

## MEDICATION MANAGEMENT Policy & Procedure

<b>TITLE:</b>	Nova Scotia Antidote Program	<b>NUMBER:</b>	MM-NC-010
<b>Sponsor:</b>	Senior Director, Pharmacy	<b>Page:</b>	1 of 10
<b>Approved by:</b>	NSHA Drugs & Therapeutics HAMAC	<b>Approval Date:</b>	Jan. 22, 2019
		<b>Effective Date:</b>	July 2, 2019
<b>Applies To:</b>	Nurses, physicians and paramedics working in Emergency departments, pharmacy and IWK Regional Poison Center staff.		

### PREAMBLE

1. The Nova Scotia Antidote Program ensures that sufficient quantities of antidotes are available in appropriate Nova Scotia Health Authority (NSHA) and IWK Emergency departments across the province.
  - 1.1. Consideration is given to acquisition cost, proximity to other hospitals, and total provincial supply.
  - 1.2. Sharing of antidote stock between NSHA zones is encouraged. Refer to [Appendix A](#).
2. There are two recommended kits:
  - 2.1. Regional kits
  - 2.2. Community kits

### POLICY STATEMENTS

1. An Antidote Kit must be available in a readily accessible location and visible format.
  - 1.1. Electronic access to the Manual (<https://iwkpoisoncentre.ca/manual.html>) must be available.
2. Antidotes requiring refrigeration must be stored in a smaller kit in the fridge.
3. Regional and tertiary hospitals must stock a Regional Kit.
4. Community hospitals must stock as a minimum, a Community Kit.
5. Collaborative Emergency Centers (CECs) have the option to stock a Community Kit or no kit.
6. Each pharmacy department must develop a standard operating procedure (SOP) for monitoring and replacement of kits/antidotes.

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7. The Health Care Provider must contact the **IWK Regional Poison Center** at **(902) 470-8161** or **1-800-565-8161** when an overdose occurs.

## GUIDELINES

1. The Nova Scotia Antidote Program Advisory Committee is responsible to provide recommendations for antidotes and quantities.
  - 1.1. The advisory committee meets twice a year.

## PROCEDURE

### Antidote Retrieval

1. When an antidote is required, Emergency Department (ED) staff:
  - 1.1. Contact the IWK Regional Poison Center to obtain treatment information (1-800-565-8161).
  - 1.2. Refer to the “Antidote Stock List” located in the on-line manual to determine availability and location (room temperature kit, fridge kit or wardstock).
    - 1.2.1 If the antidote is contained within the room temperature kit, use the Antidote Kit Locator Map found on the kit, to verify location within the kit.
    - 1.2.2 If the antidote is contained within the fridge kit, retrieve from appropriate fridge.
    - 1.2.3 If the antidote is wardstock, obtain from the ED using normal ward stock procedures
  - 1.3 If applicable, break the seal on the appropriate antidote kit and remove the antidote.
  - 1.4 Complete the Antidote Kit Audit Form and send to pharmacy. Refer to [Appendix B](#).
2. Obtain information on dosing, reconstitution, indication, contraindications, etc. from the on-line manual (<https://iwkpoisoncentre.ca/manual.html>) or from the IWK Regional Poison Centre.
3. When an antidote is required, and the Emergency Department does not stock a kit, staff:
  - 3.1 Contact nearest hospital(s) for the antidote (refer to [Appendix A](#)) and arrange for transportation, or
  - 3.2 Consider transferring patient to a site that has an antidote kit.

### Antidote Replenishment

4. Pharmacy departments are responsible to develop site specific SOPs and include:
  - 4.1. Process for replenishing antidotes on a non-urgent basis.
  - 4.2. Process for acquiring additional antidote(s) on an urgent basis.
  - 4.3. Process for tracking expiry dates and replenishing antidotes prior to expiry.

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- 4.4. Process for ensuring the Antidote Kit Audit Form is forwarded to the IWK Regional Poison Center.

