South Carolina LEON Project & EMS: Addressing the Opioid Epidemic

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The program was created pursuant to the 2015 passing of the South Carolina Overdose Prevention Act (S.C. Code Section 44-130-60). The Act seeks to grant immunity from both civil and criminal prosecution, to doctors, pharmacists, caregivers, and first responders, who are engaged in the prescription, dispensation and administration of Naloxone in an opioid-overdose suspected case.
S.C. Overdose Prevention Prevention Act of 2015

(A) A first responder may administer an opioid antidote in an emergency if the first responder believes in good faith that the person is experiencing an opioid overdose.
S.C. Overdose Prevention Act of 2015

(B) The first responder **must** comply with all applicable requirements for possession, administration, and disposal of the opioid antidote and administration device. The Department (DHEC) may promulgate regulations to implement this section, including **appropriate training** for first responders who carry or have access to an opioid antidote.
S.C. Overdose Prevention Prevention Act of 2015

(C) A first responder who administers an opioid antidote in accordance with the provisions of this section to a person whom the first responder believes in good faith is experiencing an opioid overdose is not by an act or omission subject to civil or criminal liability or to professional disciplinary action.
LEON Program Development

- Fall of 2015 formed a **collaborative partnership**
- LEON focuses on the **identification**, the **treatment**, and the **reporting** of drug overdoses attributed to opioids
- Local pilot involving Columbia Police Department, Richland County SO, USC PD, and Hawthorne Pharmacy
- Relied on generous donations of Narcan from Kaléo Pharma
- S.C. CJA allowed LEON to use CJA IDs on reporting portal
- EMS Performance Improvement Center developed reporting portal
- Instructor team – law or law enforcement background
LEON Training Team

Sgt. Jeff Ward  Officer Scott Stoller  Joe Shenkar  Richard Naugler  Arnold Alier
LEON Program Development

- Expanded pilot to Greenville and Charlestown in June 2016
- Using historical EMS Narcan data we focused on Top 15 counties with most Narcan given by EMS
- Partnership with DAODAS secured SAMHSA grant to purchase Narcan directly from Adapt Pharma
- Centralized Narcan distribution – partnership with DHEC regional pharmacies
- Expansion of program beyond the pilot and Top 15
- Collected data on the first 100 officer deployments
LEON First 100 Administrations

- 100 officers gave Narcan to 91 people
- 1 in 4 overdosed individuals had at least 1 previous encounter with EMS in the last 12 months
- 70% Males; 30% Females; 98% White
- Median age 32, Most frequent age 28 (Range 14-63)
- At least a second dose of Narcan given to revive them 44% of the time (one required 8 doses)
- 21% of the people required full CPR (95% successful)
LEON One-Year Later

- Trained and equipped 3,200 officers with Narcan
- Over 100 Law Enforcement Agencies - including SLED
- Operating in 31 of 46 South Carolina Counties
- 100 officer deployments / 91 lives saved
- Development of PROOF – Palmetto Response to Opioid Overdoses Firefighters
- 4 Regional DHEC Pharmacies
LEON Training

- Review indicators – signs & symptoms
- Review how opioids affect the body
- Understand how Narcan works
- Review the Overdose Prevention Act
- Emphasize officer safety at all times
- Use combination of videos and graphics
- Train-the-Trainer format to maximize efforts
Indicators of Opioid Overdose:

- Unresponsive to sternal rub
- **Depressed respiratory system**
  - Agonal respirations
  - Respiratory arrest (not breathing)
  - **Cyanosis**
- Constricted Pupils
LEON Partnership

- Fifth Circuit Solicitor Office
- DAODAS
- DHEC Bureau of EMS
LEON Collaborations

- DAODAS
- Criminal Justice Academy
- DHEC Pharmacies
- Solicitor Office
- DHEC Bureau of EMS
2015 Narcan Usage by EMS in S.C

South Carolina Narcan Administration Counts by County - 2015

4,610 incidents

Per 100,000 people

- Pickens: 199.7
- Horry: 164.6
- Greenville: 144.2
- Spartanburg: 104.6
- Anderson: 96.6
- Charleston: 67.3
- Richland: 36.1

Legend:
- 111 and Above
- 81-110
- 51-80
- Less than 50
2016 Narcan Usage by EMS in S.C

6,427 incidents

- Per 100,000 people
  - 1,043
  - 417
  - 240
  - 253
  - 210
  - 189
  - 136
  - 140
  - 146
  - 253
  - 116
  - 240
  - 229
  - 189
  - 116
  - 156
  - 189

- 111 and Above
  - 83
  - 54
  - 47

- 81 to 110
  - 63
  - 54
  - 34

- 51 to 80
  - 32
  - 27

- Less than 50
  - 4
  - 12

- Other Counties:
  - Oconee 83
  - Pickens 721
  - Spartanburg 454
  - York 210
  - Union 47
  - Chester 34
  - Lancaster 146
  - Kershaw 79
  - Darlington 89
  - Marlboro 33
  - Dillon 41
  - Marion 57
  - Horry 1,043
  - Aiken 136
  - Barnwell 32
  - Bamberg 8
  - Allendale 12
  - Hampton 13
  - Colleton 42
  - Berkeley 229
  - Dorchester 229
  - Charles 189
  - Charleston 29
  - Sumter 116
  - Sumter 116

- EMS Narcan Usage:
  - Charleston: 119
  - Richland: 62
  - Anderson: 142
  - Spartanburg: 160
  - Greenville: 160
  - Pickens: 274
  - Horry: 1,043
  - Others: 1,043
To date, there has been a 10% increase over 2016 in S.C. EMS Usage of Narcan in 2017.