

Director of Licensing Standard of Practice: Preventing Opioid Overdose Deaths

This Standard of Practice is made under the authority of section (4) (1) (e) of the *Community Care and Assisted Living Act*, which provides that the Director of Licensing may specify policies and standards of practice for all community care facilities or a class of community care facilities.

Updated - STANDARD OF PRACTICE

1. Operators of licensed community care facilities that provide care to persons who are at risk of an opioid drug overdose must obtain and maintain a supply of naloxone and associated supplies for safe administration for emergency use in the event that a person in care suffers from an opioid overdose.
2. Section 70 (1) of the Residential Care Regulation, which requires that "...only medications that have been prescribed or ordered by a medical practitioner or nurse practitioner are administered to persons in care" **must not be interpreted as a barrier** to administering naloxone to a person who is suffering from an opioid overdose. Naloxone may be administered to a person in care who is suffering from an opioid overdose as per the facility's Naloxone Administration policy developed under the direction of the operator's Medication Safety and Advisory Committee and in collaboration the facility physician, as naloxone is no longer a prescription medication when used for opioid overdose emergencies.
3. Operators must receive training in the administration of naloxone from a qualified health care professional, and must ensure that their staff also receives appropriate training to administer naloxone and to provide first aid appropriate to the situation. Operators must also ensure that trained staff is available at all times to administer naloxone to persons in care when persons in care are on the premises of the licensed facility or away from the premises and remain under the care of facility staff.
4. Operators must ensure that whenever naloxone is administered, first aid, including artificial respiration is provided, and that 911 is called immediately.
5. Operators must report any overdose requiring the administration of naloxone as a reportable incident under the category of Poisoning which is defined as "... the ingestion of a poison or toxic substance by a person in care".

Resources

If you are a health authority or for-profit facility, to locate pharmacies where your facility can purchase naloxone and receive training on administration go to http://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/overdose-awareness/community_pharmacies_dispensing_naloxone_and_providing_training_in_bc.pdf

If you are a non-profit facility, you can learn more about and register for the Facility Overdose Response Box Program here: <http://towardtheheart.com/naloxone/forb/forb-newsite>

For online refresher training and other overdose prevention and response materials

<http://towardtheheart.com/naloxone/>

SAVE Me Protocol

<http://towardtheheart.com/assets/uploads/149851377821eYWZHZdRNfCUjr4myKJus3SxZsEZpVQUwGL7K.pdf>