

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.

In accordance with N.J.S.A. 24:6J-4.a.(1)(e), the school district's physician, as a health care practitioner as defined in N.J.S.A. 24:6J-3, may prescribe or dispense Naloxone, an opioid antidote, directly or through a standing order to the school district for a school district certified school nurse or a staff member trained and licensed by the New Jersey Department of Health to administer Naloxone ("DHS-licensed") to administer to overdose victims, provided the school physician deems the district's certified school nurse(s) and/or DHS-licensed staff member is capable of administering the opioid antidote to an overdose victim in an emergency. The physician's standing order must specify that the school district's certified school nurse(s) and/or DHS-licensed staff member 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 certified school nurse(s) and DHS-licensed staff member(s) authorized to administer an opioid antidote. 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.

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 authorized school nurse and/or DHS-licensed staff member, during school hours and if available at an on-site school-sponsored activity, will also be immediately called. In accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 24:6J-4.d.(1), the authorized school nurse or DHS-licensed staff member who 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 DHS-licensed staff member believes, in good faith, that



the person is experiencing an opioid overdose. The patient shall be provided with a copy of the overdose prevention information.

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 or by an emergency medical responder shall be transported to the nearest hospital with a school staff member designated by the Principal, 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 or an emergency medical responder.

The school nurse shall document all administrations of Naloxone in the student's health record in the same manner as s/he documents the administration of medication under a non-patient specific order. The school nurse shall further be responsible to store the opioid antidote that has been prescribed by the school physician in a safe and secure location; keeping in mind the proximity to an automated external defibrillator; monitor the on-site inventory and replacement of the opioid antidote supply; and plan for the disposal of administered opioid antidote and expired opioid antidote applicator.

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 and Board policies and regulations regarding substance use, treatment and provision, including, but not limited to, N.J.S.A. 18a:40A:1 et seq., N.J.A.C. 6A:16-4.1 et seq., N.J.A.C. 6A:16-3.1. The district's staff members shall continue to identify and refer for treatment and evaluations, any student(s) suspected of being under the influence and any student(s) who experienced an opioid overdose.

In accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 24:6J-4.d.(2), the school district, and the school nurse and/or the DHS-licensed staff member who is authorized to administer, and who does administer an opioid antidote, 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.

This Policy shall be reviewed and approved by the school physician and Board Attorney prior to Board adoption and whenever the Policy is revised. This Policy shall be made available to school staff members, parents, and students in staff and student handbooks, published on the district's website, or through any other appropriate means.

A copy of this Policy shall be available for public viewing on the district's website. Parents of students shall be annually notified of this Policy.

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

N.J.S.A. 18A:40A-1 et seq.

N.J.A.C. 6A:16-4.1 et seq.

N.J.A.C. 6A:16-3.1

N.J.A.C. 18A:40-1.

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

Adopted: 27 March 2017

