

From: [Alaina Dahlquist](#)
To: [DIR OSHSB](#)
Cc: [Jane Terry](#)
Subject: Naloxone inclusion, Standards 3400 & 1512
Date: Friday, January 26, 2024 5:20:17 PM
Attachments: [NSC CA Rulemaking 3400 and 1512 FINAL.pdf](#)

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Good evening,

Attached please find a petition from the National Safety Council (NSC) regarding rules 3400 and 1512 of the Division of Occupational Safety and Health (CAL/OSHA) Code of Regulations. NSC respectfully asks you to include a requirement to have opioid overdose reversal medication stocked at job sites and worker administration training as part of these rules.

Thank you and please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Alaina Dahlquist

Alaina Dahlquist

Government Affairs Manager, State
Government Affairs

National Safety Council

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December 8, 2023

Dr. Michael Wilson, Ph.D, MPH
Senior Industrial Hygienist for Research and Standards
California Department of Industrial Relations
1515 Clay Street
Oakland CA, 94612

RE: Rules 3400 & 1512

Dear Dr. Wilson:

The National Safety Council (NSC) respectfully asks you to include a requirement to have opioid overdose reversal medication stocked at job sites and worker administration training as part of rules 3400 and 1512 of the Division of Occupational Safety and Health (Cal/OSHA) Code of Regulations. These rules require employers to maintain adequate first-aid materials that are useable, sanitary and regularly inspected and restocked as necessary. The first regulation (3400) pertains to general industry while the second regulation (1512) applies to work locations falling within the scope of construction. With the number of workplace overdose deaths on the rise, opioid overdose reversal medication is now an essential component of an adequate first-aid kit.

NSC is America's leading nonprofit safety advocate and has been for 110 years. As a mission-based organization, we work to eliminate the leading causes of preventable death and injury, focusing our efforts on the workplace and roadway. We create a culture of safety to keep people safer in the workplace and beyond so they can live their fullest lives. Our more than 13,000 member companies and federal agencies represent employees at nearly 41,000 U.S. worksites, including over 2,000 members in California.

According to provisional data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), approximately 83,000 people died of an opioid overdose in 2022 including almost 7,000 deaths in California.¹² No industry or occupation is immune to this crisis, and workplace overdose deaths have increased 536 percent since 2011.³ Nationally, overdoses now account for nearly 1 in 11 worker deaths on the job.⁴ But, in California, over 18 percent of workplace fatalities in 2021 were due to an unintentional overdose.⁵

To date, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has approved two over-the-counter versions of opioid overdose reversal medications, making it easier to obtain by individuals. These medications temporarily reverse overdoses from prescription and illicit opioids, are non-habit forming and are not

¹ <https://blogs.cdc.gov/nchs/2023/05/18/7365/>

² <https://skylab.cdph.ca.gov/ODdash/?tab=Home>

³ <https://injuryfacts.nsc.org/work/safety-topics/overdose-deaths/>

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ https://www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/cfoi/CF01_2021/Fatalities-Report-2013-2021.pdf



harmful to people when administered.⁶ Including these medications at worksites – either in a first aid kit or elsewhere – and training employees to use it is a critical component of emergency response to help save a life. Anyone at a workplace, including workers, clients, customers and visitors, is at risk of overdosing if using opioids.⁷

The inclusion of an opioid overdose reversal medication requirement in rules 3400 and 1512 would help California combat the opioid crisis by ensuring worksites are appropriately equipped to respond to such an emergency. If you have any questions, or if NSC can be of further assistance on this issue, please contact State Government Affairs Manager Alaina Dahlquist at Alaina.Dahlquist@nsc.org or 771-333-0677.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lorraine M. Martin". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Lorraine M. Martin
President and CEO

⁶ Wermeling, D.P., *Review of naloxone safety for opioid overdose: practical considerations for new technology and expanded public access*. Therapeutic Advances in Drug Safety, 2015. 6(1): p. 20-31.

⁷ <https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/docs/2019-101/pdfs/2019-101.pdf?id=10.26616/NIOSH PUB2019101>