



MAG Fact Sheet

Georgia '9-1-1 Medical Amnesty Law'

Georgia's '9-1-1 Medical Amnesty Law'...

- States that, “Any person who in good faith seeks medical assistance for a person experiencing or believed to be experiencing a drug overdose shall not be arrested, charged, or prosecuted for a drug violation if the evidence for the arrest, charge, or prosecution of such drug violation resulted solely from seeking such medical assistance.”
- Says that, “Any person who is experiencing a drug overdose and, in good faith, seeks medical assistance for himself or herself or is the subject of such a request shall not be arrested, charged, or prosecuted for a drug violation if the evidence for the arrest, charge, or prosecution of such drug violation resulted solely from seeking such medical assistance.”
- Allows trained first responders – including law enforcement officers, firefighters and EMS personnel – to administer naloxone.

Naloxone or “Narcan” ...

- Is an FDA-approved “opioid antagonist” that counteracts the effects of an opioid (e.g., morphine or heroin) overdose.
- Is a non-scheduled (i.e., non-addictive) prescription medication.
- Only works (or has any effects) if the person who has overdosed has opioids in their system.
- Can be injected into the muscle or vein or under the skin or sprayed into one’s nose.
- Can be administered by laypeople who become familiar with the relatively simple process.

MAG and the MAG Foundation have been leaders in the effort to combat opioid misuse in Georgia, including the MAG Foundation’s ‘Think About It’ initiative – which was established in 2012. MAG members can contact Bethany Sherrer at bsherrer@mag.org with questions about the state’s ‘9-1-1 Medical Amnesty Law.’ Go to www.mag.org/tai or contact Lori Cassity Murphy at lmurphy@mag.org for details about the ‘Think About It’ initiative.

With more than 8,400 members, MAG is the leading voice for physicians in Georgia. MAG represents physicians in every specialty and practice setting. Go to www.mag.org for additional information.

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