## Antidote Kit Inspection

5. **Nursing staff** is responsible for:
  - 5.1. Inspecting the expiry date on the security tabs at the beginning of the month.
  - 5.2. Ensuring the security tabs are intact.
  - 5.3. Contacting pharmacy if the kit is expiring/expired or the seal has been broken.

## REFERENCES

Murphy, N.G., Bona, D.R., & Hurley, T.A. (2017). A system-wide solution to antidote stocking in emergency departments: The Nova Scotia antidote program. *Canadian Journal of Emergency Medicine*, 1-10. <https://doi.org/10.1017/cem.2017.400>

## RELATED DOCUMENTS

### APPENDICES

Appendix A: Pharmacy Contacts and ED Phone Numbers

Appendix B: Antidote Kit Audit Form

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## Appendix A: Pharmacy Contacts and ED Phone Numbers

### NSHA Antidote Kits

Pharmacy contacts during regular hours, after hours and ED phone numbers

Region Site	Type of Kit Regional Or Community	ED Phone Number	Pharmacy Contact RH= regular hours; AA = after hours, on call pharmacist (Y, N) or alternate	Extra Stock
<b>South Shore (Western Zone)</b>				
South Shore Regional (Bridgewater)	Regional Kit	902-543-4604 ext 2237	RH: 902-527-5217 AA: Yes, Pharmacist 902-543-1385	Digoxin immune Fab-10 Fomepizole-5
Fisherman's Memorial (Lunenburg)	Community Kit			
Queen's General (Liverpool)	Community Kit			
<b>South West (Western Zone)</b>				
Yarmouth Regional (Yarmouth)	Regional Kit	902-742-3542 ext 1111	RH: 902-742-3542 ext 1801 AA: Yes, via shift coordinator 902-742-3541	Dimaval-4
Roseway (Shelburne)	Community Kit	902-875-4144 ext 2219	Charge Nurse 902-875-3011	
Digby General (Digby)	Community Kit	902-245-2502 ext 3229	Charge Nurse 902-245-2501	
<b>Annapolis Valley (Western Zone)</b>				

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Region Site	Type of Kit Regional Or Community	ED Phone Number	Pharmacy Contact RH= regular hours; AA = after hours, on call pharmacist (Y, N) or alternate	Extra Stock
Valley Regional (Kentville)	Regional Kit x 2 (ER & NC)	Charge Nurse ED 902-698-0764	RH: 902-679-2359 AA: Yes. Pharmacist via switchboard 902-678-7381	Fomepizole-4
Annapolis Valley Community Health Centre (Annapolis Royal)	Community Kit	902-532-4040		
Soldiers' Memorial (Middleton)	Regional Kit	902-825-6160 ext 129		
<b>Colchester (Northern Zone)</b>				
Colchester Regional (Truro)	Regional Kit	902-893-5524	RH: 902-893-5519 AA: Yes, via resource facilitator via switchboard 902-893-5554	Pralidoxime-2 Fomepizole-2 Dimaval-2 Digoxin immune Fab-18
Lillian Fraser Memorial (Tatamagouche)	Community Kit			
<b>Cumberland (Northern Zone)</b>				
Cumberland Regional (Amherst)	Regional Kit	902-667-5400 ext 6145	RH: 902-667-5400 ext 6913 AA: No; Resource Facilitator 902-667-5400 ext 6242	

