



MAG Fact Sheet

Georgia's '9-1-1 Medical Amnesty Law' (H.B. 965)

Georgia Gov. Nathan Deal signed the "9-1-1 Medical Amnesty Law" into law in 2014. H.B. 965 allows licensed physicians to prescribe naloxone to patients who are at-risk of an opioid overdose and to others who are in a position to help those patients. The law also provides civil and criminal immunity for physicians and others who prescribe naloxone in good faith.

Georgia's 9-1-1 Medical Amnesty law allows physicians to prescribe standing orders of naloxone to at-risk patients. It also allows physicians to prescribe the drug to others, including trained first responders (e.g., law enforcement officers, firefighters, and EMS personnel).

The 9-1-1 Medical Amnesty law provides limited immunity for individuals who possess certain drugs and drug paraphernalia when they experience a drug overdose and are in need of medical care, it provides limited immunity for people who seek medical care for a person who is experiencing a drug overdose, and it provides limited immunity for certain underage drinking offenses for minors who seek medical care during an alcohol overdose.

Naloxone. An effective, non-addictive prescription medication that reverses the effects of an opioid drug overdose. Under Georgia's 9-1-1 Medical Amnesty Law, a unit dose of naloxone can be delivered on an intranasal or intramuscular basis.

Prescribing naloxone. Physicians can prescribe naloxone to a person who is at risk of experiencing an opioid overdose under a specified protocol. And at their discretion, physicians can also prescribe naloxone to pain management clinics, first responders, harm reduction organizations or family members or friends or other people who are in a position to assist a patient who is at risk of experiencing an opioid overdose.

Professional immunity. Physicians and other health care professionals who prescribe naloxone and the people who administer naloxone in good faith during a drug overdose are immune from civil or criminal charges.

Contact MAG Legal Counsel Trish Yeatts at 678.303.9274 or pyeatts@mag.org with questions related to Georgia's 9-1-1 Medical Amnesty Law.