Over the Counter Medications

Rationale: School nurses are asked on a daily basis to manage the minor complaints of headaches, menstrual cramps, insect bites and contact dermatitis with associated puritis (i.e. poison ivy). Both nurse and parent become frustrated when the nurse is unable to administer over-the-counter medication to manage these minor complaints. In response to parent and school nurse concerns, the Webster Public School System will adopt an over-the-counter medication policy in collaboration with our school physician and in accordance with the Board of Registration in Nursing's policy for the administration of over-the-counter medications, specifically Tylenol, Ibuprofen, Benadryl and Epi-Pen by the school nurse.

The school nurse will administer these over-the-counter medications according to the protocols set forth for each medication and only with written permission from the parent or guardian. The school nurse will document the administration as per nursing protocol.

Protocol for the administration of Tylenol (Acetaminophen) – all buildings

1. Written permission is obtained from parent or guardian
2. Oral temperatures over 101*F, students are routinely sent home with temperatures over 100*F. Tylenol is administered for comfort until parent or guardian arrives
3. Headache in the absence of head injury persisting following half-hour rest
4. Menstrual cramps
5. No history of Tylenol ingestion within the last 4-6 hours
6. No history of Tylenol sensitivity or allergy
7. Tylenol dosage is 10-15 mg per kg PO times 1 dose. Tylenol may be administered only once during the school day.

Protocol for the administration of Benadryl – all buildings

1. Written permission from the parent or guardian
2. No history of Benadryl sensitivity or allergy
3. Benadryl dosage is 1mg per kg PO, for insect bite with local reaction or contact dermatitis with puritis. Benadryl may be administered only once during the school day

4. May not give if child has a history of having taken another antihistamine that day

Protocol for administration of Ibuprofen - Middle School and High School only

1. Written permission from the parent or guardian
2. No history of Ibuprofen or aspirin sensitivity or allergy
3. Ibuprofen 200-400 mg PO, for menstrual cramps or muscle strain. Ibuprofen may be administered only once during the school day
4. No history of Ibuprofen ingestion within the last 6-8 hours

Protocol of Epi-Pen – all buildings

1. Written permission from the parent or guardian
2. Prescription from the child's physician
3. After injection with Epi-Pen, child must immediately be transported to the nearest Emergency Room