INTRANASAL NALOXONE BY PUBLIC SAFETY FIRST RESPONDERS

I. AUTHORITY:

California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Div 9, Chpt 1.5.

II. APPLICATION:

The purpose of this policy is to describe criteria for public safety first responder administration of naloxone hydrochloride in cases of suspected acute opioid overdose.

III. NOTIFICATIONS:

A. Upon approval of a public safety agency or department to administer naloxone in the field by Orange County EMS (OCEMS), the agency shall be listed in Policy #398.05.

IV. PARTICIPANT CRITERIA:

A. Public safety first responders working in OCEMS naloxone administration approved agencies or departments who have completed OCEMS-sanctioned First Responder Naloxone Training may administer naloxone in the field or jails by authority of the OCEMS Medical Director.

B. Current certification in Basic Life Support (AHA, American Red Cross, or OCEMS approved equivalent) is required of any public safety first responder approved for administration of naloxone.

V. APPROVED DEPARTMENTS AND RESPONDING UNITS

A. Orange County public safety agencies and departments approved for administration of naloxone will be identified by OCEMS.

B. Those agencies or departments approved by OCEMS will determine deployment of naloxone capability within their jurisdictions.

VI. TRAINING

A. Training shall consist of a one-hour presentation prepared by OCEMS which shall cover:
   1. Background information on opioid use and abuse
   2. Definition of opioids
   3. Signs and symptoms of overdose
   4. Reversal of opioids using naloxone
   5. Emergency field treatment of the opioid overdose patient
   6. Mechanism of drug action of naloxone
   7. Dosing and Administration of intranasal naloxone
   8. Potential side effects of naloxone administration and reversal of opioids
   9. Safety, medical asepsis, and personal protective equipment measures

B. Training will include a written examination and instructor demonstration and participant return demonstration of the administration of intranasal naloxone.

VII. PROCEDURE

A. Perform the procedure when indicated according to First Responder Standing Order SO-FR-001.

VIII. DATA COLLECTION

A. EMS personnel shall document the “prior to arrival” administration of naloxone by public safety first responders.
B. Participating Public Safety Agencies will maintain records of all deployments of naloxone which shall be available to OCEMS upon request.
C. ERCs will be requested to provide basic disposition data as requested by OCEMS

IX. SAFETY and MONITORING

A. Public safety first responder naloxone administration will be included into the OCEMS EMS Plan and evaluated and monitored within the OCEMS Quality Improvement and Process Improvement Program.
B. Naloxone storage and rotation of expired medication will be done using pre-determined protocols and documentation developed by the participating public safety agencies.

Approved:

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