

 <p style="text-align: center;">County of Sacramento Department of Health Services Division of Behavioral Health Services Policy and Procedure</p>	Policy Issuer (Unit/Program)	SUPT
	Policy Number	SUPT-03-08
	Effective Date	11-01-2018
	Revision Date	08-31-21
Title: California Assembly Bill 2760 Anti-Overdose	Functional Area: Treatment	
Approved By: Signed version available upon request Lori Miller, LCSW Division Manager, Substance Use Prevention and Treatment Services		

BACKGROUND/CONTEXT:

Substance Use Prevention and Treatment (SUPT) Services is committed to complying with California Assembly Bill (AB) 2760 Anti-Overdose. AB 2760 went into effect January 1, 2019, which requires high-risk patients be prescribed the overdose reversal drug naloxone hydrochloride (NARCAN®) when receiving prescriptions for opioids. AB 2760 also has an educational element that mandates a discussion of substance abuse with those receiving the prescriptions.

DEFINITIONS:

Naloxone hydrochloride (NARCAN®) is an opioid antagonist that works immediately to reverse an opiate overdose.

PURPOSE:

To document naloxone hydrochloride (NARCAN®) prescribing and training requirements for Substance Use Prevention and Treatment Services staff and contracted providers.

DETAILS:

AB 2760 requires prescribers to “offer” a prescription for NARCAN® or another drug approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration for the complete or partial reversal of opioid depression to a patient when one or more of the following conditions are present:

- The prescription dosage for the patient is 90 or more morphine milligram equivalents of an opioid medication per day.
- An opioid medication is prescribed concurrently with a prescription for benzodiazepine.
- The patient presents with an increased risk for overdose, including a patient with a history of overdose, a patient with a history of substance use disorder, or a patient at risk for returning to a high dose of opioid medication to which the patient is no longer tolerant.

This law also requires prescribers, consistent with the existing standard of care, to provide education to patients, persons designated by the patient, or for minor patients, to their parents or guardians, if they fall under one of the above conditions regarding overdose prevention and the use of NARCAN® or another

drug approved by the United States Food Drug Administration for the complete or partial reversal of opioid depression.

CLARIFICATIONS

- The law only requires the prescriber to offer the prescription, there is no requirement for the prescriber to issue a prescription if the patient declines.
- This is not a onetime obligation. AB 2760 requires NARCAN® be offered each time the specified conditions are present. The law does not limit its requirements to the physician who prescribed the opioid to the patient.
- The requirements to offer a prescription for NARCAN® (or another approved drug) applies under all of the following circumstances:
 - 1) a prescription for a benzodiazepine is written at the same time as a prescription for an opioid;
 - 2) a prescription for benzodiazepine is written for a patient who is already taking an opioid;
 - 3) a prescription for an opioid is written for a patient who is already taking a benzodiazepine.
- The law does not exempt patients receiving home hospice care from its requirements.
- The requirements in this law do not apply to medication being administered in inpatient facilities because the language in this law uses the word "prescribing," which is different that a prescriber giving an order for medication to be administered in an inpatient facility.
- The requirements in this law are not limited to the prescriber at the time of the prescription. The requirements to offer a prescription for NARCAN® or other similar opioid reversal drug would apply anything the conditions specified in the law are present.
- This law applies to all patients with an increased risk for overdose, including a patient with a history of overdose, a patient with a history of substance use disorder, or a patient at risk for returning to a high dose of opioid medication to which the patient is no longer tolerant.
- This law specifies that the education must be provided consistent with the standard of care. The prescriber will need to make the determination on the appropriate method to provide that education to the appropriate individual(s).

NARCAN® comes in a nasal spray and can be administered by any trained personnel. NARCAN® is said to have no harmful effects if given to someone whose symptoms were not due to opioid overdose. In an effort to reduce/eliminate opioid overdoses, SUPT is requiring the following:

Due to the high rate of relapse with opiate addicts/users all contracted treatment providers (including medicated assisted treatment, narcotic replacement therapy, detox, residential, intensive outpatient, outpatient providers) and sober living environments are required to participate in training regarding NARCAN® and are to have non-expired NARCAN® at service locations. In addition, contractors are to provide training prescribers on NARCAN® purpose and administration.

SUTP staff are to be trained on how and when to administer NARCAN® and it is to be available at assessment sites.

Contracted providers who offer a prescription of NARCAN®, but the prescriber declines is required to document such in the client’s medical file.

TRAINING:

Training for the administration of NARCAN® is provided by:
Harm Reduction Services
2800 Stockton Boulevard
Sacramento, CA. 95817
(916) 456-4849

REFERENCE(S)/ATTACHMENTS:

RELATED POLICIES:

DISTRIBUTION:

Enter X	DL Name	Enter X	DL Name
X	SUPT Administration	X	SUPT Prevention Providers
X	SUPT County Counselors	X	SUPT Adult Treatment Providers
X	SUPT Collaborative Courts	X	SUPT Youth Treatment Providers
X	SUPT System of Care	X	ADS Advisory Board
X	SUPT Administrative Support Staff	X	BHS Mental Health Services
X	SUPT Options for Recovery	X	BHS Quality Management
X	SUPT Proposition 36		

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