

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

PREPAREDNESS

July 2, 2021

Subject: Naloxone Leave Behind Program

Dear Arizona EMS Agencies:

Arizona law permits EMS agencies who have responded to an individual experiencing an opioid-related overdose (“at-risk person”) to leave behind pre-packaged, intranasal naloxone (Narcan®) if the EMCT believes that it can be used in the future by the at risk person, family members, or friends to reverse an opioid overdose. The naloxone leave behind kit should include instructions on when and how it should be administered.

[A.R.S. § 36-2266](#) is written broadly and allows the administrative medical director of an EMS agency to write a protocol for a naloxone leave behind program for patients or family members who may be at high risk for overdose. This is at the discretion of, and requires the approval from, the agency’s administrative medical director.

An EMS agency that is interested in implementing a naloxone leave behind program, but does not have administrative medical direction, may approach the Department for assistance if they qualify under [A.R.S. § 36-2202\(K\)](#).

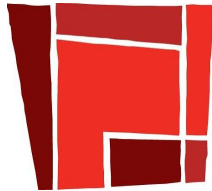
Sincerely,

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Naloxone Leave Behind Program - SAMPLE POLICY

1. In the event that a patient overdoses on an opioid, personnel should immediately treat the patient and stabilize them.
2. After stabilizing the patient, encourage them to seek additional medical treatment at a hospital, and inform them of the potential risks of not obtaining additional treatment at the hospital.
3. A Naloxone Leave Behind Kit may be offered to an at risk person, friend, or family member in the event of an opioid overdose, after the patient is treated, stabilized and either refuses transport or is transported to the hospital. Naloxone Leave Behind Kit may also be offered to bystander/friend/family who is in close contact with persons at risk of opioid overdose. Patients at risk for opioid overdose include:
 - a. History of illicit drug use or prescription for opioids
 - b. History of or physical exam findings consistent with IVDU (IV drug use), ie. Track marks
 - c. Physical environment with illicit opioids or paraphernalia, multiple or high-dose prescription opioids present
4. Naloxone Leave Behind Kit
 - a. Commercially prepared Naloxone (Narcan®) 4mg/0.1mL nasal spray.
 - b. Instructions on when and how to administer the Naloxone Leave Behind Kit.
 - c. Contact information for the Arizona Opioid Assistance and Referral (OAR) Line and other resources available in your community.
5. A Naloxone Leave Behind Kit may be distributed on each call in which it is indicated to be left.
6. Documentation per agency policy indicating when naloxone (Narcan®) was left behind.

Douglas A. Ducey | Governor Cara M. Christ, MD, MS | Director