

# **DELMAR POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Policy 8.60 Nasal Naloxone Application

Effective Date: 08/01/14 Replaces: N/A

Approved: <u>Ivan Barkley</u>
Chief of Police

**Reference:** N/A

# I. POLICY

The Delmar Police Department shall ensure officers are trained by the Wicomico County Health Department in the administration of Nasal Naloxone to persons in respiratory distress who are believed to be suffering from an opioid overdose at the earliest possible time to minimize fatal overdoses.

## II. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines and procedures governing the utilization of Nasal Naloxone administered by officers of the Delmar Police Department. The objective of administering this nasal spray is to treat and minimize the effects of opioid overdoses as early as possible.

### III. PROCEDURES

- A. The Patrol Commander shall be responsible for ensuring that:
  - 1. Nasal naloxone kits are current and not past the expiration date;
  - 2. The use of and deployment of nasal naloxone in the field is proper and efficient;
  - 3. Any use of the nasal naloxone on a subject is properly documented on an incident report;
  - 4. Nasal naloxone kits that are damaged, unusable, expired and/or those that have been used are replaced accordingly; and
  - 5. Kits shall not be continually stored in patrol vehicles due to temperature concerns.
- B. The Administrative Commander shall ensure that all officers receive proper training in the use of nasal naloxone and that only officers who have been trained shall administer the spray.

### C. Indications and Use

- 1. Officers shall utilize nasal naloxone on subjects believed to be suffering from an opioid overdose; the signs and symptoms of which may include, but are not limited to,:
  - a. Blood-shoot eyes;
  - b. Pinpoint pupils;
  - c. Depressed or slow respiratory rate;
  - d. Difficulty breathing;
  - e. Blue skin, lips, fingernails;
  - f. Decreased pulse rate;
  - g. Low blood pressure;
  - h. Unresponsiveness;
  - i. Seizures;
  - j. Evidence of ingestion, inhalation or injection (needles, spoons, needle tracks, etc)
  - k. Past history of opioid use.
- D. Officers shall follow the protocols outlined in their nasal naloxone training.
- E. When using the nasal naloxone spray, officers will maintain universal precautions against pathogens, perform patient assessment, determine responsiveness, absence of breathing and/or pulse.
- F. Officers shall notify communication personnel as soon as possible and inform the PCO of the status of the patient and whether a potential opioid overdose has occurred. The PCO will contact local EMS personnel to respond to the location of the patient.
- G. Maintenance and Reporting
  - 1. Officers authorized to use the nasal naloxone are responsible for inspecting the kit prior to each shift. Officers will attempt to keep the kit at room temperature at all times possible.

- 2. Missing or damaged kit(s) will be immediately reported to the on-duty supervisor. The Patrol Commander shall ensure that the kit is replaced accordingly upon notification by the supervisor.
- 3. At any time nasal naloxone is utilized in the field, the officer shall submit an incident report detailing the nature of the incident, the care received by the patient, and the effectiveness of the nasal spray.
- 4. Officers shall ensure that any evidence of opioid use located at the scene (needles, narcotics, etc.) is collected and processed in accordance with departmental policy 12.1 Procedures for Handling Property & Evidence.
- 5. The Patrol Commander shall ensure that a copy of the incident report, after supervisory approval has occurred, is forwarded to the Wicomico County Health Department.