

TITLE: ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION

1. Scope. West Virginia Board of Education Policy 2422.8, Section 3.2 provides: County boards of education shall develop or amend medication administration policies to meet or exceed the standards set forth in W. Va. Code §18-5-22a as well as the components set forth in this policy.

2. Definitions.

2.1 "Administration of medication" means a health care procedure that provides medication by mouth, topically, or by another route as designated by written or standing orders from a licensed prescriber.

2.2 "Administrator's designee" means an employee (excluding the school nurse or contracted provider of nursing services) who is designated by the building administrator, is trained to administer non-prescribed over the-counter (OTC) medication, and agrees to administer non-prescribed OTC medications when county policy allows such practice. (The District does not currently allow the administration of non-prescribed OTC medications by school personnel).

2.3 "Contracted licensed health care provider" means a licensed health care provider providing health care services under a contract with county boards of education. Health care services may be contracted after the ratio of one nurse for every 1,500 students, kindergarten through seventh grade, is provided to county schools.

2.4 "Contracted school nurse" means an employee of a public health department providing services under a contract with a county board of education to provide services considered equivalent to those required in W. Va. Code §18-5-22.

2.5 "Designated qualified personnel" means an employee or contracted provider who agrees to administer prescribed medications, is authorized by the administrator/principal, successfully completes training by the certified school nurse as defined in West Virginia Board of Education Policy 2422.7, Standards for Basic and Specialized Health Care Procedures (126CSR25A), hereinafter Policy 2422.7, and is qualified for the delegation of the administration of prescribed medications by the certified school nurse. Designated qualified personnel must also meet the specifications in W. Va. Code §18-5-22 (d) and (e) which includes delegation of specialized health care procedures and medications to teachers, aides and secretaries (medication only).

2.6 "Fluoride Rinse Program" means a program offered by the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources (WVDHHR), Bureau for Public Health (BPH), Office of Maternal, Child and Family Health (OMCFH), Oral Health Program, Children's Dentistry Project. The Fluoride Rinse Program is the most cost effective and least expensive way to reduce dental decay on a group or community basis. The program is developed for students in grades k-6 with parental/guardian permission and with close adult supervision to assist in the prevention of

swallowing of rinse solution. The fluoride rinse is a 0.2 % sodium fluoride solution administered once a week for 30 weeks. The WVDHHR/BPH Instructions for Conducting the Fluoride Rinse Program may be found is at www.dhhr.wv.gov/oralhealth.

2.7 "Licensed health care provider" means an allopathic physician or an osteopathic physician, podiatrist, registered nurse, practical nurse, advanced practice registered nurse, physician assistant, dentist, optometrist, pharmacist or respiratory care professional licensed under W. Va. Code §30.

2.8 "Licensed prescriber" means licensed health care providers with the authority to prescribe medication as per their scope of practice.

2.9 "Long-term and Emergency Prescribed Medication" means medication ordered by a licensed prescriber that is used to treat acute and chronic health conditions including both daily and PRN (as needed) medication.

2.10 "Medication Authorization Form" means a form, inclusive of an order for prescribed medication, completed and signed by a licensed prescriber with a parent/guardian signature of permission in order to authorize medication administration to said parent's/guardian's child. The form must include the following: student name; date; allergies; medication name, dosage, time and route; intended effect of medication; other medication(s) taken by student; the duration and expiration of the licensed prescriber and parent/guardian signature.

2.11 "Medication document" means the individual medication record or medication log used to record the administration of medication to a student.

2.12 "Non-prescribed Medication" means medication and food supplements that have been approved by the Food and Drug Administration and may be obtained OTC without a prescription from a licensed prescriber.

2.13 "Prescribed Medication" means medication with a written order signed by a licensed prescriber.

2.14 "School Based Health Centers" means clinics located in schools that: 1) are sponsored and operated by community based health care organizations; 2) provide primary health care services (including but not limited to diagnosis and treatment of acute illness, management of chronic illness, physical exams, immunizations, and other preventive services) to students who are enrolled in the health center; and 3) follow state and federal laws, policies, procedures, and professional standards for provision of medical care.

