Administering Medication And Monitoring Health Conditions

Definitions

Authorized health care provider means an individual who is licensed by the State of California to prescribe or order medication, including, but not limited to, a physician or physician assistant. (Education Code 49423; 5 CCR 601)

Other designated school personnel means any individual employed by the district, including a nonmedical school employee, who has volunteered or consented to administer medication or otherwise assist the student and who may legally administer the medication to the student or assist the student in the administration of the medication. (5 CCR 601, 621)

Medication may include not only a substance dispensed in the United States by prescription, but also a substance that does not require a prescription, such as over-the-counter remedies, nutritional supplements, and herbal remedies. (5 CCR 601)

Epinephrine auto-injector means a disposable delivery device designed for the automatic injection of a premeasured dose of epinephrine into the human body to prevent or treat a life-threatening allergic reaction. (Education Code 49414)

Anaphylaxis means a potentially life-threatening hypersensitivity to a substance, which may result from an insect sting, food allergy, drug reaction, exercise, or other cause. Symptoms may include shortness of breath, wheezing, difficulty breathing, difficulty talking or swallowing, hives, itching, swelling, shock, or asthma. (Education Code 49414)

Opioid antagonist means naloxone hydrochloride or another drug approved by the federal Food and Drug Administration that, when administered, negates or neutralizes in whole or in part the pharmacological effects of an opioid in the body and that has been approved for the treatment of an opioid overdose. (Education Code 49414.3)

Albuterol means a bronchodilator used to open the airways by relaxing the muscles around the bronchial tubes. (Education Code 49414.7)

Inhaler means a device used for the delivery of prescribed asthma medication that is inhaled.

(Education Code 49414.7)

Notifications to Parents/Guardians

At the beginning of each school year, the Superintendent or designee shall notify parents/guardians of the options available to students who need to take prescribed medication during the school day and the rights and responsibilities of parents/guardians regarding those options. (Education Code 49480)

In addition, the Superintendent or designee shall inform the parents/guardians of any student on a continuing medication regimen for a nonepisodic condition of the following: (Education Code 49480)

1. The parent/guardian is required to inform the school nurse or other designated employee of the medication being taken, the current dosage, and the name of the supervising physician.

2. With the parent/guardian's consent, the school nurse or other designated employee may communicate with the student's physician regarding the medication and its effects and may counsel school personnel regarding the possible effects of the medication on the student's physical, intellectual, and social behavior, as well as possible behavioral signs and symptoms of adverse side effects, omission, or overdose.

When a student requires medication during the school day in order to participate in the educational program, the Superintendent or designee shall, as appropriate, inform the student's parents/guardians that the student may qualify for services or accommodations pursuant to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 USC 1400-1482) or Section 504 of the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 USC 794).

Parent/Guardian Responsibilities

The responsibilities of the parent/guardian of any student who may need medication during the school day shall include, but are not limited to:

1. Submitting the parent/guardian written statement and the authorized health care provider's written statement each school year as described in the sections "Parent/Guardian Statement" and

"Health Care Provider Statement" below. The parent/guardian shall provide a new authorized health care provider's statement if the medication, dosage, frequency of administration, or reason for administration changes. (Education Code 49414.5, 49423, 49423.1; 5 CCR 600, 626)

2. If the student is on a continuing medication regimen for a nonepisodic condition, informing the school nurse or other designated certificated employee of the medication being taken, the current dosage, and the name of the supervising physician, and updating the information when needed. (Education Code 49480)

3. Providing medications in properly labeled, original containers along with the authorized health care provider's instructions. For prescribed or ordered medication, the container also shall bear the name and telephone number of the pharmacy, the student's identification, and the name and phone number of the authorized health care provider. (5 CCR 606)

Parent/Guardian Statement

When district employees are to administer medication to a student, the parent/guardian's written statement shall:

1. Identify the student

2. Grant permission for an authorized district representative to communicate directly with the student's authorized health care provider and pharmacist, as may be necessary, regarding the health care provider's written statement or any other questions that may arise with regard to the medication

3. Contain an acknowledgment that the parent/guardian understands how district employees will administer the medication or otherwise assist the student in its administration

4. Contain an acknowledgment that the parent/guardian understands the responsibilities to provide a written statement from the authorized health care provider, to ensure that the medication is delivered to the school in a proper container by an individual legally authorized to be in

possession of the medication, and to provide all necessary supplies and equipment

