

Naloxone (NARCAN) Protocol for First Responders

Policy Name: Naloxone (Narcan) Protocol for First Responders

Approval Authority: Cabinet

Interpreting and Implementing Authority: Director of Health Services

Effective: February 2020

Last Revised: February 2020

Next Review Date: January 2025

Policy Statement

Wesleyan College shares the widespread national concern with the serious threat to health, safety, and welfare posed by the unlawful use and abuse of prescription opioid drugs, especially in the workplace and on college campuses. The College has established a protocol to allow on-campus law enforcement officials to carry NARCAN Nasal Spray in order to help combat the effects of a suspected opioid overdose. The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines and regulations governing the utilization of NARCAN Nasal Spray by the Wesleyan police force.

Entities Affected by the Policy

This policy applies to all police officers employed by Wesleyan College, both full- and part-time.

Policy Details

NARCAN Nasal Spray is a prescription medicine that helps to reverse the life-threatening effects of opioid overdose or a possible opioid overdose, with signs of breathing problems and severe sleepiness or not being able to respond. The appropriate use of NARCAN Nasal Spray may help law enforcement officers, emergency medical technicians, or corrections officers temporarily reverse the effects of a known or suspected opioid overdose. However, NARCAN Nasal Spray is not a substitute for emergency medical care.

All participating officers will receive initial training that will include use of naloxone, universal precautions, rescue breathing, seeking medical attention, and the use of intranasal naloxone. Officers will receive refresher training yearly by the Health Services department or another appropriate trained staff. The on duty campus police officer who has completed the necessary training will carry the NARCAN Nasal Spray at all times.

When deploying the naloxone kit officers will: (1) maintain universal precautions; (2) perform patient assessments; (3) determine unresponsiveness; (4) and notify EMS of the potential overdose state. Missing or damaged kits should be reported to the Chief of Campus Police and the Director of Health Services.

Upon completion of utilizing the NARCAN kit, the officer will submit a report detailing the incident, care the patient received, and the fact that the NARCAN was used. The report will be submitted to the Dean of Students.

Responsibilities

It is the responsibility of the Chief of Campus Police to ensure that all police officers are trained on First Aid and CPR-certified upon hire and that they abide by the training set forth in this policy. The Chief should also keep an up to date list of the officers who have completed NARCAN training and yearly re-certifications. The department of Health Services will ensure that all NARCAN kits are up to date. The Director of Health Services, Human Resources and Chief of Campus Police will review this policy biennially for effectiveness.

Violations of the Policy

Violations of the policy can include a written warning up to and including termination of employment.

Interpreting and Implementing Authority

The Director of Health Services will ensure that there is a current dosage of NARCAN in the Department of Health Services and provide training materials yearly. The Chief of Campus Police will ensure that the NARCAN carried by the police officers is always up to date. The Chief of Police will notify the Director of Health Services if the NARCAN is expired and if there is a need for training other than on a yearly basis.