemed capable of administering the opioid antidote by the School Physician may administer the opioid antidote to a student, school personnel, or other person in an emergency if the School Nurse or other school personnel authorized to administer an opioid antidote believes, in good faith, that the person is experiencing an opioid overdose.

The School Nurse and/or other school staff members shall keep the student, school personnel, or other person comfortable until emergency medical responders arrive on the scene. Any student who receives an opioid antidote by the School Nurse, other school personnel authorized to administer an opioid antidote, or by an emergency medical responder shall be transported to the nearest hospital with a school staff member designated by the Principal,



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Principal's designee, or supervising staff member of the on-site school-sponsored activity.

The Principal, Principal's designee, or supervising staff member will notify the parent of any student or a family member or other contact person for a school staff member who may be experiencing a possible opioid overdose as soon as practicable. The Principal, Principal's designee, or supervising staff member of the on-site school-sponsored activity shall notify the Superintendent of Schools whenever an opioid antidote is administered by a School Nurse, other school personnel authorized to administer an opioid antidote, or an emergency medical responder.

### Location and maintenance of naloxone

The School Nurse shall be responsible to store the opioid antidote that has been prescribed by the School Physician in a safe and secure, but accessible, location that is not subject to extreme heat or cold; document the administration of an opioid antidote on a student's health record; monitor the on-site inventory and ensure the replacement of the opioid antidote supply; and plan for the disposal of administered opioid antidote and expired opioid antidote applicator.

### Student/staff discipline

Any student or school staff member who is found to be under the influence of a controlled dangerous substance shall be subject to the provisions of applicable statutes and administrative codes, including without limitation, N.J.A.C. 6A:16-3 and 16.4, and Board policies and regulations regarding substance use.

### Limitation of liability

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 24:6J-1. et seq., the school district, School Physician (Medical Inspector), School Nurse, and other approved school personnel shall not, as a result of any acts or omissions, be subject to any criminal or civil liability for administering an opioid antidote in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 24:6J-1 *et seq.*

Nothing in this Policy shall prohibit the administration of an opioid antidote to a student, school personnel, or other person in an emergency during school



hours or during on-site school-sponsored activities by an emergency medical responder or by a person authorized to administer an opioid antidote in accordance with N.J.S.A. 24:6J-1 *et seq.*

### Notification to parents/guardians

This Policy shall be made available to school staff members, parents, and students in staff and student handbooks, published on the school district's website, \_

### Policy Review

This Policy shall be reviewed and approved by the School Physician and Board Attorney prior to Board adoption and whenever the Policy is revised.

### References

N.J.S.A. 24:6J-1 *et seq.*

N.J.S.A. 2C:35-30

N.J.A.C. 6A: 16-3; 16-4

May 24, 2016 New Jersey Department of Education Memorandum -  
Information for Schools Regarding Opioid Overdose Prevention

Adopted: June 18, 2018