2.15 "School Nurse" is defined as a registered professional nurse, licensed by the West Virginia Board of Examiners for Registered Professional Nurses (W. Va. Code §30-7-1, et seq.), who has completed a WVDE approved program as defined in West Virginia Board of Education Policy 5100, Approval of Educational Personnel Preparation Programs (126CSR114) and meets the requirements for certification contained in West Virginia Board of Education Policy 5202, Minimum Requirements for the Licensure of Professional/Paraprofessional Personnel and Advanced Salary Classification (126CSR136). The school nurse must be employed by the county board of education or the county health department as specified in W. Va. Code §18-5-22.

2.16 "School-related event" means any curricular or co-curricular activity, as defined in West Virginia Board of Education Policy 2510, Assuring the Quality of Education: Regulations for Education Programs (126CSR42), that is conducted outside of the school environment and/or instructional day. Examples of co-curricular activities include the following: band and choral presentations; theater productions; science or social studies fairs; mathematics field days; career/technical student organizations' activities; or other activities that provide in-depth exploration or understanding of the content standards and objectives appropriate for the students' grade levels.

2.17 "Self-administration" means medication administered by the student under the approval, assessment and supervision of the school nurse with a licensed prescriber order and parent/guardian permission. The self administration of prescribed medication may also include .epinephrine, diabetic medication, etc.).

3. Role of the school administrator(s)/principal(s).

3.1 Provide for appropriate, secure, and safe storage and access of medications.

3.2 Provide a clean, safe environment for medication administration.

3.3 Provide a mechanism for safely receiving, counting and storing medications.

3.4 Provide a mechanism for receiving and storing appropriate medication authorization forms.

3.5 Assign qualified employees, who meet a satisfactory level of competence for prescribed medication administration as defined in Policy 2422.7.

3.6 Coordinate development of procedures for the administration of medication during school related events with classroom teachers, school nurses, parents/guardians, designated qualified personnel and administrator's designees. School principals shall inform parents that a failure to supply long-term and emergency prescribed medication as set forth in this policy may constitute child neglect and reported to the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Services.

3.7 Assist with the promotion of WVDHHR/BPH-Oral Health Program's Fluoride Rinse Program especially in school districts which lack optimal fluoridated water.

3.8 Provide scheduled time for designated school personnel to be Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) with Automated External Defibrillation (AED) certified and first aid trained according to Policy 2422.7 to meet qualifications for administering medications.

3.9 Develop a mechanism to assure the inclusion of all students especially those with specialized health care needs to participate in school-related field trips. This includes advance notification to the certified school nurse and/or county school health services director to ensure out-of-state field trip destinations allow reciprocity and delegation of certain health care procedures by their state board of nursing laws and practice acts since the certified school nurse is only licensed to practice nursing in West Virginia.

4. Role of the school nurse and contracted licensed health care provider.

4.1 Determine if the administration of prescribed medication may be safely delegated to designated qualified personnel, as defined in Section 4.5.

4.2 Contact the parent/guardian or licensed health care provider to clarify any questions about prescribed medication that is to be administered in the West Virginia public school system.

4.3 Manage health related problems and decisions. In the role of manager, the nurse is responsible for standards of school nurse practice in relation to health appraisal, health care planning and maintenance of complete and accurate documentation. For students needing long-term and emergency prescription medication to attend school, the school nurse shall assess the student, review the licensed prescriber's orders, promote implementation of needed health, safety procedures, and develop a health care plan and an optional intervention guide if deemed appropriate.

4.4 Utilize the "West Virginia Board of Examiners for Registered Professional Nurses Guidelines for Determining Acts that May be Delegated or Assigned by Licensed Nurses", June 2009, and any revisions thereof, as the mechanism for determining whether or not the administration of prescribed medications may be delegated.

4.5 Provide and/or coordinate training, as defined in Policy 2422.7, for all school employees designated to administer prescribed medication.

4.6 Validate and document student knowledge and skills related to self-administration of prescribed medication.

5. Role of designated qualified personnel/administrator's designee.

5.1 Successfully complete the CPR with AED certification, First Aid, and the medication administration portion of training, as defined in Policy 2422.7. Designated qualified personnel who are providing medication administration for a one-time school-related event/field trip are exempt from the requirements of CPR with AED certification and first aid training.

5.2 Store and administer medication, complete the medication document and report medication incidents as outlined in this policy. Expired medication shall not be administered.

5.3 Meet the specifications in W. Va. Code §18-5-22 (d) and (e) which includes teachers, aides and secretaries.

6. Role of the parent/guardian.

6.1 Administer the initial dose of any medication at home, except for emergency medications and unless otherwise directed by the licensed prescriber and/or a court order.

