

CT EMS SWORD

Statewide Opioid Reporting Directive (SWORD)

June 2019, Issue 1

Early SWORD Reporting Successful

EMS responders in the North Central EMS Region began reporting opioid overdoses to the Connecticut Poison Control Center (CPCC) on April 1, 2019. In the first two months, there were 419 calls including 313 naloxone administrations. The data will enable health officials to better surveil the epidemic that has killed over 1,000 people in CT in each of the last two years. In addition, several branded bags of heroin were linked to multiple overdoses, enabling law enforcement to target specific dealers.

The data is entered into real-time tracking software called ODMAP which allows public health and safety agencies to monitor the epidemic in real-time. The information is critical to enabling state and community agencies to properly target resources.

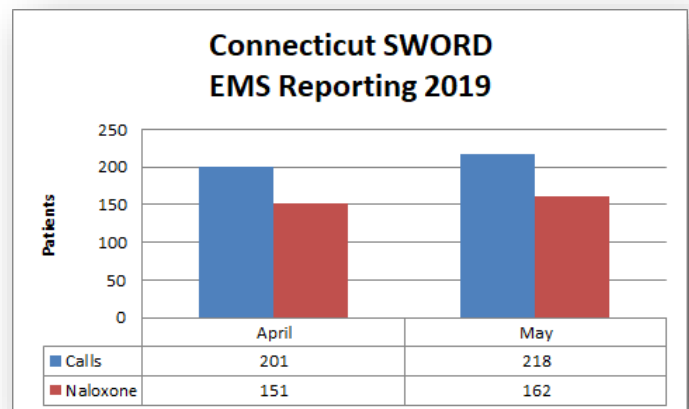


The project is supported by the Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH), and the Office of Emergency Medical Services (OEMS) who have provided federal funding to the CPCC to implement the program.

This important initiative demonstrates the value of EMS to the public health system and how we can play a crucial role in ending a terrible epidemic. Statewide EMS reporting began June 1, 2019.



Examples of identified heroin packaging linked to reported overdoses in May. Send photos to: poisoncontrol@uchc.edu
Include CPCC case number in subject line.



Thank you for your participation!

Office of Emergency Medical Services