5. Contain an acknowledgment that the parent/guardian understands the right to terminate the consent for the administration of the medication or for otherwise assisting the student in the administration of medication at any time

In addition to the requirements in Items #1-5 above, if a parent/guardian has requested that the student be allowed to carry and self-administer prescription auto-injectable epinephrine or prescription inhaled asthma medication, the parent/guardian's written statement shall: (Education Code 49423, 49423.1)

1. Consent to the self-administration

2. Release the district and school personnel from civil liability if the student suffers an adverse reaction as a result of self-administering the medication

In addition to the requirements in Items #1-5 above, if a parent/guardian wishes to designate an individual who is not an employee of the district to administer medication to the student, the parent/guardian's written statement shall clearly identify the individual and shall state:

1. The individual's willingness to accept the designation

2. That the individual is permitted to be on the school site

3. Any limitations on the individual's authority

Health Care Provider Statement

When any district employee is to administer prescribed medication to a student, or when a student is to be allowed to carry and self-administer prescribed medication during school hours, the authorized health care provider's written statement shall include:

1. Clear identification of the student (Education Code 49423, 49423.1; 5 CCR 602)

2. The name of the medication (Education Code 49423, 49423.1; 5 CCR 602)

3. The method, amount, and time schedules by which the medication is to be taken (Education Code 49423, 49423.1; 5 CCR 602)

4. If a parent/guardian has requested that the student be allowed to self-administer medication, confirmation that the student is able to self-administer the medication (Education Code 49414.5, 49423, 49423.1; 5 CCR 602)

5. For medication that is to be administered by unlicensed personnel, confirmation by the student's health care provider that the medication may safely and appropriately be administered by unlicensed personnel (Education Code 49423, 49423.1; 5 CCR 602)

6. For medication that is to be administered on an as-needed basis, the specific symptoms that would necessitate administration of the medication, allowable frequency for administration, and indications for referral for medical evaluation

7. Possible side effects of the medication

8. Name, address, telephone number, and signature of the student's authorized health care provider

For self-administration of inhaled asthma medication, the district shall accept a written statement from a physician or surgeon contracted with a health plan licensed pursuant to Health and Safety Code 1351.2. Such written statement shall be in English and Spanish and shall include the name and contact information for the physician or surgeon. (Education Code 49423.1)

District Responsibilities

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that any unlicensed school personnel authorized to administer medication to a student receives appropriate training from the school nurse or other qualified medical personnel.

The school nurse or other designated school personnel shall:

1. Administer or assist in administering medication in accordance with the authorized health care provider's written statement

2. Accept delivery of medications from parents/guardians and count and record them upon receipt

3. Maintain a list of students needing medication during the school day, including those authorized to self-administer medication, and maintain on the list the type of medication and the times and dosage to be administered

4. Maintain for each student a medication log which may:

    a. Specify the student's name, medication, dose, method of administration, time of administration during the regular school day, date(s) on which the student is required to take the medication, and the authorized health care provider's name and contact information

    b. Contain space for daily recording of the date, time, and amount of medication administered, and the signature of the individual administering the medication

5. Maintain for each student a medication record which may include the authorized health care provider's written statement, the parent/guardian's written statement, the medication log, and any other written documentation related to the administration of medication to the student

6. Ensure that student confidentiality is appropriately maintained

7. Coordinate and, as appropriate, ensure the administration of medication during field trips and other school-related activities

8. Report to a student's parent/guardian and the site administrator any refusal by the student to take the medication

9. Keep all medication to be administered by the district in a locked drawer or cabinet

10. As needed, communicate with a student's authorized health care provider and/or pharmacist regarding the medication and its effects

11. Counsel other designated school personnel regarding the possible effects of a medication on a student's physical, intellectual, and social behavior, as well as possible behavioral signs and symptoms of adverse side effects, omission, or overdose

12. Ensure that any unused, discontinued, or outdated medication is returned to the student's parent/guardian at the end of the school year or, if the medication cannot be returned, dispose of it in accordance with state laws and local ordinances

13. In the event of a medical emergency requiring administration of medication, provide immediate medical assistance, directly observe the student following the administration of medication, contact the student's parent/guardian, and determine whether the student should return to class, rest in the school office, or receive further medical assistance

