

UConn

Title	Availability and Use of Opioid Antagonists, Policy on
Policy Owner	Division of University Safety
Applies to	All Faculty, Staff, and Students
Campus Applicability	All campuses, including UConn Health
Approval Date	June 26, 2023
Effective Date	June 27, 2023
For More Information Contact	Division of University Safety
Contact Information	UConn Fire Department 860-486-4925
Official Website	https://universitiesafety.uconn.edu/

PURPOSE

To ensure compliance with Connecticut state law which requires all institutions of higher education in the state of Connecticut to develop and implement a policy concerning the availability and use of opioid antagonists by students and employees of the institution.

APPLIES TO

All faculty, staff, and students at the University of Connecticut and all regional campuses, including UConn Health (“UConn”).

DEFINITIONS

Opioid Antagonist: As used in this policy, and consistent with state law, “opioid antagonist” means naloxone hydrochloride or any other similarly acting and equally safe drug approved by the federal Food and Drug Administration for the treatment of drug overdose.

POLICY STATEMENT

UConn is committed to maintaining a safe and substance-free environment on all its campuses. All uniformed police and fire personnel on UConn’s campuses carry and are trained to administer opioid antagonists. In addition, clinical staff in Student Health and Wellness-Medical Services, located on the

Storrs campus, store, and are trained to administer opioid antagonists. Opioid antagonists are available and accessible to students and employees on all of UConn’s campuses as noted below. When an opioid antagonist is administered on any of UConn’s campuses, notification to law enforcement or a local emergency medical provider must be made by a UConn representative. Such notification is satisfied if the opioid antagonist is administered by police, fire, or other medical personnel. In all other cases, notification should be made by calling 911 prior to, during or as soon as practical after each use. It is recommended that any individual administered an opioid antagonist be transported to an emergency department for further evaluation.

The Chief of the UConn Fire Department, or the designee(s), has been designated to oversee the purchase, storage, and distribution of opioid antagonists on each of UConn’s campuses and in observance with these procedures. The supply of opioid antagonists is maintained in accordance with manufacturer’s guidelines. **Faculty, staff, and students may access opioid antagonists by calling 911.**

Opioid antagonists are accessible to students and employees in the following locations:

Storrs Campus

University Safety Headquarters
126 North Eagleville Road
Storrs, CT 06269
Phone Number: 860-486-4800

UConn Student Health and Wellness
Medical Care (Students only)
Hilda May Williams Building
234 Glenbrook Road, Unit 4011
Storrs, CT 06269-4011

Arjona Building
337 Mansfield Road, 4th Floor
Storrs, CT 06269

Wilson Hall
626 Gilbert Road, 1st Floor
Storrs, CT 06269

Cordial House
1332 Storrs Road
Storrs, CT 06269

Waterbury Campus

Police Department
99 East Main Street
Waterbury, CT 06702

Stamford Campus

Police Department
1 University Place
Stamford, CT 06901

Hartford Campus

Police Department
10 Prospect Street
Hartford, CT 06103

School of Law

Police Department
39 Elizabeth Street
Hartford, CT 06103

UConn Health

Firehouse/Police Dept
263 Farmington Avenue
Farmington, CT 06030

Avery Point

Police Department
1084 Shennecossett Road
Groton, CT 06340

To ensure that the UConn community is aware of the availability and location of opioid antagonists on campus, this policy shall be sent via the University’s Daily Digest and UConn Health Lifeline to all faculty, staff and students prior to the start of each academic semester, and posted on the websites of the Division of University Safety, Department of Human Resources and Student Health and Wellness.

PROTECTION FROM LIABILITY AND PROSECUTION

State law provides substantial protections from civil and criminal liability for individuals acting in good faith to assist persons experiencing an opioid-related drug overdose. Individuals “may, if acting with reasonable care, administer an opioid antagonist to such other person. [Such] person . . . shall not be liable for damages in a civil action or subject to criminal prosecution with respect to the administration of such opioid antagonist.” See Connecticut General Statutes § 17a-714a.

In addition, state law prohibits the prosecution of any person who seeks or receives medical assistance in “good faith” when sought for someone else based on a reasonable belief that the person needs medical attention; when a person seeks medical attention based on a reasonable belief that he or she is experiencing an overdose, and when another person reasonably believes that he or she needs medical attention. “Good faith” does not include seeking medical assistance while law enforcement officers are executing an arrest or search warrant or conducting a lawful search. See Connecticut General Statutes 21a-279, 21a-267.

PROCEDURES

1. ADMINISTRATION OF AN OPIATE ANTAGONIST

University of Connecticut uniformed firefighters and police officers, and staff at Student Health and Wellness (Shaw) will administer an opiate antagonist per the current Connecticut Statewide EMS Protocols approved and disseminated by the Connecticut Department of Public Health (CT DPH).

2. LICENSING AND CERTIFICATION

- A. All uniformed firefighters and police officers are licensed or certified at the Paramedic, Emergency Medical Technician, or Emergency Medical Responder levels, and are trained in the use intranasal administration of an opiate antagonist. Firefighter/Paramedics are additionally trained in the use of intravenous and intermuscular administration of an opiate antagonist.
- B. All staff at ShaW Medical Services are trained in the use of intranasal administration of an opiate antagonist.
- C. Re-training and recertification are required per CT DPH guidelines.

3. ISSUANCE OF OPIATE ANTAGONIST

- A. All uniformed firefighters and police officers are issued opiate antagonists that are carried while on duty.
- B. Opiate antagonists are stored in designated areas at SHaW

- C. The Fire Chief, or designee(s), will track and disseminate opiate antagonist to all fire and police department personnel and the SHaW Pharmacy, as a designee, will track and disseminate opiate antagonists to the designated SHaW locations for appropriate use.
- D. Additional opiate antagonist is available through the University of Connecticut Fire Department (UCFD) for personnel.

4. STORAGE

- A. All uniformed Firefighters and police officers shall always be required to maintain opiate antagonist on their person or in EMS kits.
 - 1. In accordance with manufacturer's instruction, the opiate antagonist (e.g., intranasal or injectable naloxone) must be kept out of direct light and stored at room temperature (between 59 and 86-degrees Fahrenheit).
 - 2. Opiate antagonist should not be left in a vehicle for extended periods and should not be subjected to extreme temperatures, since it will freeze, and it may affect the effectiveness of the medication.
 - 3. In addition to opiate antagonist being stored at UCFD, additional opiate antagonist will be stored in designated locations at the University of Connecticut Student Health and Wellness.

5. REPLACEMENT

- A. Replacement opiate antagonist shall be stored at the UCFD and disseminated by the Fire Chief or the designee, and replaced as needed.
 - 1. In the event that an opiate antagonist is expired or used, the firefighter or police officer shall notify their appropriate supervisor for immediate replacement.
 - 2. Additional replacement opiate antagonist can be obtained from the UCFD.
 - 3. The purchase of all opiate antagonist will be through the UCFD.
- B. Opiate antagonist that are lost, damaged, or exposed to extreme temperatures, shall be reported to the appropriate supervisor.

RELATED INFORMATION

Policy on Alcohol and Other Drugs: <https://policy.uconn.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/243/2012/03/Drug-Free-Schools-and-Campuses-Act-Notification-Letter-September-2018.pdf>

Department of Human Resources: <https://hr.uconn.edu/opioid-epidemic/>

POLICY HISTORY

Policy created: 12/11/2019 Approved by Senior Leadership

Revisions: 07/11/2023 Approved by the President; 6/26/2023 Approved by Senior Policy Council