Maryland Overdose Response Program
Statewide Naloxone Standing Order

Background

Naloxone is a prescription medication indicated for the reversal of respiratory depression or unresponsiveness due to opioid overdose. The Maryland Overdose Response Program (ORP) was established by the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH) in 2013 to increase access to naloxone to reduce opioid overdose deaths throughout the state. The ORP allows non-medical community members to be trained in overdose recognition and response. DHMH authorizes organizations to provide trainings and certify individuals. Certificate holders may be prescribed and dispensed naloxone, either directly or through a standing order, and administer it to someone believed to be experiencing opioid overdose. Under state law, a physician who is employed by DHMH may issue a statewide naloxone standing order, which allows for pharmacists to dispense naloxone to ORP certificate holders in the absence of a person-specific paper or electronic prescription.[1]

Statewide Standing Order

This standing order is issued by **Howard Haft, M.D. (NPI # 1639132152), Deputy Secretary for Public Health Services, DHMH**. The standing order authorizes any Maryland-licensed pharmacist to dispense naloxone to any ORP certificate holder in accordance with the conditions of this order, enumerated below.

Upon verification of an individual's ORP certificate, dispense **two (2) doses** of naloxone hydrochloride and necessary paraphernalia for administration. The specific naloxone formulation shall be selected from the list below in accordance with the certificate holder's preference or training to administer a particular formulation.

1. **For intranasal administration**
   - 2mg/2mL single-dose Luer-Jet prefilled syringe. Include one luer-lock mucosal atomization device (MAD 300) per dose dispensed. Include face shield for rescue breathing if available.
     Directions for use: Spray 1 mL in each nostril. Repeat after 3 minutes if no or minimal response.
     Or
   - NARCAN® 4 mg/0.1mL nasal spray. Include face shield for rescue breathing if available.
     Directions for use: Administer a single spray of NARCAN® in one nostril. Repeat after 3 minutes if no or minimal response.
2. **For intramuscular injection**
   - 0.4/mL in 1mL single dose vials. Include one 3cc, 23g, 1" syringe per dose dispensed. Include face shield for rescue breathing and alcohol swabs if available.
     Directions for use: Inject 1 mL IM in shoulder or thigh. Repeat after 3 minutes if no or minimal response.
3. **For intramuscular or subcutaneous injection**
   - EVZIO® 0.4mg/0.4mL auto-injector, #1 Two-pack
     Directions for use: Follow audio instructions from device. Place on thigh and inject 0.4 mL. Repeat after 3 minutes if no or minimal response.

I declare this standing order as a statewide prescription for the dispensing of naloxone.

Howard Haft, M.D., Deputy Secretary for Public Health Services, DHMH

Effective Date: December 14, 2015 Expiration Date: December 14, 2017

[1] Health-General Article, Title 13, Subtitle 31, Code of Maryland.