

December 4th, 2018

POLICY STATEMENT

GUIDANCE DOCUMENT FOR PHARMACISTS DISPENSING NALOXONE WITHOUT A PRESCRIPTION PURSUANT TO A STANDING ORDER

This policy statement is issued to clarify that, effective immediately, a D.C. Licensed Pharmacist may dispense naloxone without a prescription pursuant to a standing order from a D.C. Licensed Physician, under the following circumstances:

- Pharmacists in National Pharmacy Organizations (NPO): can dispense Naloxone without a prescription if:
 - The pharmacist has completed the NPO's training program which must include:
 - (A) How to screen a patient for being at risk of an opioid-related overdose;
 - (B) How opioid antagonists operate to stop an opioid-related overdose;
 - (C) When the administration of an opioid antagonist is medically indicated;
 - (D) How to properly administer an opioid antagonist and circumstances under which administration of an opioid antagonist is contraindicated; and
 - (E) Precautions, warnings, and potential adverse reactions related to the administration of an opioid antagonist; and
 - The pharmacist has a written standing order from a District of Columbia licensed physician.
 - The pharmacy dispensing naloxone to the patient must be a pharmacy located in the District of Columbia
- Pharmacists in all other pharmacies: can dispense Naloxone without a prescription if:
 - The pharmacist has completed the Department of Health's (DC Health) Naloxone Training Program, and
 - The pharmacist has completed a written standing order from the DC Health.