

Naloxone (Narcan)

The Department of Corrections (DOC) has established guidelines and policy governing utilization of Naloxone, also known as Narcan, administered by DOC staff. The objective is to treat opioid overdoses and reduce risk associated with exposure to opioids in a correctional setting.

The Director of Parole, Director of Juvenile Services and Wardens designate staff members under their authority to coordinate a process to maintain Naloxone within their unit of responsibility.

Designated DOC staff members have received training regarding Naloxone. As required in SDCL §§ 34-20A-101 and 34-20A-102, each trained staff member authorized to administer an opioid antagonist is trained in the symptoms of an opiate overdose; the protocols and procedures for administration of an opioid antagonist; the symptoms of adverse responses to an opioid antagonist, and protocols and procedures to stabilize the patient if an adverse response occurs; and the procedures for storage, transport, and security of the opioid antagonist.

Naloxone training is provided to new hire staff during pre-service training.

A qualified and licensed physician selected by the Secretary of Corrections will prescribe Naloxone for administration by trained staff members. A standing order will be issued authorizing possession of Naloxone by the DOC and designated trained staff and will include the protocols and procedures to be followed by staff members administering Naloxone (See SDCL §§ 34-20A-101 and 34-20A-102).

Any staff member trained in the administration of Naloxone, and acting under a standing order issued by a licensed physician, may possess and administer Naloxone to a person exhibiting symptoms of opiate overdose (See SDCL § 34-20A-98).

For more information on this issue, please visit the Policies page of our website and reference DOC Policy 1.3.A.16 Use of Naloxone. Public policies are available on our website at: <http://doc.sd.gov/about/policies/>.