

First Reading of Policy

7513

SUBJECT: ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION

The school's registered professional nurse may administer medication to a student during school hours under certain conditions. (For the purpose of this policy "medication" includes prescription and non-prescription). Per New York State Education Department (NYSED) requirements, the school must receive the following before medication is given to a student:

- a) The original written order from the student's physician stating: (1) the student's name and date of birth; (2) the name of the medication; (3) the precise dosage and route of administration; (4) the frequency and time of administration; (5) for p.r.n. (as necessary) medications, conditions under which medication should be administered; (6) the date the order was written; (7) the prescribing physician's name, title, and signature; and (8) the prescribing physician's phone number
- b) A written, signed consent from the student's parent or legal guardian requesting the administration of the medication, as prescribed by the physician, to the student in school, and relieving the School District and its employees of liability for administration of medication; and
- c) The medication, properly labeled in its original container, must be delivered to the School Health Office by the student's parent or legal guardian. (The term "properly labeled" in the context of this policy means that the container must include the following information: the student's name, name of medication, dosage, frequency and prescribing physician). A student is not permitted to carry any medication on his/her person in school, or on the school bus, or keep any medication in his/her school locker(s). An exception to this policy may apply for a student's asthma inhaler or epi-pen which a student may carry and use under certain conditions.

All medication orders must be reviewed annually or whenever there is a change in dosage.

Procedures governing the School District's receipt, storage and disposal of medication, as well as those pertaining to the administration of medication to a student after school hours and/or off school grounds during a school-sponsored activity will be in accordance with NYSED guidelines.

Emergency Medication

The administration of emergency medication (injectable, including "epi-pens," and/or oral) to a student for extreme hypersensitivity may be performed by a school staff member responding to an emergency situation when: (1) such use has been prescribed by a licensed prescriber; and (2) a nurse or other appropriately licensed individual is not available. However, a registered professional nurse/nurse practitioner/physician/physician's assistant must have trained the staff member to administer the emergency medication for that particular emergency situation (e.g., "epi-pen") and given him/her approval to assist the student in the event of an emergency anaphylactic reaction. Such a response would fall under the Good Samaritan exemption for rendering emergency care during a life threatening situation.

(Continued)

SUBJECT: ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION (Cont'd.)**Use of Asthma Inhalers**

A student may carry and use an asthma inhaler if the School Health Office has on file: the physician's written order/diagnosis that the student has a severe asthma condition and may be subject to sudden and debilitating asthmatic attacks; and written permission from the student's parent or legal guardian. Upon written request of the student's parent or legal guardian, the school must allow a student to maintain an extra asthma inhaler in the care and custody of the school's registered professional nurse. (A School District is **not required** to hire a registered professional nurse solely for the purpose of maintaining a spare inhaler or to ensure that a registered professional nurse is available at all times in a school building for such purpose).

Blood Glucose Monitoring

Children with diabetes have the right to care for their diabetes at school in accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 which provide protection against discrimination for children with disabilities, including diabetes.

Accordingly, blood glucose monitoring must be allowed in the school setting at any time, within any place, and by anyone necessitating such testing. Children must receive assistance if needed with the procedure.

The school nurse shall oversee any arrangements that need to be made for testing and a system to report the results to the nurse as needed. Proper arrangements should be made for the disposal of sharps.

Alcohol-Based Hand Sanitizers

Alcohol-based hand sanitizers are considered over-the-counter (OTC) drugs by the United States Food and Drug Administration. However, due to the fact that careful hand-washing and sanitation is the most effective way to control the recent spread of Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus (MRSA) in schools, the New York State Education Department (NYSED) has allowed a medical exemption to the requirements for OTC preparations in the school setting to permit the use of alcohol-based hand sanitizers.

The School Medical Director may approve and permit the use of alcohol-based hand sanitizers in the District's schools without a physician's order. Parents may provide written notification to the school in the event that they do not wish to have their child use this product.

It should be noted that hand sanitizers which contain alcohol are flammable and shall not be placed in hallways or near an open flame or source of sparks.

(Continued)

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Students

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SUBJECT: ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION (Cont'd.)

Disposal of Unused Medication

Any unused medication (including, but not limited to expired prescription and nonprescription drugs) must be returned to the parent/person in parental relation by the end of each school year. If the parent/person in parental relation does not retrieve the unused medication by the end of the school year, then the School Nurse or designated School Health Office personnel must document that the medication was abandoned and dispose of the unused medication.

Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004 [Public Law 108-446 Section 614(a)]
Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), 20 United States Code (USC) Sections 1400 et seq.
Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 United States Code (USC) Section 794 et seq.
Education Law Sections 902(b), 916, 6527(4)(a) and 6908(1)(a)(iv)
Public Health Law Section 3000-a

Adopted: 7/1/03
Revised:

NOTE: Refer also to Policy #7521 -- Students with Life-Threatening Health Conditions