

DATE: February 13, 2017

TO: Licensees of the Minnesota Board of Pharmacy

FROM: Minnesota Department of Health and Minnesota Board of Pharmacy

SUBJECT: Pharmacists May Enter Written Protocol to Provide Naloxone

This email is to remind pharmacists that they may enter into a written protocol with any licensed practitioner authorized to issue prescriptions for opiate antagonists, in accordance with the provisions of a protocol. The licensed provider is considered the prescriber of record.

[In response to the increase of opioid overdose deaths](#), the Legislature approved language in [2016 Minnesota Session Laws, Chapter 124](#), to expand options for entering into a protocol with a licensed provider, with the goal of increasing naloxone accessibility and availability in pharmacies statewide. Pharmacists may enter a written protocol with:

- Any Minnesota licensed practitioner
- A local Community Health Board medical consultant
- Minnesota Department of Health's Medical Director

Visit the Minnesota Department of Health's [website](#) for more information.

[Minnesota Board of Pharmacy's Opiate Antagonist Protocol](#)

This protocol was developed for the use of pharmacists who want to work with medical consultants of Community Health Boards and the Minnesota Department of Health's Medical Director. Pharmacists may also use this protocol if they are working with a different physician or other practitioner. However, pharmacists are not required to use this protocol in order to be involved in the prescribing of opiate antagonists.

Individual pharmacists and group or chain pharmacies interested in utilizing the Minnesota Board of Pharmacy's Opiate Antagonist Protocol under the Minnesota Department of Health's Medical Director must register [here](#).

Notice of Liability

Pharmacists may directly or by standing order, prescribe, dispense, distribute, or administer naloxone to a person without being subject to civil liability or criminal prosecution for the act per [2016 Minnesota Statutes 604A.04 Good Samaritan Overdose Prevention](#).

Trainings, Resources and More Information

Visit the Minnesota Department of Health's [website](#) for a list of optional trainings, patient referral resources, and Community Health Board information. For questions, please contact Dana Farley, MS, Minnesota Department of Health, Alcohol & Drug Prevention Policy Director, at dana.farley@state.mn.us.

Questions regarding the Opiate Antagonist Protocol, implementation and legalities may be directed to the Board of Pharmacy at pharmacy.board@state.mn.us or (651)201-2825.