SECTION: OPERATIONS

SHALER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT TITLE: ADMINISTERING

**NALOXONE** 

ADOPTED: May 18, 2016

#### 823. ADMINISTERING NALOXONE

# 1. Purpose

#### **Purpose**

The School District wishes to prevent opiate-related overdose deaths by making Naloxone available in its schools. Naloxone is a medication found to reverse the effects of an opiate-related drug overdose. Consistent with Pennsylvania law, the School District wishes to obtain authorization for school personnel to administer Naloxone in order to respond to suspected drug overdose occurring in schools.

#### 2. Definitions

# **Definitions**

For purpose of this policy, these terms shall be defined as follows:

*Drug overdose* – an acute medical condition, including, but not limited to, severe physical illness, coma, mania, hysteria or death, which is the result of a consumption or use of one or more opiate-related controlled substances causing an adverse reaction. An individual condition's shall be deemed a suspected drug overdose if a prudent person, possessing an average knowledge of medicine and health, would reasonably believe that the condition is a drug overdose and requires immediate medical attention

3. 35 P.S. §780-113.7(e)

**Emergency medical services personnel** - individuals whose official or assigned responsibilities include performing or directly supporting the performance of emergency medical and rescue services or firefighting.

*Naloxone* – a medication that can reverse a drug overdose caused by an opiate-related controlled substance. Naloxone, commonly known by the brand-name Narcan®, is an opioid antagonist which means it displaces the opioid from receptors in the brain and can therefore reverse an opiate overdose. It is a scheduled drug, but has no euphoric properties and minimal side effects. If it is administered to a person who is not suffering an opiate overdose, it will do no harm.

**Student** – a student enrolled in the School District's elementary, middle, or high schools.

4. Authority Act 139 of 2014 *Medical Control Physician* - The Medical Control Physician, herein referred to as "MCP," shall be a designated Medical Doctor who is licensed to practice medicine in Pennsylvania. Shaler Area School District shall either maintain an affiliation with the MCP through the local EMS or shall designate the School District's Physician as the MCP.

Senate Bill 1164 was signed into law as Act 139 in September of 2014. This legislation allows first responders including law enforcement, fire fighters, EMS or other organizations the ability to administer naloxone to individuals experiencing an opioid overdose. Additionally, Act 139 provides immunity from prosecution for those responding to and reporting overdoses.

The Good Samaritan provision of Act 139, the provision offers certain criminal and civil protections and provides reassurances to the caller that they cannot be held liable for being present, witnessing, and reporting an overdose.

5. 35 P.S. §780-113.8(c)

# **School Physician's Standing Order**

The School District's Superintendent or designee shall obtain standing medical order from the School District's Physician, who shall serve as the Medical Control Physician (MCP), pursuant to Act 139 of 2014, that prescribes Naloxone for use by authorized school personnel to assist any individuals suspected of experiencing a drug overdose in the School District's schools.

The standing order shall authorize the School District to obtain, store and administer naloxone in compliance with this policy, and impose any other conditions that the School District's Physician believes is appropriate to ensure the safety and well-being of an individual experiencing a drug overdose. The original standing order shall be maintained in the Superintendent's office, and copies of the standing order shall be kept in the nurse's offices of each school.

#### **Training**

Before any School District employee may administer Naloxone under this policy, the employee must successfully complete a Pennsylvania Department of Health training program about recognizing opioid-related overdoses, administering Naloxone and promptly seeking medical attention for drug overdoses. Evidence that such training has been completed shall be placed in the employee's personnel file.

6. 35 P.S. §780-113.8(a)(3)

The School District shall provide its school nurses, and other relevant school personnel, with the opportunity to complete such training during their regular work schedule.

Shaler Area School District shall provide refresher training every two years, in conjunction with AED/First Aid/CPR certifications.

A list of School District employees who successfully completed such training shall be maintained, updated and kept in the school nurse's office and the School District administration.

### **Storage of Naloxone**

Naloxone shall be safely stored in the school nurses' office at each school in compliance with drug manufacturer's instructions. School Nurses are responsible for inspecting naloxone kits each month in order to insure that the kits are intact, and will maintain a written inventory, documenting the quantities and expirations of naloxone replacement supplies, and a log documenting the issuance of replacement units.

Naloxone shall be made readily accessible to those employees who have completed the required training to administer it in the event of suspected drug overdose. All properly trained employees shall be made aware exactly where Naloxone is being stored within the school nurses' office.

#### **Administration of Naloxone**

These protocols shall be followed when administering Naloxone to respond to a suspected drug overdose:

- 1. The school's Emergency Response Team shall immediately ensure that someone calls 9-1-1 for emergency medical service personnel to be dispatched to respond to a suspected drug overdose. The School nurse or other authorized individual shall communicate with the parent/guardian as soon as feasible.
- 2. The school's Emergency Response Team shall access the individual to determine, if: (i) the person is without a pulse or suffering a cardiac arrest; (ii) the person is not breathing or suffering respiratory arrest; and/or (iii) the person is exhibiting signs or symptoms of a drug overdose.
- 3. Consistent with the employee's observations and training, administer Naloxone to the individual suffering the suspected drug overdose and administer CPR, as needed. When a school nurse or other authorized individual suspects that a student is suffering from an opiate overdose, the nurse or other authorized individual should administer the Naloxolone as prescribed.
- 4. Continue to observe the individual suffering the suspected drug overdose until emergency medical service personnel arrives on scene.
- 5. Fully cooperate with emergency medical service personnel

responding to the scene, and do not interfere with or impede the administration of emergency medical services to the individual suffering the suspected drug overdose.

- 6. Afterwards notify the building administrator or designee of the facts and circumstances surrounding the drug overdose incident.
- 7. The school nurse shall submit a Naloxone Administration form which shall be utilized and submitted to the Principal of the school where the overdose occurred.

### **Indemnification**

The School District shall indemnify and hold harmless any employee who administers Naloxone in good faith to another individual experiencing a suspected drug overdose, if all of these conditions apply: (i) the employee did not act with the intent to harm or with reckless indifference to a substantial risk or harm in administering Naloxone to that individual; (ii) the employee successfully completed the training contemplated by this policy; (iii) the employee promptly sought additional medical assistance before or immediately after administering Naloxone; and (iv) the employee is administer Naloxone in the performance of his or her duties as either an employee or approved volunteer for the School District. Additionally, the Good Samaritan provisions of Act 139 provide immunity to those individuals who acting in good faith and with reasonable care administer Naloxone to someone they believe is experiencing an opioid overdose.

8. Act 139 of 2014

7. 35 P.S.

§780-113.8(f)

### **Parental Notification**

The School District administration shall take reasonable steps to notify students and their parents/guardians of this policy once each school year. Such notification shall encourage students to immediately report suspected drug overdoses to school officials to ensure medical assistance can be immediately provided.

Reasonable means to notify students, parents and guardians of this policy shall include, but not be limited to, electronic communications, publication through student handbooks, school newsletters, the School District's official website and other similar paper or electronic means of communication.

### Non-employee administration of naloxone

Nothing in this policy is intended to regulate, restrict or otherwise deter a law enforcement officer, emergency medical technician, volunteer fire company member, licensed medical professional or other authorized individual from administering his or her own supply of Naloxone when responding in good faith to a suspected drug overdose occurring on School District property.

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References
School Code – 35 P.S. § 780-113.7(e), 35 P.S. § 780-113.8(c), 35 P.S. § 780-113.8(a)(3), 35 P.S. § 780-113.8(f)
State Board of Education Regulations
– Child Protective Services Law –