14. Report to the site administrator, the student's parent/guardian, and, if necessary, the student's authorized health care provider any instance when a medication is not administered properly, including administration of the wrong medication or failure to administer the medication in accordance with authorized health care provider's written statement

Emergency Epinephrine Auto-Injectors and Emergency Albuterol Inhalers

The Superintendent or designee shall provide epinephrine auto-injectors to school nurses or other trained personnel who have volunteered to administer them in an emergency and have received training. The school nurse, or when a school nurse or physician is unavailable, a trained volunteer may administer an epinephrine auto-injector to provide emergency medical aid to any person suffering, or reasonably believed to be suffering, from potentially life-threatening symptoms of anaphylaxis at school or a school activity. A trained volunteer may include the holder of an Activity Supervisor Clearance Certificate who

has received specified training. (Education Code 49414)

Additionally, the Superintendent or designee may make emergency stock albuterol inhalers available to school nurses and trained personnel who have volunteered to be used to provide medical aid to person(s) suffering, or reasonably believed to be suffering, from respiratory distress. (Education Code 49414.7)

At least once per school year, the Superintendent or designee shall distribute to all employees a notice requesting volunteers to be trained to administer epinephrine auto-injectors and/or stock albuterol inhalers for emergency aid to individuals exhibiting signs of anaphylaxis reaction or respiratory distress. Such notice shall also describe the training that the volunteers will receive. (Education Code 49414, 49414.7)

The principal or designee at each school may designate one or more volunteers to receive initial and annual refresher training, which shall be provided by a school nurse or other qualified person designated by a physician and surgeon authorized pursuant to Education Code 49414 or 49414.7, and shall be based on the standards developed by the Superintendent of Public Instruction (SPI). Written materials covering the required topics for training shall be retained by the school for reference. (Education Code 49414, 49414.7

A school nurse or other qualified supervisor of health, or a district administrator if the district does not have a qualified supervisor of health, shall obtain a prescription for epinephrine auto-injectors or stock albuterol inhalers for each school from an authorized physician and surgeon. Such prescription may be filled by local or mail order pharmacies or manufacturers. (Education Code 49414, 49414.7)

Elementary schools shall, at a minimum, be provided one adult (regular) and one junior epinephrine auto-injector. Secondary schools shall be provided at least one adult (regular) epinephrine auto-injector, unless there are any students at the school who require a junior epinephrine auto-injector. (Education Code 49414)

The district shall store emergency epinephrine auto-injectors and stock albuterol inhalers in an accessible location, and shall specify such location in annual notices to staff.

If either medication is used, the school nurse or other qualified supervisor of health shall restock the medication as soon as reasonably possible, but no later than two weeks after it is used. In addition, all medications shall be restocked before their expiration date. (Education Code 49414, 49414.7)

Any volunteer or trained personnel who administers either medication shall initiate emergency medical services or other appropriate medical follow up in accordance with the training materials retained by the school. (Education Code 49414, 49414.7)

Information regarding defense and indemnification provided by the district for any and all civil liability for volunteers administering epinephrine auto-injectors and/or stock albuterol inhalers shall be provided to each volunteer and retained in the employee's personnel file. (Education Code 49414, 49414.7)

A school may accept gifts, grants, and donations from any source for the support of the school in carrying out the requirements of Education Code 49414 or 49414.7, including, but not limited to, the acceptance of epinephrine auto-injectors and/or emergency albuterol inhalers from a manufacturer or wholesaler. (Education Code 49414, 49414.7)

The Superintendent or designee shall maintain records regarding the acquisition and disposition of the described medications for a period of three years from the date the records were created. (Business and Professions Code 4119.2)

Emergency Medication for Opioid Overdose

The district may elect to make emergency naloxone hydrochloride or another opioid antagonist available at schools for the purpose of providing emergency medical aid to persons suffering, or reasonably believed to be suffering, from an opioid overdose. In determining whether to make this medication available, the Superintendent or designee shall evaluate the emergency medical response time to the school and determine whether initiating emergency medical services is an acceptable alternative to providing an opioid antagonist and training personnel to administer the medication. (Education Code 49414.3)

Additionally, if the district accepts emergency naloxone hydrochloride or another opioid antagonist from the county office of education (COE), the Superintendent or designee shall maintain at least two units of the medication at each district middle, junior high, high, and adult school. (Education Code 49414.8)

