
S.O.P. #: 400-35
SUBJECT: NARCAN KIT LEAVE BEHIND PROGRAM
DIVISION: EMERGENCY OPERATIONS

Objective: To outline the procedures for the acquisition, distribution, and tracking of Narcan Leave Behind Kits to be distributed to patients encountered by fire and EMS units.

The Fire Department and Department of Health, through grant funding, are partnering to improve community health by targeting opioid related incidents to reduce patient mortality and morbidity. The fire department and police department are in an excellent position to identify, provide life-saving treatment, and make appropriate referrals for patients involved in opioid related incidents. The Department of Health can extend our emergency care by providing the necessary link to community resources, peer recovery specialists, and other resources to help people with opioid use disorder.

Section 1: Narcan Leave Behind Kits

1. The Baltimore County Department of Health will supply the Fire Department with intranasal Narcan to assemble the Leave Behind Kits.
2. Each medic unit will keep a supply of two Kits.
3. Each District Officer will keep a supply of 20 kits for restocking.
4. EMS District Officers can obtain additional kits from the EMS Office.
5. Medic units and EMS District Officers will carry the Kits and will be responsible for the distribution and the explanation of use to the appropriate individual.
6. The kits will contain: (2) 4mg Narcan nasal sprays, gloves, face shield, and an opioid pamphlet.

Section 2: Care for Opioid Related Overdoses

1. Patients will be immediately assessed and treated following the Maryland Medical Protocols for Suspected Narcotic Overdose.
2. Patients will be encouraged to seek medical treatment at a hospital-based Emergency Department.
3. If the patient denies/refuses transport despite being made aware of the potential risks of refusing, a patient initiated refusal form must be completed and consult with the appropriate Emergency Department in accordance with the Patient-Initiated Refusal of EMS protocol.
4. A Narcan Kit is to be left anytime a fire department member encounters a patient at risk for an opioid overdose regardless of transport disposition. Patients sometimes leave the hospital prior to receiving take-home Narcan and this will ensure the patient has Narcan available.
5. A Narcan Kit is to be left behind following the administration of Narcan by a Baltimore County Fire Department Unit if the patient refuses service and signs a patient initiated refusal form as described in #3.
6. The Kit may be given to the patient, family member, or other individuals on scene. An individual is not required to have previously received training or education in opioid overdose response in order to receive a kit. Crews are encouraged to leave Narcan kits with family members or other individuals in the event that a patient is unwilling to receive the kit.

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7. The District Officer must contact the Department of Health by phone 410-88-REACH (410-887-3224) or email (BBHPeerRecovery@baltimorecountymd.gov) anytime a Kit is distributed. The following information will be needed for the referral:
 - a. Patient Name or family members name
 - b. Address
 - c. Phone number () (required due to Department of Health restrictions on home visits)
 - d. Name of person reporting
 - e. Unit number
 - f. Time of incident
 - g. Any additional information regarding the patient
 8. Kits are not to be dispensed to anyone who has not yet reached their 18th birthday.

Section 3: Procedure for tracking the distribution of Narcan Kits

1. The EMS provider must document the Kit distribution in the eMeds report under the Opioid Crisis Tab.
2. The EMS Director or his/her designee will be responsible for the tracking and reporting of the distribution of the Narcan Kits. Quarterly reports shall be submitted to the State EMS Medical Director to include incident numbers and the number of doses of Narcan distributed for each occurrence and in total.

Section 4: Special Considerations

1. If a unit encounters someone asking for Narcan outside of an incident response, they should be given a Narcan Kit and referred to the 88-REACH (410-887-3224) line. Examples may include a person stopping in the station to request Narcan, being asked at a PFSE event etc.
2. Providers desiring additional information concerning Substance Use Services and Programs may visit the Baltimore County Department of Health's website <https://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/Agencies/health/healthservices/substanceuse/index.html> for additional resources.
3. If a suppression unit handles an incident and the medic is not on scene, the EMS DO should be contacted to provide the leave behind dose and notify the Department of Health.