

**FAIRFAX COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE  
STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE**

**SOP NUMBER: 117  
SUBJECT: STORAGE AND  
ADMINISTRATION OF NARCAN**

**I. PURPOSE**

To provide guidelines for the administration and storage of agency issued naloxone nasal spray, known by the brand name "Narcan".

**II. POLICY**

It is the policy of the Fairfax County Sheriff's Office that in the event of an opioid exposure, accidental or deliberate, Narcan will be administered to the individual(s) in distress. Overdose caused by the accidental or intentional exposure to opioids is potentially life-threatening, and immediate care is necessary.

**III. DEFINITIONS**

**Carfentanyl** - An analog of the synthetic opioid analgesic fentanyl. A unit of carfentanil is 100 times as potent as the same amount of fentanyl.

**Fentanyl** - A potent synthetic opioid. Fentanyl is estimated to be 100 times more potent than morphine. Fentanyl may be injected, sniffed, smoked, or taken orally.

**Naloxone** - A medication which may reverse the effects of an opioid overdose. Naloxone is also known by the brand name Narcan. This medication may be administered by injection, intranasal, or intramuscular.

**Narcan** - Brand name of naloxone. Narcan is a fast-acting opiate antagonist used in emergency medicine to rapidly reverse opiate-induced sedation and respiratory depression.

**Opioid** - Class of drugs containing or derived from opium. This class of drugs includes, but is not limited to, heroin and morphine.

**Unresponsive** - If the patient doesn't move, speak, blink or otherwise react, they are considered unresponsive.

**IV. PROCEDURE**

- A. If an individual discovers a suspected opioid substance, whenever possible the individual should create distance, secure the area, and contact an on-duty supervisor.
- B. Upon determining that an individual has been exposed to an opioid and symptoms of an overdose are present, initiate the appropriate procedure for requesting that rescue personnel respond to the scene. Immediately notify an on-duty supervisor of the possible exposure event.
- C. Personnel involved with securing the area should don the agency-provided personal protective equipment (PPE). This equipment includes the blue nitrile gloves and P100 respirator masks.
- D. Secure the area where the potential exposure has occurred. Avoid disturbing items or property in and around the affected area. Prevent all unnecessary movement in the area; including deputies and staff. If an individual has been exposed to a suspected opiate,

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Narcan should be brought to the location of the incident. Avoid transporting the individual(s) through unaffected areas.

- E. Do not administer Narcan if the individual is conscious and responsive. Consistent with their REVIVE Training for Law Enforcement, deputies will utilize Narcan on subjects who are unconscious/unresponsive and believed to be suffering from an opiate overdose, as outlined in section F. below.
- F. When administering Narcan, deputies will maintain scene safety, utilize standard precautions against blood borne pathogens, perform a patient assessment, and determine unresponsiveness and the absence of effective breathing and/or a pulse. If the patient is not breathing and does not have a pulse, CPR should be considered. Indicators of an opiate overdose include but are not limited to:
  - 1. Difficulty breathing
  - 2. Pinpoint pupils
  - 3. Bluish appearance of skin, lips, or fingernails
  - 4. Decreased pulse rate
  - 5. Drowsy and/or unresponsive
  - 6. Presence of drug paraphernalia such as needles, spoons, or tourniquets
- G. Narcan is to be administered by trained staff. The Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) has approved REVIVE Training for Law Enforcement. If trained staff are not available, all measures available for the prevention of injury or loss of life should be followed by individuals responding to the scene of the incident. The Sheriff's Office Personnel will be provided refresher training every two years, when completing CPR recertification.
- H. Once emergency service personnel are on the scene, the affected individual shall be transported to the hospital by Fire & Rescue personnel. If the exposed individual is a deputy sheriff, a supervisor shall accompany him or her.
- I. Fairfax County Fire Department, Hazardous Materials Response Team will be contacted for assistance with the proper disposal of the suspected substance and any items which may have been contaminated.
- J. A Sheriff's Incident Report shall be generated any time Narcan is administered. For tracking purposes, a copy of the incident report shall be forwarded to the Occupational Health and Safety Officer.
- K. Maintenance and Replacement: Narcan shall be carried and stored in a manner consistent with guidelines recommended by the manufacturer. Narcan is sensitive to sunlight and extreme temperature. Narcan shall be kept secure from inmates, but accessible to staff trained in its administration. Used, damaged, missing, or expired Narcan shall be reported to the Occupational Health and Safety Officer. Expired Narcan or Narcan damaged by exposure to adverse conditions will be disposed of properly.

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- L. The Occupational Health and Safety Officer (OHSO) will be responsible for the tracking, replacing, and documenting the use/handling of Narcan. The OHSO will also be responsible for:
1. Ensuring that the Narcan kits are current and not past the expiration date.
  2. Replacing Narcan that has been damaged, unusable, expired and/or has been used.
  3. Reporting Narcan use statistics as requested.



**STACEY A. KINCAID  
SHERIFF**

**04/30/18  
DATE APPROVED**

**05/14/18  
EFFECTIVE DATE**

**Revised: May 2018**