State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
Department of State | Office of the Secretary of State
Nellie M. Gorbea, *Secretary of State*

Rules and Regulations Filing Form

1. Agency Name and Address
Health, Department of
Cannon Building

2. Title of Rule
Rules and Regulations Pertaining to Opioid Overdose Prevention [R23-1-OPIOID]

3. Statutory Source of Authority
RIGL Chapter 23-1

4. Concise Explanatory Statement - §42-35-2.3
Establish the procedures for administration of an opioid antagonist to an individual experiencing an opioid overdose

5. Type of Filing

Emergency Rules

A1. Emergency 120-day initial - §42-35-3(b)
☐ Adoption
☐ Amendment of ERLID:
☐ Repeal of ERLID:

A2. Emergency 90-day renewal - §42-35-3(b)
☑ Adoption
☐ Amendment
Indicate ERLID of 120-day initial: 7687

Brief Statement of Reason for Finding Imminent Peril §42-35-3(b)(2):
The Department finds that there is imminent peril to the public health, safety and welfare and that these emergency regulations should be adopted to protect the public health. Specifically the Department finds that: 1. Rhode Island is in the midst of a severe prescription and street-drug overdose crisis. There have been fifty (50) opioid-related deaths since the start of 2014. Many of these deaths are directly related to the use of Fentanyl and Heroin, which are opioids. Legal prescriptions for opioids, particularly oxycdone and hydrocodone, have increased in recent years. 2. Due to the sharp increase of opioid overdose deaths in Rhode Island in 2014, expanded access to Naloxone (Narcan) has become an immediately necessary priority to save lives. Pursuant to the Rhode Island Rules and Regulations Relating to Emergency Medical Services, Naloxone (Narcan) is already considered a standing-order medication that can be administered to individuals for whom the medication is not specifically prescribed in an overdose situation. By expanding upon the success of this existing program, more lives could be saved if Naloxone (Narcan) were available to people with drug addiction, their families and other people and organizations likely to be in a position to assist a person at risk of an opioid-related overdose. 3. Naloxone (Narcan) is sometimes referred to as the drug-overdose antidote, and it counteracts the life-threatening depression of the central nervous system and respiratory system caused by an opioid overdose. If timely administered, Naloxone (Narcan) can prevent overdose deaths. Naloxone has reportedly reversed more than 10,000 overdoses. 4. Under these Regulations, one prescriber is now able to issue a non-patient-specific order to numerous organizations, such as police departments, allowing for increased access to the opioid antagonist Naloxone (Narcan). These Regulations will enable the person who is likely to discover an overdose victim to save their life -- a life that could otherwise be lost if the victim has to wait for an EMT to arrive to administer the Naloxone (Narcan).

Final Rules

☐ B1. Amendment ☐ B2. Adoption ☐ B3. Repeal ☐ C. Technical Revision

If B1 or C, please indicate new, amended, deleted, or revised sections:

6. Notice and Hearing Information
Date of Public Notice - §42-35-3(a)(1):Notice Not Required
Date of Public Hearing - §42-35-3(a)(2):Hearing Not Required
End of Comment Period:

7. Agency Additional Information - Web Page
http://

8. Certification

I hereby certify that the attached rules and regulations were adopted in accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act (42-35) and that they are true copies of this Department, attest,

_____

Name

_____

Title

_____

Notary Public

Subscribed and sworn before me
this_____ day of _____, _____

ERLID#: 7846