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Region Site	Type of Kit Regional Or Community	ED Phone Number	Pharmacy Contact RH= regular hours; AA = after hours, on call pharmacist (Y, N) or alternate	Extra Stock
All Saints (Springhill)	No Kit			
North Cumberland Memorial (Pugwash)	No Kit			
South Cumberland (Parrsboro)	No Kit			
<b>Pictou (Northern Zone)</b>				
Aberdeen (New Glasgow)	Regional Kit x 2 (ED & Pharmacy)	902-752-7600 ext 2430	RH: 902-752-7600 ext 2640/2642 AA: No; Resource Facilitator 902-752-7600 ext 1402	Digoxin immune Fab-6 Dimaval-5 Fomepizole-14
<b>Guysborough Antigonish Strait (Eastern Zone)</b>				
St. Martha's Regional (Antigonish)	Regional Kit	902-867-4500	RH: 902-867-4500 ext 4130	Pralidoxime-2
Strait Richmond (Port Hawkesbury)	Community Kit	902-625-7218	AA: No; Switchboard 902-867-4500 ext 0	Fomepizole-4
Eastern Memorial (Canso)	Community Kit	902-366-2794	District sites are remote (63-114 km). Cannot pull supply in timely fashion	
Guysborough Memorial (Guysborough)	Community Kit	902-533-3702		
St Mary's Memorial (Sherbrook)	Community Kit	902-522-2882		
<b>Cape Breton (Eastern Zone)</b>				

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Cape Breton Regional (Sydney)	Regional Kit	902-567-7485  Clinical nurse or leader cell phone 902-577-0360	RH: 902-567-7714 AA: Yes; Fri-Mon 902-574-2489 Tues-Thurs 902-574-0748	
Glace Bay Health Care (Glace Bay)	Community Kit			
New Waterford Consolidated (New Waterford)	Community Kit			
Northside General (North Sydney)	Community Kit			
Victoria County (Baddeck)	Community Kit			
Sacred Heart Community Care Centre (Cheticamp)	Community Kit			
Inverness Memorial (Inverness)	Community Kit			
Buchanan Memorial (Neil's Harbour)	Community Kit			
<b>Halifax (Central Zone)</b>				

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Halifax Infirmary (Halifax)	Regional Kit x2 (ED & Pharmacy)	902-473-2043	RH: 902-473-5200; 1 for HI, 5 for pharmacist AA: Yes via Nursing Administration Coordinator 902-473-2220 pager 2607 OR 902-473-7793	Fomepizole-4 (HI) Digoxin immune Fab-6 (night cupboard) & 8 (HI Dispensary) Black Widow Spider-1 Sodium Thiosulfate-1 (VG has more)
Dartmouth General (Dartmouth)	Regional Kit	902-465-8333		
Cobequid Community Health Centre (Sackville)	Regional Kit	902-869-6100		
Hants Community (Windsor)	Community Kit	902-792-7626		
Musquodoboit Valley Memorial (Middle Musquodoboit)	Community Kit	902-384-2220		
Twin Oaks Memorial (Musquodoboit Harbour)	Community Kit	902-889-4107		
Eastern Shore Memorial (Sheet Harbour)	Community Kit	902-885-3666		
IWK Health Centre	Regional Kit	902-470-8050	Refer to Central Zone	

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## Appendix B: Antidote Kit Audit Form



### Antidote Kit Audit

**This form MUST be completed and returned with each used kit.**

Date Used:	
Patient Initials:	
Hospital Unit #:	
Attending Physician:	
Nurse:	
Antidote Used:	
Type of overdose/poisoning:	

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## District Health Authority Policies Being Replaced

AVDHA 260.011 Antidote Kits

CBDHA P-4-180 Antidote Kits Prepared For CBDHA Emergency Departments

CDHA MM 50-002 Antidote Kits in Capital Health Emergency Departments

CEHHA 304-018 Provincial Antidote Kit and Manual (Emergency Department and IWK  
Poison Control)

CHA 217-009 Antidote Kit

GASHA 1-510 Poison Control Advice

SSH-PR-270-331 Antidote Kit

SWNDHA 900.39 1E, 2E Antidote Kit Policy

### Version History

Major Revisions (e.g. Standard 4 year review)	Minor Revisions (e.g. spelling correction, wording changes, etc.)
2019-07-02 New to NSHA	

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