When available at the school site, the school nurse shall provide emergency naloxone hydrochloride or another opioid antagonist for emergency medical aid to any person exhibiting potentially life-threatening symptoms of an opioid overdose at school or a school activity. Other designated personnel who have

volunteered and have received training may administer such medication when a school nurse or physician is unavailable and shall only administer the medication by nasal spray or auto-injector. (Education Code 49414.3)

At least once per school year, the Superintendent or designee shall distribute to all staff a notice requesting volunteers to be trained to administer naloxone hydrochloride or another opioid antagonist, describing the training that the volunteer will receive, and explaining the right of the volunteer to rescind the offer to volunteer at any time, including after receiving training. The notice shall also include a statement that no benefit will be granted to or withheld from any employee based on the offer to volunteer and that there will be no retaliation against any employee for rescinding the offer to volunteer. (Education Code 49414.3)

The principal or designee shall designate two or more volunteer employees to receive initial and annual refresher training, based on standards adopted by the SPI, regarding the storage and emergency use of naloxone hydrochloride or another opioid antagonist. The training shall be provided at no cost to the employee, conducted during regular working hours, and be provided by a school nurse or other qualified person designated by an authorizing physician and surgeon. Written materials provided during the training shall be retained at the school for reference. (Education Code 49414.3, 49414.8)

Each volunteer shall meet the minimum standards of training for the administration of an emergency opioid antagonist as specified in Education Code 49414.3 or shall have undergone opioid overdose prevention and treatment training and reviewed material available on the California Department of Public Health's website. (Education Code 49414.8)

Any prescription for naloxone hydrochloride or another opioid antagonist shall be obtained by a school nurse, other qualified supervisor of health, or, if the district does not have a qualified supervisor of health, a district administrator from an authorized physician and surgeon. Such prescription may be filled by local or mail order pharmacies or manufacturers. (Education Code 49414.3)

If the medication is used, the school nurse, other qualified supervisor of health, or district administrator, as applicable, shall restock the medication as soon as reasonably possible, but no later than two weeks after it is used. In addition, the medication shall be restocked before its expiration date. (Education Code 49414.3, 49414.8)

Employees and volunteers that render emergency treatment at the scene of an opioid overdose or

suspected opioid overdose by administering an opioid antagonist shall not be liable for civil damages resulting from an act or omission, unless such act constitutes gross negligence or willful or wanton misconduct. (Health and Safety Code 1799.113)

Information regarding defense and indemnification provided by the district for any and all civil liability for volunteers administering naloxone hydrochloride or another opioid antagonist for emergency aid shall be provided to each volunteer in writing and retained in the employee's personnel file. (Education Code 49414.3)

A school may accept gifts, grants, and donations from any source for the support of the school in carrying out the requirements of Education Code 49414.3, including, but not limited to, the acceptance of the naloxone hydrochloride or another opioid antagonist from a COE, manufacturer, or wholesaler. (Education Code 49414.3)

The Superintendent or designee shall maintain records regarding the acquisition and disposition of naloxone hydrochloride or another opioid antagonist for a period of three years from the date the records were created. (Business and Professions Code 4119.8)

Anti-Seizure Medication

A school nurse or, if a school nurse is not onsite or available, a volunteer designated by the district may administer emergency anti-seizure medication to a student diagnosed with seizures, a seizure disorder, or epilepsy who has been prescribed such medication from the student's health care provider and is suffering from a seizure. (Education Code 49468.2)

Upon receipt of a request from the parent/guardian of a student diagnosed with seizures, a seizure disorder, or epilepsy who has been prescribed emergency anti-seizure medication, the Superintendent or designee may designate one or more volunteer(s) at the student's school to receive initial and annual refresher training regarding the emergency use of anti-seizure medication. (Education Code 49468.2)

In order to solicit volunteers, the district shall distribute a notice at least once, but no more than two times per school year, to all staff that includes the following information: (Education Code 49468.2)

1. A description of the volunteer request stating that the request is for volunteers to be trained to recognize and respond to seizures, including training to administer emergency anti-seizure

medication to a student diagnosed with seizures, a seizure disorder, or epilepsy if the student is suffering from a seizure

