

Connecticut EMS Statewide Opioid Reporting Directive (SWORD)



Public Act 18-166 requires that EMS personnel report all cases of opioid overdose.

What must EMS report?

Report any suspected opioid overdose case. This may include patients who do not receive naloxone or patients who refuse transportation.

Who must call?

The highest level EMS provider on the scene is responsible for calling if no transport is initiated. If the patient is transported, the highest level EMS provider on the transport unit (can be an intercept paramedic) is responsible for the call to the Connecticut Poison Control Center (CPCC) at **1-800-222-1222**. Make the call as soon as possible after patient care. This information will be used in real-time to predict surges in overdose cases.

Thank you for
your
participation!



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CT EMS Statewide Opioid Reporting Directive

- Call CT Poison Control after any call where the patient is suspected of opioid use, causing decreased responsiveness, respiratory depression or death.
- Call whether naloxone was administered or not.

SWORD

Example:

- First responder administers naloxone to patient.
- Transport is made to hospital - the highest level provider on the transport unit (may be intercepting paramedic) is responsible for calling CPCC as soon as possible after patient is care. Only one call to CPCC per patient.

Out-of-State Cell Phones:

If you are calling via cell phone, the call will go to the poison control center associated with your phone's area code. Please ask to be transferred to the CONNECTICUT Poison Control Center. If calling from a land line your call will go directly to CPCC.

Is this HIPAA compliant?

Yes! The CT Poison Control Center is considered an exempt entity. They will remove any identifying information prior to adding data to heat maps and reports to be shared with the community.

For a free 0.5-hour CME on opioid overdose and reporting, visit train.org – class # 108347
IE & Firefox browsers only



QR Code for
CT Train

Call Poison Control (PC) @ 1-800-222-1222, say "I need to speak with CT PC. I have a call for CT SWORD", give your name, service name, and ambulance number. Answer the following:

- 1 Patient Name
- 2 Patient Age (DOB if possible)
- 3 Patient Gender
- 4 Incident address and type (pt. home, public area, unknown, etc.)
- 5 Opioid used (heroin, fentanyl, pill, unknown)
- 6 Route (IV, IN, PO, smoked, unknown)
- 7 Disposition (transport, refusal, dead, pt not found)
- 8 Naloxone given (Y or N), if yes:
a. delivery method (IN/IM/IV) and dose
b. who gave first dose (citizen, PD, FD, EMT, EMTP)
c. side effects noted? (Y or N) (emesis, agitation, other)
- 9 Describe bag stamp picture and/or name
-send pic to poisoncontrol@uchc.edu if possible; case # in subject line
- 10 Brief description of call

Above is a copy of pocket card which will be available in hospital EMS rooms as well as distributed to each service