

LIFE-SAVING DRUG

Lenawee deputies to carry anti-overdose drug

By Daily Telegram staff

ADRIAN — Lenawee County sheriff's deputies will begin carrying a drug that can reverse a potentially fatal heroin overdose, Sheriff Jack Welsh announced Thursday.

Deputies received training in the past week on use of the drug, Naloxone, and will begin carrying kits on patrol starting as soon as next week,

Welsh stated. Deputies will be able to respond to overdose calls or administer Naloxone when needed to individuals they encounter on patrol, he said in a news release.

The drug is administered



Welsh

by spraying a mist into each nostril of the victim, he stated, allowing it be used on an unconscious person.

"Naloxone has proven to be effective in reviving individuals who have overdosed on heroin or other opiates," Welsh stated.

Police officers often encounter opiates in the form of morphine, methadone, codeine, heroin, fentanyl, oxy-

codone and hydrocodone.

Welsh said he was convinced to look into equipping road patrol units with Naloxone by the continuing heroin problem in Lenawee County, and by information provided by the Lenawee Substance Abuse and Prevention Coalition and Lenawee Community Mental Health Authority.

A recent report by the Washtenaw County Sher-

iff's Department stated Naloxone was successfully administered eight times by deputies since August

Funding to equip Lenawee County deputies with the drug was provided by the Community Mental Health Partnership of Southeast Michigan.

Other police agencies in Lenawee County also are evaluating the Naloxone program, Welsh stated.