

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH


Renée D. Coleman-Mitchell, MPH
Commissioner



Ned Lamont
Governor
Susan Bysiewicz
Lt. Governor

OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

OEMS COMMUNICATIONS STATEMENT 19-03

Date: March 18, 2019
To: All Connecticut certified & licensed EMS organizations
From: Raffaella Coler RN, MEd., Paramedic 
Director, Office of Emergency Medical Services
Re: CT EMS Statewide Opioid Reporting Directive (SWORD)

The purpose of this communication is to inform all CT certified and licensed EMS organizations and providers of the roll-out of the CT EMS Statewide Opioid Reporting Directive (SWORD) with the CT Poison Control Center (CPCC).

Pursuant to *Public Act No. 18-166 AN ACT CONCERNING THE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT OF OPIOID DEPENDENCY AND OPIOID OVERDOSES IN THE STATE*. Sec. 5. (a) On and after January 1, 2019, any hospital licensed pursuant to chapter 368v of the general statutes or emergency medical services personnel, as defined in section 20-206jj of the general statutes, that treats a patient for an overdose of an opioid drug, as defined in section 20-14o of the general statutes, shall report such overdose to the Department of Public Health in a form and manner prescribed by the Commissioner of Public Health.

All EMS organizations will be reporting to the CPCC after any call where the patient is suspected of opioid use causing decreased responsiveness, respiratory depression or death, whether or not naloxone was administered.

Following is the roll-out schedule of reporting:

1. April 1, 2019 – Region 3
2. June 1, 2019 – Regions 1, 2, 4, and 5

Prior to roll-out, EMS providers are encouraged to register on the CT Train website to access a companion educational component which can be found here: [CT Train #1083473](#). Additionally, pocket reference cards will be made available in hospital EMS rooms and to all services which will contain the relevant details about the reporting process.

If you have any questions after reviewing the attachment or the CT Train course, contact stacey.durante@ct.gov



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