6.2 Provide completed and signed medication authorization form (to be designed by each county), which indicates student name; date; allergies; medication name; dosage, time, and route; intended effect of medication; other medication(s) taken by student; licensed prescriber and parent/guardian signature.

6.3 Shall provide school with completed medication authorization form for prescribed medication(s) and emergency contact information including parent name, address, phone numbers and at least two telephone numbers other than parent/guardian in case of emergency.

6.4 Shall supply medication and ensure that medication arrives safely at school in a current and properly labeled container. Give the medication to the person authorized by the administrator/principal to receive, store, and administer medication. Maintain effective communication pertaining to medication administration.

6.5 Replenish long-term and emergency prescribed medication as needed. If emergency medication or medication authorization form is not provided to the school, the safety and welfare of the student is placed at risk. The student should not attend school until both the medication and medication authorization form are provided to school personnel with a review and delegation from the school nurse. The Student Assistance Team (SAT), Section 504 or Individualized Education Program (IEP) team must regard the lack of emergency lifesaving medication(s) as child neglect.

6.6 Retrieve unused or expired medicine from school personnel no later than 30 days after the authorization to give the medication expires or on the last day of school.

7. Role of the student.

7.1 Consume the medication in the specified manner, in as much as his/her age, development and maturity permit.

7.2 Self-administer prescribed emergency or acute medications, such as epinephrine, insulin, and asthma inhaler. when the prescription indicates that said student may maintain possession of the medication. The student must be able to bring the medication to school, carry the medication in a safe and responsible manner, and use the medication only as prescribed.

8. Administration of Prescribed Medication.

8.1 Prescribed medications shall be administered after written authorization from a licensed prescriber with parent/guardian approval are received.

8.1.1 Prescribed medication shall be in the originally labeled container from the pharmacy, which includes the following:

- 8.1.1.1 student's name,
- 8.1.1.2 name of the medication,
- 8.1.1.3 reason(s) for the medication (if to be given only for specific symptoms),
- 8.1.1.4 dosage, time and route,
- 8.1.1.5 reconstitution directions, if applicable, and
- 8.1.1.6 the date the prescription and/or medication expires.

8.2 Prescribed OTC Medication(s)

- 8.2.1 student's name (affixed to original manufacturer's bottle),
- 8.2.2 name of the medication,
- 8.2.3 reason(s) for the medication (if to be given only for specific symptoms),
- 8.2.4 dosage, time and route,
- 8.2.5 reconstitution directions, if applicable, and
- 8.2.6 the date the prescription and/or medication expires.

8.3 Medication administration steps must be followed exactly as outlined in Policy 2422.7.

8.3.1 Medication administration must take place in a clean and quiet environment where privacy may be established and interruptions are minimal.

8.3.2 The school nurse is to be contacted immediately when a prescribed medication's appearance or dosage is questioned. The school nurse shall take the appropriate steps to assure the medication is safe to administer.

8.3.3 The school nurse is to be contacted immediately when a student's health condition suggests that it may not be appropriate to administer the medication.

8.3.4 When a student's medical condition requires a change in the medication dosage or schedule, the parent must provide a new written medication authorization form from a licensed prescriber and container, if applicable. This must be given to designated personnel within an appropriate time frame.

8.3.5 Stock medications such as the Epinephrine Auto Injector, are not currently maintained under the terms of this policy. Parents/guardians must provide all medication for students with previous medical diagnoses along with a medication authorization form.

8.4 Medication administration incidents include, but are not limited to, any deviation from the instructions provided by the licensed health care provider. The school nurse and administrator/principal shall be contacted immediately in the event of a medication incident. The school nurse or administrator/principal shall do the following:

8.4.1 Contact the physician and parent/guardian, if necessary.

8.4.2 Implement the school nurse or administrator recommendation and/or licensed prescriber order in response to a medication incident.

8.4.3 Document all circumstances, orders received, actions taken and student's status.

8.4.4 Submit a written report to the administrator and county superintendent at the time of the incident. The report should include the name of the student, the parent/guardian

name and phone number, a specific statement of the medication incident, who was notified, and what remedial actions were taken.

