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## STUDENT MEDICATION: TYPE 1 DIABETES

### Background

The Division emphasizes the need to support the needs of all students and provide appropriate care based on the student's Diabetes Medical Management Plan.

Diabetes care is to be provided in a way that encourages self-management of diabetes by the student whenever appropriate and which ensures that adequate numbers of trained personnel are available to protect the student's health and safety whenever the student is in the school or participating in school sponsored activities.

### Procedures

1. The administration of a quick acting glucose source (e.g., glucose tablets, unsweetened juice, sugared candy) or the provision of follow up snacks (e.g., digestive biscuits, crackers, cheese) is acceptable and can be dispensed by any staff member with written instructions from the parent (refer to the Diabetes Medical Management Plan).
  - 1.1 Parents are to be advised when a quick acting glucose source for low blood sugar has been administered.
  - 1.2 In an emergency, staff members are permitted to administer a glucagon injection as per the Diabetes Medical Management Plan. \*Note: Administer glucagon according to the instructions.
2. When developmentally capable, students will be allowed to test their own blood levels upon request of the parent or student.
  - 2.1 If requested, the students are to be allowed to conduct blood testing in the classroom or principals are to provide an environment of confidentiality that enables and enhances the student's ability to manage their health condition.
3. When developmentally incapable of testing their own blood or ketone levels, the student will be provided with support. This will be done with two (2) people, to ensure the medical plan is accurately followed.
4. Insulin Pumps
  - 4.1 Where the student is unable to dial in the correct dosage when an insulin pump is in use due to age (younger than nine (9) years of age) or diagnosed with developmental challenges (FS IQ <70), two (2) staff members will provide support as follows:
    - 4.1.1 One (1) staff member must administer the blood test reading using the apparatus provided. This reading is programmed to transmit directly to the insulin pump; a beep will indicate its receipt.

- 4.1.2 One (1) staff member will observe while one (1) staff member enters the correct corresponding carbohydrates consumed during a specified time period.
- 4.1.3 The insulin pump will calculate the carbohydrate/insulin ratio.
  - 4.1.3.1 Both staff members will confirm the accuracy of the insulin to be administered as directed by the carbohydrate count and enter ACCEPT into the pump.
- 4.1.4 All results and actions will be recorded on the Diabetes Medical Management Plan.
- 4.2 Regardless of age or developmental level, no student will be left alone while experiencing a low as identified in the Diabetes Management Plan.
- 5. Syringe Injections
  - 5.1 The Division does not prevent school staff from administering syringe injections, but, neither does it impose an obligation to do so. Presently the Division protocol for administering syringe injections is that school staff do not administer insulin injections.
- 6. Principal Responsibilities
  - 6.1 Ensuring that trained school personnel are available to provide routine and emergency diabetes care at school and school-related activities.
  - 6.2 Requiring development and implementation of a Diabetes Medical Management Plan approved by the child's health care provider.
  - 6.3 Assuring that school choice is not restricted because of diabetes.
  - 6.4 No staff member will be disciplined for their refusal to provide ongoing medical support.
  - 6.5 In an emergency situation, dial 911 and provide emergency care as outlined in the Diabetes Medical Management Plan.
- 7. The principal will ensure that three (3) staff members are designated each year and remain properly trained.
  - 7.1 This training is to be provided by certified medical personnel.
  - 7.2 All staff will receive a thirty (30) minute overview, once per year to support their understanding of diabetes and procedures to follow in an emergency situation.
- 8. The *Diabetes Management: A Protocol for Schools* is an information and resource manual to be used by school staff to assist in managing and supporting students diagnosed with Type 1 Diabetes so students can learn in an environment that is safe and supportive.
- 9. The Division will not mandate that any staff member provide ongoing diabetic medical support, nor will they prevent any staff member from providing ongoing diabetic medical support.

Reference: Education Act  
Emergency Medical Aid Act  
Public Health Act  
Diabetes Management: A Protocol for Schools

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