



Office of Children and Family Services

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Administrative Directive

Transmittal:	24-OCFS-ADM-02
To:	Detention Operating Agencies
Issuing Division/Office:	Division of Youth Development and Partnerships for Success
Date:	January 30, 2024
Subject:	Opioid Antagonists in Detention Facilities
Suggested Distribution:	Detention Facility Directors Detention Administering Agencies
Contact Person(s):	Donte Blackwell, Director, Bureau of Youth Justice Services Donte.Blackwell@ocfs.ny.gov
Attachments:	None

Filing References

Previous ADMs/INFs	Releases Cancelled	NYS Regs.	Soc. Serv. Law & Other Legal Ref.	Manual Ref.	Misc. Ref.
		9 NYCRR 180-1.9 9 NYCRR 180-1.10 9 NYCRR and 180-3.21	Public Health Law § 3309		

I. Purpose

The purpose of this Administrative Directive (ADM) is to establish new requirements for the training on and use of opioid antagonists in cases where reversal of opioid overdose is indicated. This type of treatment is part of the overall health and safety and first aid training required by New York State (NYS) regulations at 9 NYCRR 180-1.9 and 180-3.21.

II. Background

Opioid Antagonists as Emergency Medication

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention data show that overdose deaths involving opioids have increased by a factor of 10 since 1999.¹ These deaths can be prevented when life-saving medication in the form of opioid antagonists is used in time. An opioid antagonist is a medicine that reverses an overdose by blocking opioids in the brain for 30 to 90 minutes.²

¹ [Data Overview | Opioids | CDC.](#)

² 10 NYCRR 80.138.

https://www.health.ny.gov/diseases/aids/general/opioid_overdose_prevention/regulations.htm#phl.

The appropriate administration of naloxone (a type of opioid antagonist), a life-saving medication approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), is a means to reduce the number of deaths associated with opioids. Naloxone is a widely available and highly effective opioid antagonist and is easily administered by medical and non-medical personnel. The National Commission on Correctional Health Care recommends that all custodial and medical staff be trained in the administration of naloxone and have ready access to it.³ In NYS it is legal for non-medical persons to administer an opioid antagonist to another individual to prevent an opioid overdose from becoming fatal.

III. Program Implications

Overdose deaths from synthetic opioids for youth under the age of 24 have climbed significantly over the past 10 years in NYS.⁴ Young people are vulnerable to accidental or intentional overdose and therefore it is critical for detention facilities to have the capacity to respond immediately. Naloxone is available in New York State for anyone to use when there is a suspected overdose due to opioids.

Detention facilities must obtain naloxone, retain it in the facility, and train all facility staff to recognize the signs of opioid use, dependency, and overdose and how to utilize naloxone in cases of suspected overdose.

IV. Required Action

The New York State Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) is requiring all detention facilities to become registered Opioid Overdose Prevention Programs (OOPPs) through the New York State Department of Health (DOH).⁵ Registration as an OOPP grants access to training and free naloxone. All detention facilities are required to provide an initial plan, including to OCFS, within one month of the publication of this ADM. Such plan shall outline the following:

- The date by which the organization will become a registered Opioid Overdoes Prevention Program with DOH
- The individual to serve as the OOPP program director and who will serve as the clinical director (must be a PA/NP/DO/MD).
- How all medical staff will be trained on the administration of naloxone within 60 days of becoming an OPPP.
- How all supervisory staff will be trained on the administration of naloxone within 60 days of the publication of this ADM.
- How all staff in the facility will be trained on recognizing the signs of opioid addiction and overdose within six (6) months of the publication of this ADM.
- How the facility will ensure that all facility staff is are trained in the use of naloxone within one year from the date of this ADM.
- Procedures for trained staff to be able to access naloxone every other year at minimum, and within six (6) months of hiring going forward.
- How naloxone will be replaced if it has expired or has been used.
- Reporting procedures to the Justice Center and through JDAS for any use of opioid antagonists in detention facilities or during transport.

The facility must maintain training records for all medical and facility staff establishing compliance with the above.

³ <https://www.ncchc.org/wp-content/uploads/Naloxone-in-Correctional-Facilities-for-the-Prevention-of-Opioid-Overdose-Deaths-1.pdf>.

⁴ [New York State Opioid Annual Report 2022 \(ny.gov\)](https://www.ny.gov/newsroom/new-york-state-opioid-annual-report-2022).

⁵ <https://www.nyoverdose.org/>.

Any individual can be trained to administer naloxone, and free training is available online at <https://www.nyoverdose.org/Home/Calendar>.

V. Systems Implications

None

VI. Effective Date:

This ADM is effective immediately.

/s/ Nina Aledort, Ph.D.

Issued by:

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Division/Office: Division of Youth Development and Partnerships for Success