



Saratoga County EMS Council

PO Box 624 • Ballston Spa, NY 12020

www.saratogaems.org



Leave Behind Naloxone Program

February 2020

In conjunction with the Saratoga County Sheriff's Department and REMO, all Saratoga County ambulance services are eligible to participate in a "Leave Behind Naloxone" program. This program allows EMS agencies to allow providers to leave behind a naloxone overdose treatment kit when in a situation where they believe opioids may be used. It is consistent with the REMO Leave Behind Program, described in REMO Advisory 2019-04 except that kits are dispensed by the Saratoga County Sheriff's Department and all agencies in Saratoga County are automatically enrolled.

This program authorizes EMS agencies who have either responded to an individual experiencing an opioid-related overdose (At-Risk Person), or someone they believe may be otherwise at risk of opioid overdose, to leave behind an Overdose Response Kit with either the At-Risk Person or with family members, friends, or other persons who are in a position to assist the At-Risk Person. The naloxone distribution must be done with brief "just in time" training of the indications and use of the naloxone which can include use of the company video training. The only naloxone to be issued through this program will be the single step 4mg in 0.1mL nasal formulation.

Agencies will maintain kits to distribute to At-Risk Persons, family, friends, or other individuals who are in the position to assist the At-Risk Person. EMS will provide instruction on use, a standardized handout, and will stress that persons MUST call 911 in addition to administering naloxone.

The use of Overdose Response Kits has been proven to decrease patient mortality and morbidity by reducing the "down-time" of overdose patients, decreasing rates of hospitalization, as well as the incidence of costly long-term care from anoxic brain injury. NYS Public Health Law Section 3309(2) allows registered programs (all agencies are registered under Saratoga County EMS Council) to train community members (lay responders), other para professionals, professionals, clients or patients and their families on how to recognize, respond to overdose, and to distribute naloxone. Training provided by an authorized Opioid Overdose Prevention Program shall not constitute the unlawful practice of a professional or other violation under Title 8 of Education Law or Article 33 of Public Health Law.

It is important to keep in mind that the distribution of the Overdose Response Kit is not the solution to the overdose crisis, but serves as a mechanism to begin conversations about access to care, treatment, and recovery. To that end, it is important to professionally convey that treatment and recovery services are available through the contact information found in the kit.

Training and Credentialing Members

Provider training: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G6cUmY_HQhU is mandatory for any providers your agency credentials to distribute Leave Behind kits. Each agency should maintain a list of their credentialed providers.

Leave Behind Naloxone Procedure

After patient care is complete, while on the scene with the patient or bystanders, credentialed EMS providers may offer an Overdose Response Kit that contains two doses of nasal naloxone and information to seek recovery help and social services. Training for the public: www.narcan.com/patients/how-to-use-narcan/ (this could be placed on ambulance iPads, tablets or laptops for use in the field).

Supply

Leave Behind kits will be supplied by the Saratoga County Sheriff's Department to Saratoga County EMS Agencies. Contact the designated member of the Sheriff's Department for supplies.

Distribution

- If naloxone was used prior to EMS arrival, an Overdose Response Kit can be given to resupply the patient.
- The Overdose Response Kits may be carried in any Saratoga County EMS vehicle.
- These kits should not be used during EMS treatment of suspected opioid overdose unless absolutely necessary.
- If patient chooses to RMA, the Overdose Response Kit can still be given to the patient and/or an involved bystander.

Documentation

- Documentation is key to success of the program - we must be able to track the number of doses that are distributed by EMS.
- In emsCharts, go to Page 8 "Activity Log", select "Narcan" and for "Route Administered" enter "Left Behind - Not Administered"
- In the line in the Activity Log or in the narrative, note who received the Overdose Response Kit (e.g. patient, spouse, friend, etc.)
- In any other electronic documentation program please use the appropriate medication administration record and mode of delivery.

Resources

- New York State DOH Leave Behind web site: www.health.ny.gov/diseases/aids/general/opioid_overdose_prevention/become_a_program.htm
- Clifton Park & Halfmoon EMS has been distributing naloxone for over a year. Contact an administrator at CPHM if you have question or would like additional resources.