

Liability: Health Care Professional Prescribing, Dispensing, or Distributing Opioid Antagonist

RSA 318-B:15(IV)(c)

A health care professional, who, in good faith and within their scope of practice, prescribes, dispenses, or distributes an opioid antagonist to an individual at risk of experiencing an opioid-related overdose, will not be held legally responsible or professionally disciplined for prescribing, dispensing, or distributing the opioid antagonist.

Persons and Corporations Exempted

(c) No health care professional who, acting in good faith and with reasonable care, prescribes, dispenses, or distributes an opioid antagonist directly or by standing order and no person who, acting in good faith and with reasonable care, stores, dispenses, or distributes an opioid antagonist or administers an opioid antagonist to another person who the person believes is suffering an opioid-related drug overdose shall be subject to any criminal or civil liability, or any professional disciplinary action, for any action authorized by this paragraph or any outcome resulting from an action authorized by this paragraph.

(d) In this paragraph:

(1) "Opioid antagonist" means any drug that binds to opioid receptors and blocks or disinhibits the effects of opioids acting on those receptors.

(2) "Opioid-related drug overdose" means a condition including, but not limited to, extreme physical illness, decreased level of consciousness, respiratory depression, coma, or death resulting from the consumption or use of an opioid, or another substance with which an opioid was combined, or that a layperson would reasonably believe to be an opioid-related drug overdose that requires medical assistance.

