



Family First Aid Kit with Naloxone Provided to All New Families at Redington-Fairview General Hospital's Birthing Center

The Birthing Center at Redington-Fairview General Hospital (RFGH) introduces a new program to provide a take-home first aid kit containing naloxone to everyone who gives birth. The hospital joins a statewide effort to prevent opioid overdose deaths through community naloxone distribution.

Naloxone, otherwise known as Narcan, is a medication that reverses the effects of opioids such as heroin, oxycontin, fentanyl, and other narcotics. People who stop breathing due to these drugs can be saved if naloxone is given soon enough, followed by emergency care.

Postpartum represents an opportunity for education about drug overdose and emergency treatment with naloxone. The program provides overdose education and the naloxone-containing first aid kit to all people who give birth at RFGH. It prepares postpartum people to recognize and safely initiate emergency treatment of overdose in the community while waiting for EMS to arrive.

Naloxone is a safe medication that can be part of every family first aid kit. You never know when someone may need it. An overdose can happen to all sorts of people:

- Those taking prescription opioid pain relievers
- Accidental child poisoning with opioids or buprenorphine
- People with substance use disorder

Naloxone is safe to give to anyone who is found unconscious or unresponsive. Naloxone will not harm people with other conditions. *Calling 911 for an ambulance is essential before giving naloxone.*

Preventing overdose deaths takes a community effort.

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