

THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY WEST GREY

BY - LAW NUMBER 102 -2018

BEING, A by-law to to approve the West Grey Fire Department - Departmental Operational Guideline (DOG #637) regarding response to fentanyl overdose and use of Naloxone;

WHEREAS, the Council of the Municipality of West Grey deems it expedient and in the public interest to approve the aforementioned Guideline;

NOW THEREFORE THE COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF WEST GREY ENACTS AS FOLLOW:

1. That the West Grey Fire Department - Departmental Operational Guideline (DOG #637) regarding response to fentanyl overdose and use of Naloxone, attached hereto as Schedule "A", and forming part of this bylaw, is hereby approved.
2. That this by-law shall come into full force and effect on the date of passing.

READ a first and second time this 17th day of September, 2018.

READ a third time and finally passed this 17th day of September, 2018.

(Signed)
Kevin Eccles, Mayor

(Signed)
Mark Turner, Clerk

West Grey Fire Service

DOG # 637



Departmental Operational Guideline	SECTION: Procedures
	SUBJECT: Response to Fentanyl overdose and use of Naloxone

PURPOSE: The purpose is to establish guidelines to provide for the safety of all personnel as well as allied agencies when responding to confirmed or possible Fentanyl and Carfentanil related incidents.

SCOPE: This guideline will be followed by all members of the West Grey Fire Service unless directed by a higher medical authority.

POLICY: It is the policy of the West Grey Fire Service to carry Naloxone in each medical bag on all rescue vehicles. These doses of Naloxone are for the sole use of West Grey Fire personnel only, if they become ill from exposure to Carfentanil or Fentanyl, during the emergency response.

Naloxone administration to patients shall not occur unless it is directed by a higher medical authority, (Paramedic or on site Physician).

DEFINITION: **Opioids;** Prescription Opioids are a family of medications used to treat severe pain. Opioids are an effective medication when used as prescribed, but they carry a high risk of addiction because of the high they can produce. You can develop a tolerance to opioids, meaning you have to take more of the drug to get the same high. This increases the risks of addiction and overdose. Opioids are available in many different forms including patches, powders, pills and sprays.

Examples of opioids include:

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Last Reviewed:

- Oxycodone
- Morphine
- Hydromorphone
- Fentanyl
- Codeine
- Methadone
- Heroin

Fentanyl;

Non-prescription (illegal) Fentanyl is a dangerous opioid which can be deadly in small amounts. Fentanyl is often prescribed in slow release patches that must be returned in order to receive new ones, however, powdered illegal fentanyl is now being found mixed in street drugs. Fentanyl is 50 to 100 times more toxic than morphine, and has caused hundreds of deaths in Ontario, and all over Canada.

signs of an overdose:

- They may be nodding off, not waking up easily, or unresponsive
- Slow or no breathing, Blue lips and fingernails
- Cold and clammy skin
- Their body is limp/ dead weight
- They may be snoring or gurgling
- They may throw up

Carfentanil; is an opioid that is used by veterinarians for very large animals like elephants. It is not for human use. It is approximately 100 times more toxic than fentanyl and 10,000 times more toxic than morphine. This means carfentanil can be deadly in extremely small amounts.

Naloxone;

Naloxone is a medication that can temporarily reverse an opioid overdose

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PROCEDURES: When West Grey Fire is dispatched to any call that may involve the drug Fentanyl or Carfentanil or other drugs similar in nature, proper PPE shall be worn to ensure the safety of the responder. Safety of all personnel is the prime objective at all types of incidents, specifically Fentanyl.

Any medical responses that includes an Overdose, Unknown medical, or Unconscious will be included in the minimum PPE requirements. As well, the Officer in Charge has the discretion to require all personnel to wear PPE until the scene can be deemed safe.

On arrival at the scene, the Officer in Charge shall perform a thorough scene assessment to determine the possibility of unknown substances on the scene. if through the scene assessment it can be determined the scene is safe, PPE can be removed to a normal response.

For all potential Carfentanil and Fentanyl or other drug related calls, the minimum PPE to be worn is:

- Long sleeved shirt/jacket
- Proper fitting N95 mask
- Nitrile gloves

Staff committed to the potential contaminated area should be kept to a minimum at the beginning.

If it is determined by any agency on the scene to escalate the wearing of PPE, the following shall be worn by those properly trained to do so:

- Gown (or full turnout gear)
- Face Shield
- Goggles
- 2 pairs of Nitrile Gloves


If possible, Fire can be kept outside and not involved in patient care until removal of the patient from a hazardous environment. Full PPE shall be worn until proper decontamination procedures

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of the patient has taken place.

RESPONSIBILITY: It is each firefighter's responsibility to ensure they are aware of their surroundings and watching for hazardous substances. Anytime something out of the ordinary is noticed, the firefighter should make the Officer in Charge aware and precautions should be taken immediately.

NOTES: References;
Fentanyl fact sheet, Middlesex London Health Unit
Carfentanil fact sheet, Ottawa Public Health.

Approved By: 
FC Phil Schwartz