

Chapter 12.25 OPIOID REPORTING

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12.25.010 Purpose

This chapter provides for the reporting of overdoses from the use of opioids. This data is critical to develop effective programs to treat individuals and reduce harm to the public.

12.25.020 Definitions.

(1) "Health Officer" means the Skagit County Health Officer, as defined in RCW 70.05.010 and, for the purposes of conducting inspections and issuing notices of violation under this chapter, the persons filling the following positions in Public Health: Director of Public Health; Operations Manager, Communicable Disease Investigator, Public Health Nurse or Nurse Practitioner.

(2) "Health care provider" means:

(a) any person having direct or supervisory responsibility for the delivery of health care who is licensed or certified in this state under Title 18 RCW;

(b) Military personnel providing health care within the state regardless of licensure; and

(c) Persons performing duties as a coroner or deputy coroner; and

(d) First responders such as volunteer firemen and other emergency care providers

(3) "Reportable condition" means clinical evidence of an opioid overdose as evidenced by central nervous system or respiratory system depression, lethargy or unconsciousness, decreased respiratory rate, apnea (temporary cessation of breathing), miosis (pinpoint pupils), or death.

(4) "Opioid" means substances derived from the opium poppy, or synthetic analogues with similar effects. Opioids have the potential to cause substance dependence that is characterized by a strong desire to take opioids, impaired control over opioid use, persistent opioid use despite harmful consequences, a higher priority given to opioid use than to other activities and obligations, increased tolerance, and a physical withdrawal reaction when opioids are discontinued. Opioids include, but are not limited to, the following substances and drugs:

(a) opium

(b) codeine

(c) fentanyl

(d) heroin

(e) hydrocodone

(f) hydromorphone

- (g) methadone
- (h) morphine
- (i) oxycodone
- (j) oxymorphone
- (k) paregoric
- (l) sufentanil
- (m) tramadol.

12.25.030 Reporting requirements.

- (1) Health care providers in Skagit County shall notify Skagit County Public Health within 72 hours of diagnosis of this reportable condition.
- (2) Health care providers shall make their reports on a form provided by Skagit County Public Health or on a form of similar format using a secure means of communication.

12.25.040 Enforcement and Penalties

Failure to make a timely report shall be a class 3 civil infraction enforceable under chapter 7.80 RCW.

12.25.050 Severability.

If any provision of this Chapter or its application to any person or circumstances is held invalid, the remainder of this Chapter, or the application of the provisions to other persons or circumstances, shall not be affected.