8.5 Self-administration of emergency medication such as epinephrine, diabetic medications, and asthma inhalers shall be permitted in accordance with W. Va. Code §§18-5-22a, 18 5-22b and 18-2K-1, et seq., after the following conditions are met:

8.5.1 A written medication authorization form is received from the parent/guardian and licensed prescriber for self-administration of medication.

8.5.2 A written statement is received from a licensed prescriber which contains the student name, purpose, appropriate usage, dosage, time or times at which, or the special circumstances under which the medication is to be administered.

8.5.3 The student has demonstrated the ability and understanding to self-administer medication by passing an assessment by the school nurse evaluating the student's technique of self-administration and level of understanding of the appropriate use of the medication.

8.5.4 The parent/guardian has acknowledged in writing that they have read and understand a notice provided by the county board of education stating that the school, county school board and its employees and agents are exempt from any liability, except for willful and wanton conduct, as a result of any injury arising from the self-administration of medication.

8.5.5 The permission to self-administer emergency medication shall be effective for the school year for which it is granted and all documents related to the self-administration of medication shall become part of the student health record.

8.5.6 The permission to self-administer medication may be revoked if the school nurse finds that the student's technique and understanding of the use of medication is not appropriate or is willfully disregarded.

9. Administration of Non-Prescribed OTC Medication. The administration of non-prescribed OTC medications is not permitted.

10. Medication administration incidents include, but are not limited to, any deviation from the instructions provided by the parent/ guardian consistent with manufacturer's directions. The school administrator/principal shall be contacted immediately in the event of a medication incident. The school administrator will then contact the parent/ guardian, if necessary. The school administrator/principal or designee shall:

10.1.1 Contact the West Virginia Poison Center for management recommendations in response to a medication incident.

10.1.2 Document all circumstances, orders received, actions taken and student's status.

10.1.3 Submit a written report to the administrator and county superintendent at the time of the incident. The report should include the name of the student, the parent/guardian name and phone number, a specific statement of the medication incident, who was notified, and what remedial actions were taken.

11. Medication Storage, Inventory, Access and Disposal.

11.1 Each school shall designate space in the building to store student medication, at the correct temperature, in a secure, locked, clean cabinet or refrigerator, as required. Schools shall maintain epinephrine auto-injectors in a secure, unlocked, location, which is only accessible to school nurses, health care providers and authorized nonmedical personnel and not by students.

11.2 All medication shall be entered on a medication inventory and routinely monitored for expiration and disposal.

11.3 Access to medications shall be under the authority of the administrator of the school in conjunction with the school nurse assigned to that school.

11.4 An appropriate supply of long-term and emergency prescribed medication may be maintained at the school in amounts not to exceed school dosages within each calendar month.

11.5 School personnel shall dispose of unused or expired medicine unclaimed by the parent/guardian no later than 30 days after the parent/guardian medication authorization expires or on the last day of school whichever comes first.

11.6 Medication disposal shall be done in a manner in which no other individual has access to any unused portion. Two individuals will witness the disposal of the medication and the procedure must be documented on the appropriate form related to the specific student. (When deemed necessary by authorized school personnel, medication may be transported to the local pharmacy or state police office for disposal.

12. Emergency Medication.

12.1 The West Virginia Board of Examiners for Registered Professional Nurses allow for the delegation of certain prescribed emergency medication. The following medications have been approved for school nurses to decide the ability to delegate, train and continuously supervise school personnel to administer when a diagnosis and order are in place and the school nurse or licensed practical nurse is not available to provide such care:

12.1.1 Glucagon;

12.1.2 Epinephrine;

12.1.3 Rectal diazepam (i.e. Valium) can only be delegated to unlicensed school personnel if ordered by the student's physician and the certified school nurse provides the final determination to allow delegation;

12.1.4 Albuterol or other emergency asthma medication.

12.2 Schools may possess and maintain at the school a supply of epinephrine auto injectors for use in emergency medical care or treatment for an anaphylactic reaction. Secondary school principals in consultation with a school nurse shall develop a written plan for stocking epinephrine during secondary activity/extracurricular events outside of the school day. A prior diagnosis for a student or school personnel requiring the use of epinephrine auto injectors is not necessary to permit the school to stock epinephrine auto injectors.

12.3 Epinephrine auto injectors shall be maintained by the school in a secured, unlocked location which is only accessible by school nurses, health care providers and authorized nonmedical personnel and not by students.

