

 <b>Saskatchewan Health Authority</b>	Policies and Procedures  Title: <b>TAKE HOME NALOXONE (THN) PROGRAM</b>  <b>RN Specialty Practice: RN Clinical Protocol: Health Service/Program</b> Provision of THN Kits  <b>LPN Additional Competency</b> Provision of THN Kits  I.D. Number: <b>3099</b>
Authorization: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Former SktnHR Nursing Practice Committee	Source: Nursing Date Effective: Oct 24, 2018 Scope: Former SktnHR & Affiliates

*Any PRINTED version of this document is only accurate up to the date of printing 6-Nov-18The former Saskatoon Health Region (SktnHR) cannot guarantee the currency or accuracy of any printed policy. Always refer to the Policies and Procedures site for the most current versions of documents in effect. SktnHR accepts no responsibility for use of this material by any person or organization not associated with SktnHR. No part of this document may be reproduced in any form for publication without permission of SktnHR.*

## INTRODUCTION

Unintentional deaths from opioid overdose are preventable with overdose and naloxone education. Naloxone or Narcan® has been used in emergency settings for over 40 years in Canada and is on the World Health Organization List of Essential Medicines. Take Home Naloxone (THN) programs provide education regarding prevention, recognition and response to opioid overdoses to the public, as well as provide a THN kit to Saskatchewan residents at risk of an opioid overdose and/or witnessing an opioid overdose, once they have received the standard education and training arranged by the Saskatchewan Health Authority (Gov’t of Sask 2018). Saskatchewan nursing regulatory bodies support the role of LPNs, RNs and RPNs in the THN Program.

## ROLES

### Licensed Practical Nurses (LPNs), Registered Nurses (RNs) and Registered Psychiatric Nurses (RPNs) –

LPNs, RNs and RPNs identified by their manager in targeted practice settings, will be certified to

- provide Take Home Naloxone Kits (THN Kits) to opioid users and their supports and/or
- train licensed and unlicensed SHA staff to provide THN Kits.

## 1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 To support the THN Program as described by Saskatchewan Health Authority (SHA) Position Statement: Publicly Funded Take Home Naloxone Program <https://sharepoint.ehealthsask.ca/sites/saskhealthauthority/policies/Documents/THN-Position-Statement.pdf>
- 1.2 To ensure provision of THN Kits is carried out in a safe, effective manner.

## 2.0 POLICY

- 2.1 The SHA medical directive (Appendix A) <https://sharepoint.ehealthsask.ca/sites/saskhealthauthority/policies/Documents/THN-Medical-Directive.pdf> authorizes SHA nurses and other employees to train providers and to provide THN kits.
- 2.2 SHA clinical programs involved in the THN program will develop program specific work standards for roles and processes in the provision of THN kits.
- 2.3 Prior to providing THN Kits, certified LPNs, RNs and RPNs will:
- Review the SHA Position Statement and Medical Directive
  - Complete THN program education per the Government of Saskatchewan *Overdose Prevention and Response: Take-Home Naloxone Kit Training Manual* (Appendix B Teaching Resources)
  - Review their program or department specific work standards for provision of THN kits
  - Provide documentation of education to manager, supervisor or clinical educator.

## 3.0 REFERENCES

Government of Saskatchewan (April 2017). Publicly funded take home naloxone program.

Saskatchewan Health Authority (August 2018) Take Home Naloxone Program [on line].

Available <https://sharepoint.ehealthsask.ca/sites/saskhealthauthority/policies/Pages/Take-Home-Naloxone-Program.aspx>

Saskatchewan Registered Nurses Association (June 2018). Opioid Crisis and RN Specialty Practice for Take Home Naloxone Kits [On-line]. Available: <https://www.srna.org/about-us/new-notable/rn-specialty-practices-naloxone/>

Government of Saskatchewan (June 2018). Take home naloxone backgrounder for health care professionals [On-line]. Available: [http://publications.gov.sk.ca/documents/13/107262-THNKBackgrounder\\_June-2018.pdf](http://publications.gov.sk.ca/documents/13/107262-THNKBackgrounder_June-2018.pdf)

Government of Saskatchewan Take Home Naloxone: Overdose Prevention Training and Kits

<http://publications.gov.sk.ca/documents/13/106831-THN-Program-Community-Resources-May-2018.pdf>

## APPENDIX A

Saskatchewan Health Authority

### **Medical Directive**

This medical directive supports the Saskatchewan Health Authority (SHA) position on the Take Home Naloxone (THN) program.

Following an individual client assessment, SHA employees, including certified nurses, licensed paramedics, community outreach and education workers, addictions counsellors, and other unregulated staff who work with target populations, are authorized to provide THN kits to individuals at risk of opioid overdose and/or persons who might witness an opioid overdose.

SHA employees must be trained to provide standard education and training to individual clients receiving THN kits, in accordance with the Ministry of Health Overdose Prevention and Response: Take-Home Naloxone Kit Training Manual.

Employees will refer any questions/concerns regarding the provision of THN kits to their manager or the client's Most Responsible Physician/Practitioner.

This medical directive has been approved by (Chief Medical Officer Dr. Susan Shaw) on August 14, 2018. Review will occur every year. This medical directive is in effect until (end of month signed), 2019.

<https://sharepoint.ehealthsask.ca/sites/saskhealthauthority/policies/Documents/THN-Medical-Directive.pdf>

## APPENDIX B

### Teaching Resources

Government of Canada Opioid Overdose

<https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/publications/healthy-living/opioid-overdose-wallet-card.html>

Government of Saskatchewan Overdose Prevention and Response: Take-Home Naloxone Kit Training Manual. <https://sharepoint.ehealthsask.ca/sites/saskhealthauthority/policies/Documents/THN-Training-Manual-June-2018.pdf>

Government of Saskatchewan Take Home Naloxone: Frequently Asked

Questions [https://www.ehealthsask.ca/services/resources/Resources/THNK%20FAQ\\_SG.PDF](https://www.ehealthsask.ca/services/resources/Resources/THNK%20FAQ_SG.PDF)

Government of Saskatchewan Take Home Naloxone: Learn How to Use Naloxone

[http://publications.gov.sk.ca/documents/13/107023-Learn\\_How\\_to\\_Use-Naloxone-2018.pdf](http://publications.gov.sk.ca/documents/13/107023-Learn_How_to_Use-Naloxone-2018.pdf)

Government of Saskatchewan Take Home Naloxone: Overdose Prevention Training and Kits

<http://publications.gov.sk.ca/documents/13/106831-THN-Program-Community-Resources-May-2018.pdf>

Saskatchewan Health Authority – Regina: Quick Reference Teaching Sheet

TAKE HOME NALOXONE: PARTICIPANT KNOWLEDGE

CHECKLIST <https://www.skpharmacists.ca/uploads/media/58ee3f7483786/Knowledge%20Checklist%20Oct%202016%20Pharmacy.pdf>