STANDING ORDER TO DISPENSE NALOXONE

Authority: This standing order is issued in accordance with RCW 69.41.095(5), which allows for “[t]he secretary or the secretary’s designee [to] issue a standing order prescribing opioid overdose reversal medications to any person at risk of experiencing an opioid-related overdose or any person or entity in a position to assist a person at risk of experiencing an opioid-related overdose.” The Secretary of Health has designated the State Health Officer to issue a standing order under RCW 69.41.095(5).

Purpose: The purpose of this standing order is to facilitate wide distribution of the opioid antagonist naloxone so people in Washington can provide assistance to persons experiencing an opioid-related overdose.

Authorization: This standing order shall be considered a naloxone prescription for an eligible person or entity. This standing order authorizes any eligible person or entity in the State of Washington to possess, store, deliver, distribute or administer naloxone.

Any pharmacy or wholesaler in the State of Washington may dispense and deliver naloxone to an eligible person or entity under this standing order.

An eligible person or entity is any person at risk of experiencing an opioid-related overdose or any person or entity in a position to assist a person at risk of experiencing an opioid-related overdose. These could include a natural person, such as an individual at risk of an opioid-related overdose or a family member, friend or acquaintance of that individual; or a legal person, such as an ambulance service, police department, or school or other educational institution that could be in a position to assist a person at risk of experiencing an opioid-related overdose.

Terms and Conditions: Any person or entity distributing naloxone to eligible persons or entities, as defined above, must provide written instructions on the proper response to an opioid-related overdose, including instructions on the role of naloxone, recognizing a potential opioid-related overdose, verifying unresponsiveness, calling 911 and administering naloxone, starting rescue breathing, administering a second dose of naloxone if needed, and providing post-overdose care. Written instructions for lay responders are available at: www.doh.wa.gov/naloxoneinstructions

Pharmacies and other entities are strongly encouraged to provide in-person training, allow hands-on practice with a demonstration kit, and/or show training videos to persons receiving naloxone for the first time. A training video on responding to an opioid-related overdose and administering naloxone can be found at: https://www.doh.wa.gov/YouandYourFamily/DrugUserHealth/OverdoseandNaloxone

Entities seeking to use this standing order to receive and dispense naloxone must notify the Washington State Department of Health by sending an email to naloxoneprogram@doh.wa.gov. The Department of Health will maintain a list of entities using the order and contact these entities if any changes are made to the order. Individuals using the standing order do not need to notify the department.
Naloxone HCL Dispensing Procedures

Pharmacies and other entities can dispense and deliver the following naloxone products to eligible persons based on availability and preference. Eligible persons include persons at risk of experiencing an opioid-related overdose or in a position to assist a person at risk of experiencing an opioid-related overdose.

Intramuscular Naloxone Hydrochloride Injection Solution (0.4 mg/ml)

Dispense: Two 1ml single dose vials of naloxone HCL (0.4mg/1 ml) inj. and two 3 ml syringes with 23 or 25 gauge 1” needles

Directions for use: Call 911. Inject the entire solution of the vial intramuscularly in the shoulder or thigh. Repeat after three minutes as needed if no or minimal response.

Refills: As needed

NARCAN™ Nasal Spray (4 mg/0.1 ml)

Dispense: Two NARCAN® 4mg nasal sprays

Directions for use: Call 911. Administer a single spray of NARCAN® in one nostril. Repeat after three minutes as needed if no or minimal response.

Refills: As needed

Generic Naloxone Hydrochloride Nasal Spray (4 mg/0.1 ml)

Dispense: Two generic naloxone HCl 4mg nasal sprays

Directions for use: Call 911. Administer a single spray in one nostril. Repeat after three minutes as needed if no or minimal response.

Refills: As needed

Expiration, Renewal and Review

This standing order will automatically expire 09/01/2021 or on the date that the physician who signed the order revokes it, or ceases to act as the State Health Officer, whichever comes sooner. This standing order shall be reviewed on a regular basis against current best practices, and may be revised or updated if new information about naloxone administration necessitates it.