

**TACOMA FIRE DEPARTMENT
SPECIAL ORDER #18-05
January 24, 2018**

TO: ALL PERSONNEL

SUBJECT: OPIOID KITS

The use of Opioid Kits has been proven to decrease patient mortality and morbidity in our community by reducing the “down-time” of overdose patients, decreasing rates of hospitalization, and the incidence of costly long-term care related to anoxic brain injury.

After patient care is complete, while on the scene with the patient or bystanders, TFD will offer an Opioid Kit that contains two doses of nasal naloxone and information to seek recovery help and social services. Additionally, the patient can accept referral for TFD CARES to make contact, offering services toward recovery. It is important to keep in mind that the distribution of the kit is not the solution to the opioid epidemic, but it serves as a mechanism to begin the conversation of access to care, treatment, and recovery. To that end, it is important to professionally convey that treatment and recovery services are available through the contact information found in the kit.

DISTRIBUTION

- The Opioid Kits will be carried on TFD Medic Units.
- Kits will be distributed only after assessment and treatment of opioid overdose.
- If naloxone was used prior to TFD arrival, an Opioid Kit can be given to resupply the patient.
- Due to reporting and tracking requirements, Opioid Kits can only be distributed to a patient. Once in the patient’s hands, they can entrust the kit to family or another bystander if they so choose.
- To obtain additional kits for restock, use the established EMS supply ordering procedure.

PROCEDURE

- The Opioid Kit shall not be administered by TFD during treatment of suspected opioid overdose.
- If patient chooses to AMA, confirm that the patient meets Pierce County Decision-Making Capacity Checklist.
- Base station contact shall be made for AMA.
- The Opioid Kit can be given to the patient and/or an involved bystander.
- The number of kits to be given is at your discretion.

DOCUMENTATION

- In Siren, under Drug Therapy, select “Opioid Kit.” Leave “amount” and “unit” fields blank.
- In Siren, under Demographics, enter the patient’s phone number for FD CARES follow-up contact.
- In ePCR narrative, note who received the Opioid Kit (e.g. patient, spouse, friend, etc.).
- In IRS, select button: “FD CARES Referral” if the patient wants to be contacted by FD CARES to coordinate medical care and treatment.



Opioid Kit

TFD will begin distributing Opioid Kits on January 26, 2018.

If you have any questions about this process or Opioid Kits, contact FF/PM Gordon, Captain L.J. Hupp, or MSO Newhouse.

SIGNATURE ON FILE

James P. Duggan
Fire Chief

JPD:MSM:cs

SIGNATURE ON FILE

Michael S. Mitchell, Deputy Chief
Operations Bureau