

5333 MANAGEMENT OF DIABETES IN SCHOOLS

The Board of Education recognizes pupils may have the need to monitor and control insulin levels to treat their diabetes during the school day. In order to do so, the Board of Education believes that students with diabetes must have access to the means to balance food, medications, and physical activity level while at school and at school-related activities. Diabetes is a serious chronic disease that impairs the body's ability to use food, and in some cases, must be managed during the school day in order to avoid the potentially life-threatening short-term consequences of blood sugar levels that are either too high or too low, and avoid or delay the serious long-term complications of high blood sugar levels.

An Individualized Healthcare Plan (IHP) and/or an Individualized Emergency Healthcare Plan (IEHP) will be developed for each pupil who needs treatment for diabetes during the school day in accordance with Regulation 5333. The types of information to be included in the IHP and the IEHP, procedures regarding the self-administration of medication and the placement and the accessibility of medication, and the recruitment and training of designees who volunteer to administer diabetes medication during school and at school-sponsored functions when the school nurse or designee is not available shall be in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.13 and Board Policy and Regulation 5330 and Regulation 5333. In addition, all school staff will be appropriately trained by the school nurse or designee to understand the school's general emergency procedures.

In accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.18, the school nurse shall obtain a release from the parent or guardian of a diabetic student to authorize the sharing of medical information between the student's physician or advanced practice nurse and other health care providers. The release shall also authorize the school nurse to share medical information with other staff members of the school district as necessary. Specifically, for each student with diabetes that a district school bus driver transports, the district shall provide the school bus driver with a notice of the student's condition, information regarding how to treat hypoglycemia, emergency contact information, and parent/guardian contact information.

The school nurse assigned to a particular school shall coordinate the provision of diabetes care at that school and ensure that appropriate staff are trained in the care of students with diabetes, including staff working with school-sponsored programs outside of the regular school day, as provided in the IHP and IEHP.

In accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.19, no school employee, including a school nurse, a school bus driver, a school bus aide, or any other office or agent of a board of education, shall be held liable for any good faith act or omission consistent with the provisions of this act, nor shall an action before the New Jersey State Board of Nursing lie against a school nurse for any such action taken by a person trained in good faith by



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the school nurse pursuant to this act. Good faith shall not include willful misconduct, gross negligence, or recklessness. In addition, the possession and use of syringes consistent with the purposes of this act shall not be considered a violation of applicable statutory or regulatory provisions that may otherwise restrict or prohibit such possession and use.

The district shall post, in plain view, a reference sheet identifying signs and symptoms of hypoglycemia in students with diabetes.

N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.11 through 18A:40-12.21

Adopted: 15 April 2010

