Southwest Narcan Administration Pilot Program Policy

Policy:

There has recently been a significant increase in Opiate drug overdose incidents. Early administration of medication can have immediate lifesaving effects before Emergency Medical Services arrives. The use of Intranasal Naloxone (Narcan), a prescription medication, has proven to be effective lifesaving intervention to persons who have overdosed with Opiate drugs. Accordingly, IMPD is implementing a pilot program in which all Southwest District Officers will be trained and equipped to administer Intranasal Narcan to persons exhibiting signs of an Opiate overdose.

Definitions:

Naloxone (Narcan): Prescription drug, which reverses the fatally toxic effects of Opioids, It is known as an "Opioid Antagonist" (Antidote). It is Fast Acting treatment, effective within one to eight minutes of exposure. It is Safe to carry and administer, with no potential harmful side effect, and impossible to abuse. Narcan competes with the presence of illicit opiate in the brain. Because it stays in the system for approximately 30 minutes, the recipient of Narcan may need an additional dosage to counteract an extreme overdose.

Opiates: Synthetic or natural substances with similar effects, Prescription opiates typically in pill form and include Hydrocodone, Oxycodone, Morphine, etc. Illicit opiate is Heroin. Prescription Opiates usually have a predictable dose response (the user knows what to expect) and the consumption of illegal opiate substances lead to highly unpredictable, often volatile human response, resulting in an overdose. Opiates are commonly used to relieve pain and sedate patients. Prescription opiates work on certain receptors in the body including the brain, respiratory system, and GI tract. At normal levels, they cause decreased transmission of pain. At excessive levels (overdose) opiates may cause slowing of vital functions of respiration and level of consciousness.

Opiate Overdose: Life threatening effect of a drug on the human body. Major threats to life include effect on the respiratory system (no oxygen) and Central Nervous System with a decreased level of consciousness. Overdose can be reversed if done in a timely manner.

Opiate Overdose Signs: Person who is not breathing (blue lips and blue skin), Limp body, slow pulse, person unconscious, choking sounds/gurgling, may be experiencing an opiate overdose.

Mucosal Atomizer Device (MAD): Safe and effective delivery method using nostrils of patient. A Mucosal Atomizer Device (MAD) turns medication into a fine mist in order to absorb through nasal mucosa. Needles are not involved. A MAD painlessly delivers two milligrams of Naloxone per dose.

Procedure:

Training: Every Southwest Officer will receive one hour of certified training provided by Indianapolis Emergency Medical Services addressing the following:

- Overview – Statement of Problem, Solution
- Opiate understanding and definitions
- Opiate Overdose Signs and description
- Naloxone (Narcan) - Pharmacology, Administration, and Expectations
- Procedure/Policy

Naloxone Use: In the Event of Overdose

- *Recognize overdose*
  - *It's history and appearance consistent with opiate overdose*
  - *Assess for breathing with stimulation*
- *Overdose symptoms present*
  - *Ensure EMS is enroute*
  - *Administer Narcan Intranasal- as Instructed by Indianapolis Emergency Medical Services*
  - *Place patient in a recovery position – to prevent them from choking on vomit*
  - *Monitor respirations*
- Reporting:
  - Call for supervisor– Complete supervisory special with narrative describing the totality of circumstances of the event and interview witnesses
  - Officer Complete Sick/Injured person report – detailing observations and actions
  - Follow Immediate Detention process – If patient refuses medical transportation
  - Complete brief data collection form within forms section of the RMS under the case report. This report will be given to the IEMS Medical Director for review
- Officer should carry the Narcan on their person or within their trauma kits.
- Officer will follow EMS protocol for replacement after use.