



Guidelines for the Use of a Stock Bronchodilator in a School Setting

Carroll County Public Schools has adopted and implemented guidelines for the use of a stock bronchodilator in a school setting. The CCPS guidelines are modelled after the Maryland State School Health Services Guidelines (January 2025). These guidelines will be posted within the Health Services section of the Carroll County Public Schools website. The CCPS Informational Calendar Student/Parent Handbook is utilized to notify parents/guardians annually regarding the use of a stock bronchodilator in a school setting in alignment with Maryland Code, Education § 7-426.6. The availability of this emergency medication does not relieve the parents'/guardians' responsibility to provide their student's personal medication to treat asthma related symptoms.

Purpose

Define procedures and requirements for school nurses and trained school staff of Carroll County Public Schools in the administration of a stock bronchodilator to a student that is or perceived to be in respiratory distress or experiencing asthma-related symptoms.

Training

All school nurses and designated school staff will receive annual training on the procedures for administering a stock bronchodilator. This training will include:

- How to identify the signs and symptoms of asthma and respiratory distress;
- How to identify the symptoms of anaphylaxis; and
- How to distinguish between anaphylaxis and asthma or respiratory distress.

School nurses will work with the trained staff to understand the procedures for the administration of the bronchodilator via metered dose inhaler and disposable spacer. The procedures include:

- How to administer the metered dose inhaler and spacer to a student based on the severity of symptoms
- Appropriate follow up that includes parent/guardian notification and health care provider (if necessary)
- Cleaning of inhaler and disposal of the used spacer
- Storage of the inhaler and spacers

Procedures

When a school nurse or designated staff member determines that a student is in or perceived to be in respiratory distress or exhibiting asthma-related symptoms they will:

- Follow the CCHD/CCPS School Health Services standing order for the administration of a stock bronchodilator
- Alert emergency medical services as determined by the standing order
- Document the use of a stock bronchodilator in the student record, alert the office of health services and complete the Maryland Department of Education (MSDE) reporting form.

Stock bronchodilators will be inspected for functionality and remaining doses regularly. Following either the expiration date or the completion of the total doses, the nurse will contact CCPS office of health services for a replacement.