

Solomon Wright Public Library

OPIOID OVERDOSE PREVENTION POLICY

1. POLICY OVERVIEW: To combat the continuing rise in opioid-related deaths in Vermont and potentially save a life, the Solomon Wright Public Library has instituted an Opioid Overdose Prevention Program. This document sets forth the required policies and procedures necessary to provide and maintain intranasal naloxone/Narcan on-site to ensure ready and appropriate access for use during emergencies to any patron, volunteer, or staff member suspected of having an opioid overdose.

2. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS: Vermont Legal Framework Vermont State Statute's "Good Samaritan Law," as passed in 2013 and amended in 2015, states: (18 V.S.A. § 4240): (d)(1) A person may administer an opioid antagonist to a victim if he or she believes, in good faith, that the victim is experiencing an opioid-related overdose. (2) After a person has administered an opioid antagonist pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection (d), he or she shall immediately call for emergency medical services if medical assistance has not yet been sought or is not yet present. (3) A person shall be immune from civil or criminal liability for administering an opioid antagonist to a victim pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection unless the person's actions constituted recklessness, gross negligence, or intentional misconduct. The immunity granted in this subdivision shall apply whether or not the opioid antagonist is administered by or to a person other than the person for whom it was prescribed.

3. AUTHORIZATION: In accordance with the law cited above, the trustees of the Solomon Wright Public Library authorize the Library Director to proceed with instituting a board-sanctioned Opioid Overdose Prevention Program following the procedures outlined on the following pages.

Policy adopted on March 9, 2020 by the Solomon Wright Public Library Board of Trustees

OPIOID OVERDOSE PREVENTION PROCEDURES

Library Director Responsibilities:

- Make sure that any staff member or volunteer who is willing to administer Narcan is properly trained and follows the procedures outlined below for administering Narcan.
- Work with the Library Trustee Board to develop policies and procedures for Opioid Overdose Prevention.
- Regularly check the Narcan inventory.
- Keep track of expiration dates for the Narcan.
- Order more Narcan as needed.
- Ensure that reports are sent to the Library Trustee Board and the Town (if applicable) if Narcan is administered in/at the library.
- Maintain a list of all staff and volunteers trained to administer Narcan.

Storage, Inventory, and Reporting:

Storage:

- Narcan doses will be stored consistent with the manufacturers' guidelines in a secure location (in the cabinet behind the circulation desk), ensuring they are ready and accessible for use by trained staff or trained volunteers in an emergency.

Inventory:

- Onsite inventory and placement of Narcan will be accounted for monthly and counted by the Library Director.

Reporting:

- Library Director will ensure that Incident Reports are filed with the Library Trustee Board and the Town (if applicable) whenever Narcan is administered.

Response Procedures:

Signs of possible overdose:

- Person will not wake up or respond to voice (**this is the #1 sign to look for**)
- Snoring or gurgling sounds
- Breathing is very slow, or irregular, or has stopped
- Pupils are pinpoint
- Blue lips and/or nail beds
- Clammy skin

Protocol:

1. Assess the scene for your own safety. If the situation is unsafe, do not attempt to get to the victim.
2. **Call 911.**
3. If possible, alert other staff to the situation and ask for assistance, especially with crowd control.
4. Put on gloves and a breathing mask.
5. Put the individual on his/her back. Do NOT attempt to move him/her from a chair to the floor.
6. Administer dose of Narcan: read and follow directions on the box.
7. If trained in rescue breathing, commence rescue breathing using an appropriate breathing barrier.
8. If the person is on the floor, put him/her in the recovery position.
9. Watch closely, but from a safe distance. Be aware that the effect of Narcan is to cause immediate withdrawal from an opioid high. The person might be ill or confused. Offer reassurance and support, but do not compromise your safety. NEVER attempt to restrain the person.
10. If the person does not respond within 2-3 minutes, administer another dose of Narcan in the alternate nostril.
11. Once EMS has arrived, take time for self-care. Allow another staff member to continue with crowd control and limiting gossip about the incident.
12. Fill out an Incident Report: a paper copy is stored with the Narcan. Leave completed form on the Library Director's desk.