12.4 An allopathic physician licensed to practice pursuant to the provisions of article three, chapter thirty of this code or an osteopathic physician licensed to practice pursuant to the provisions of article fourteen, chapter thirty of this code may prescribe within the course of his or her professional practice standing orders and protocols for use when necessary by a school which wishes to maintain epinephrine auto-injector pursuant to the provisions of this section.

12.5 School nurses are authorized to administer an epinephrine auto injector to a student or school personnel during regular school hours or at a school function when the school nurse medically believes the individual is experiencing an anaphylactic reaction. A school nurse may also use the school supply of epinephrine auto injectors for a student or school personnel authorized to self-administer that meet the requirements of a prescription on file with the school.

12.6 Designated qualified school personnel who have been trained in the administration of an epinephrine auto injector by the school nurse and who have been designated and authorized by the school to administer the epinephrine auto injector to a student or school personnel during regular school-related events when the authorized and designated nonmedical school personnel reasonably believes, based upon their training, that the individual is experiencing an anaphylactic reaction. Designated qualified school personnel may also use the school supply of epinephrine auto injectors for a student or school personnel authorized to self-administer that meet the requirements of a prescription on file with the school.

12.7 The parent/guardian of a student who was administered a school maintained epinephrine auto injection shall be provided with a comprehensive notification immediately. The comprehensive notification should include date and the approximate time the incident occurred, symptoms observed, who administered the injection, the rationale for administering the injection, the response to the epinephrine administration, the dose of epinephrine administered, the current location of the student and any other necessary elements to make the students' parents fully aware of the circumstances surrounding the administration of the injection.

12.8 A school nurse or designated qualified school person who administers an epinephrine auto injection to a student or to school personnel as provided in this section is immune from liability for any civil action arising out of an act or omission resulting from the administration of the epinephrine auto injection unless the act or omission was the result of the school nurse or trained and authorized nonmedical school personnel's gross negligence or willful misconduct.

12.9 All schools are required to report each reaction resulting in the administration of epinephrine injections. The incident will be reported to the West Virginia Poison Center by calling

1-800 222-1222 after emergency medical services have transported the student or staff member to acute care. The notification should include the name of the student, the student's age and gender, date and the approximate time the incident occurred, symptoms observed, who administered the injection, the name of the school the student attends, a contact telephone number, the rationale for administering the injection, the response to the epinephrine administration, the dose of epinephrine administered, and any other necessary elements to provide a complete report for the individual situation.

12.10 The Superintendent shall cause training to be provided on anaphylaxis and allergy awareness for food service workers and others in the school system, if easily available locally.

13. Confidentiality, Documentation and Reporting.

13.1 Student information related to diagnosis, medications ordered and medications given must be maintained according to The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) (20 U.S.C. §1232g; 34 CFR Part 99) and in such a manner that no one could view these records without proper authorization as specified in West Virginia Board of Education Policy 4350, Procedures for the Collection, Maintenance and Disclosure of Student Data (126CSR94).

13.2 Documentation of medication administration shall include the following information:

13.2.1 student name,

13.2.2 medication(s) name,

13.2.3 dosage, time and route of medication('s) administration,

13.2.4 reaction(s) or untoward effects,

13.2.5 reason(s) the medication was not administered; and

13.2.6 date and signature of person administering medication.

13.2.7 Receiving and documenting of verbal orders from a licensed prescriber is allowable by the school nurse or the licensed health care provider. The verbal order shall be confirmed with a new written medication authorization form within a reasonable timeframe.

13.2.8 Report medication overdoses to the West Virginia Poison Center at 1-800-222-1222.

14. Consequences of Policy Violation.

14.1 If a student violates the policy regarding medication administration, action will be based upon West Virginia Board of Education Policy 4373, Expected Behavior in Safe and Supportive Schools (126CSR99).

14.1.1 Failure of school personnel to comply with the above rules shall result in personnel disciplinary actions based upon the West Virginia Board of Education Policy 5902, Employee Code of Conduct (126CSR162) and may also be reflected in an employee evaluation.

15. Severability.

15.1 If any provision of this rule or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, such federal legislation or invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of this rule.

16. Review Schedule. This policy shall be reviewed in accordance with the policy review schedule published by the Superintendent.

Legal Authority: West Virginia Code §18-5-22a
West Virginia Board of Education Policy 2422.8

Board Adoption: July 21, 2014