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Naloxone (Narcan) Use Procedures

Denver Public Library has obtained and deployed the opioid antagonist Naloxone (brand name Narcan) at the Central Library and all branch libraries. Staff members at all locations have been trained to detect the possible symptoms of opioid overdose and appropriate actions to deploy Narcan if necessary. The term "opioid" applies to both semi-synthetic and synthetic opiates. The Security Department is primarily responsible for future purchases and replenishment of used units.

The Narcan nasal spray used by our staff is obtained through a standing order prescription. Each "kit" provided to our staff or location includes two single dose units of the 4 mg nasal spray, a face shield, and disposable gloves.

At branches, these kits should be permanently positioned at a specific, secure location known only to staff members. At the Central Library, trained Security Officers are equipped with a kit worn on the officer's duty belt. In addition, the Field Training Officer, Security Supervisors, and Security Manager as well as the Community Resource Specialists all are equipped with kits. Kits are also pre-positioned in other areas of the Central Library where staff members are trained to properly use the antagonist.

In medical emergency situations where Narcan may be deployed, staff members should keep in mind that this is a medical situation which warrants privacy of the patient. Staff members not directly involved with the patient should be directed to assist in other ways consistent with training (call 911/provide directions to other customers or staff/seal off the area/escort emergency responders to the situation, etc.). A person involved in a situation where Narcan may be deployed should always be treated with dignity and courtesy and provided the maximum privacy.

Each single dose packet contains an expiration date (month and year) prominently displayed on the back side of the packaging. Branch Senior Librarians are responsible to notify the Security Manager prior to expiration so that replacements may be purchased. At the Central Library, the Security Manager is responsible to ensure replacement prior to expiration.

Narcan Nasal Spray is used for known or suspected opioid overdose in adults and children. It is for use in the nose only and should only be used consistent with the training provided. Some additional information regarding Naloxone/Narcan:

- Opioid antagonist
- >40 years experience by emergency personnel for OD reversal
- Not addictive; no potential for abuse; no agonist activity
- Not a scheduled drug but RX needed
- No side effects except precipitation of withdrawal (dose-sensitive)

The Security Manager (or other qualified trainer) will complete training for staff members using the training presentation and materials provided by the prescribing physician from Denver Health Medical Center. Security team members (including Circulation/Security staff members) are required to complete the training prior to Narcan deployment. Other staff members are highly encouraged to complete the training. Any volunteer staff member may be trained.

All Narcan training will include personal safety considerations as well as up to date information from previous library staff usage, reporting requirements, and possible follow-up actions. Any usage of Narcan requires completion of an Incident Report with as many informational details and facts as possible. The Security Manager or a Security Supervisor will finish the reporting cycle using the "OpiRescue" application. Immediately dispose of any Narcan, face shield, or gloves after use. Items will be replaced by a security staff member as soon as possible.

Staff members must always use the provided personal protective equipment (gloves and face shield) and consider and watch for several scene safety considerations. **Upon your initial survey of the scene, if you are unsure if the scene is safe, do not proceed; secure the location to the best of your ability and wait for emergency responding personnel to arrive and assume control of the situation and scene.** Some of the safety considerations include:

- Be aware of potential contamination through drugs in the area
- People (other customers, friends/loved ones of the patient, etc.)
- Hazardous materials (including drug powders/liquids, etc.)
- Body fluids
- Needles
- Potential for violence
- Following completion of the situation, continue observation of staff members who were involved, should anything unusual be observed, immediately notify a supervisor and medical personnel.

Should a staff member encounter a suspected overdose, the initial steps to help determine the proper actions are:

- Are you alright?
- Are you ok?
- Pain Stimulus (Sternum rub)
- Call EMS
- Administer Narcan
- Rescue breathing (use face shield) – one breath every seven seconds.

To help determine if use of Narcan is appropriate, use the following information:

Really high: stimulate and observe	OVERDOSE: administer Narcan and give rescue breaths every 7 seconds
Nodding, but arousable	Not arousable

Responds to sternum rub

No response to sternum rub

Slurred speech

No speech, or gurgling/choking

Intoxicated but breathing
(at least 8 times/minute)

Respiratory arrest or barely
breathing

Normal pulse

Slow or absent pulse

Normal color

Blue fingers, nails, lips

Both will have pinpoint pupils

Steps to use Narcan:

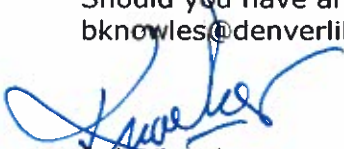
- Peel foil
- Don protective gloves
- Place victim on back
- Hold with index and middle fingers on either side, thumb on plunger
- Do not prime plunger
- Insert nasal atomizer until backs of fingers are against the patient's nostril
- Push plunger once until it stops
- Using the face shield, give rescue breaths (one breath every seven seconds)
- If no response in 3-5 minutes, use additional atomizer in the patient's other nostril
- When patient awakens, place in rescue position, ask them to wait for emergency medical services. For your individual safety, do not insist that they wait. If the patient decides to leave, observe and provide a description as well as direction of travel to the emergency responders.

Follow-up care: Upon awakening, the patient may be in opioid withdrawal and experience some of the following symptoms:

- Agitation, combativeness
- Nausea/vomiting
- Chills
- Sweating
- Body aches
- Diarrhea
- Goosebumps
- Transport patient for medical care

Relinquish medical scene responsibilities to the trained emergency responders upon their arrival.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at 720.865.1110 or bknowles@denverlibrary.org.



Bob Knowles
Security Manager