



Blue Bloods Treating Blue Blood – Part Dos (or is it Over-Dos?)

One Year's Experience with Law Enforcement Naloxone

Crawford Mechem, MD
Department of Emergency Medicine
University of Pennsylvania

EMS Medical Director
Philadelphia Fire Department

Questions?

1. Is it beneficial for police officers to administer naloxone to opiate OD victims?
2. What is the cost?



Drugs in Pennsylvania

- Pennsylvania leads nation in drug OD deaths among males 19-25 y.o.
- Sept. 2014, PA Act 139, *Opioid Overdose Reversal*, signed into law
- Allowed police, FFs to administer naloxone



Philadelphia and Drugs

- Since 2009, 43% increase in OD deaths
- 45% increase in OD deaths where heroin was present in system
 - Prescription opioids significant problem
- Between 2013 and 2014, deaths related to fentanyl increased > 300%

DEA: Analysis of Drug-Related Overdose Deaths
in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 2013-2014

PPD Naloxone Program

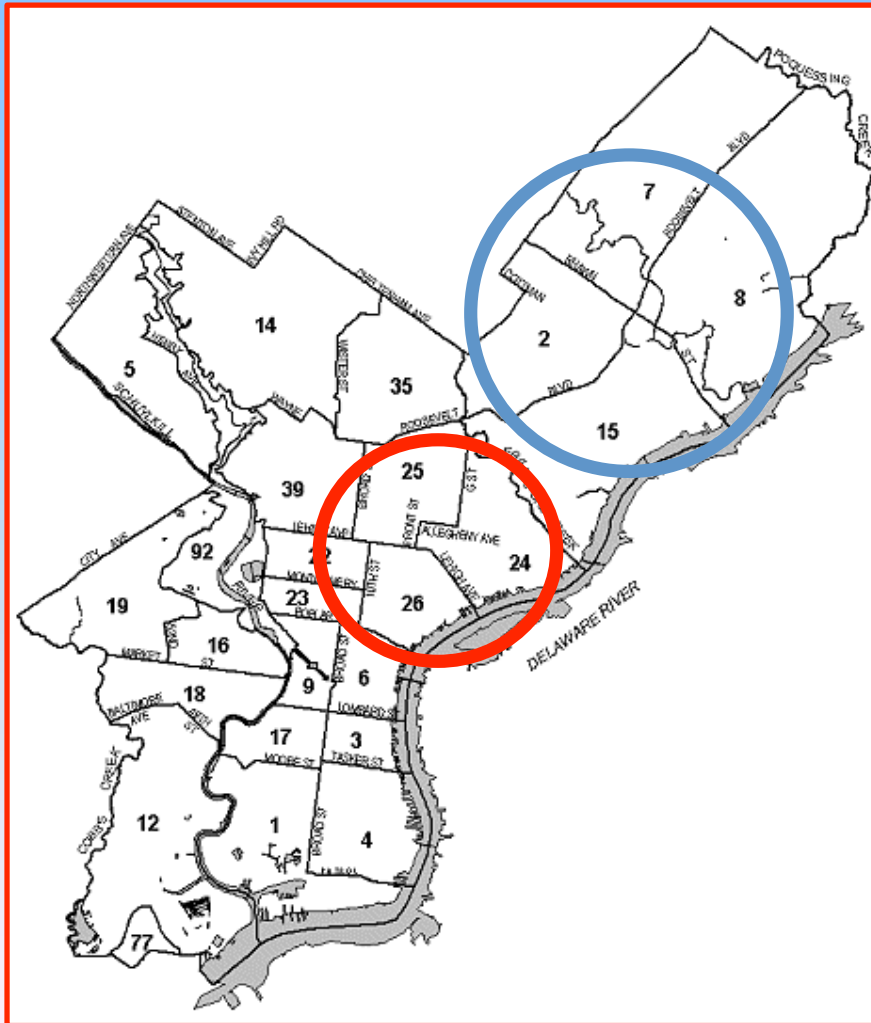
- January 2015 PPD began training some officers to administer nasal naloxone
- PFD EMS Medical Director oversees
 - PFD supplies naloxone
- Officer administers to OD victim
- Requests EMS response
- Completes patient care report



PPD Opioid Overdose Kit



Police Districts Involved



The Numbers

- Administered 121 times since Jan. 2015
- ~ 7-9 times a month
- Cost to date ~ \$100,000 (meds, supplies)
- Seems to help, but expensive



The Future

- Anticipate program will expand, *but*
 - Currently funded with grants
 - How long will grants last? What then?
 - With increasing demand, price increasing
 - \$187 per nasal dose at one pharmacy
- Long term, how will price impact sustainability?
 - Will making naloxone accessible to more people result in decreased availability?

Questions?