2. A description of the training that the volunteer will receive

3. The right of an employee to rescind the offer to volunteer

4. A statement that there will be no retaliation against any individual for rescinding the offer to volunteer, including after receiving training

A volunteer may rescind the offer to administer emergency anti-seizure medication at any time, including after receipt of training. (Education Code 49468.2)

If a volunteer rescinds the offer to volunteer or is no longer able to act as a volunteer for any reason, or if the placement of a student changes and the student no longer has access to a trained volunteer, the district may distribute an additional two notices per school year to all staff. (Education Code 49468.2)

Volunteer employees shall receive initial and annual refresher training, based on standards adopted by the SPI, regarding the recognition and response to seizures and the administration of emergency anti-seizure medication. The training shall be provided at no cost to the employee, conducted during regular working hours, and be provided by a school nurse or other qualified person designated by an authorizing physician and surgeon. Written materials provided during the training shall be retained at the school for reference. (Education Code 49468.2)

Before administering emergency anti-seizure medication or therapy prescribed to treat seizures in a student diagnosed with seizures, a seizure disorder, or epilepsy, the district shall obtain from the student's parent/guardian a seizure action plan as specified in Education Code 49468.3. The school or district nurse shall collaborate with the parent/guardian of each student diagnosed with seizures, a seizure disorder, or epilepsy in the development of a plan if the student does not have an individualized education plan or Section 504 plan. (Education Code 49468.3)

If the school obtains written consent from the student's parent/guardian, in accordance with 34 CFR 99.30, the seizure action plan shall be distributed to any school staff or volunteers responsible for the supervision or care of the student. (Education Code 49468.3)

Upon receipt of a request from a parent/guardian of a student diagnosed with seizure, a seizure disorder, or epilepsy, the district shall notify the parent/guardian that the student may qualify for services or accommodations pursuant to Section 504 of the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 or an individualized education program and shall assist the parent/guardian with the exploration of that option. (Education Code 49468.2)

Additionally, if there are no volunteers at the student's school, the Superintendent or designee shall notify the student's parent/guardian of the student's right to be assessed for services and accommodations guaranteed under Section 504 of the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, and may ask the parent/guardian to sign such notices. (Education Code 49468.2)

The principal or designee shall notify the school nurse assigned to the school, or if a school nurse is not assigned to the school or district, the Superintendent or designee, if an employee administers an emergency anti-seizure medication. (Education Code 49468.3)

The notification described above and the seizure action plan shall be kept on file in the office of the school nurse or a school administrator, in compliance with all applicable state and federal privacy laws. (Education Code 49468.3)

The district shall provide volunteers defense and indemnification for any and all civil liability, with information stating such being provided to the volunteer in writing and retained in the volunteer's personnel file. (Education Code 49468.5)

Trained volunteers who administer emergency anti-seizure medication or medication prescribed for seizure disorder symptoms to a student diagnosed with seizures, a seizure disorder, or epilepsy who appears to be experiencing a seizure shall not be subject to professional review, be liable in a civil action, or be subject to criminal prosecution for acts or omissions in administering the emergency anti-seizure medication. (Education Code 49468.5)

State	Description
5 CCR 600-611	Administering medication to students
Bus. Code 2700-2837	Nursing
Bus. Code 3500-3546	Physician assistants
Bus. Code 4119.2	Acquisition of epinephrine auto-injectors
Bus. Code 4119.8	Acquisition of naloxone hydrochloride or another opioid antagonist
Ed. Code 48980	Parent/Guardian notifications
Ed. Code 49407	Liability for treatment
Ed. Code 49408	Student emergency information
Ed. Code 49414	Emergency epinephrine auto-injectors
Ed. Code 49414.3	Emergency medical assistance; administration of medication for opioid overdose
Ed. Code 49414.4	Opioid Misuse

Ed. Code 49414.5	Providing school personnel with voluntary emergency training
Ed. Code 49414.7	Administration of albuterol inhalers
Ed. Code 49414.8	Funding for emergency opioid antagonists; requirements
Ed. Code 49422-49427	Employment of medical personnel
Ed. Code 49423	Administration of prescribed medication for student
Ed. Code 49423.1	Inhaled asthma medication
Ed. Code 49426.5	Licensed vocational nurses
Ed. Code 49468-49468.5	The Seizure Safe Schools Act
Ed. Code 49480	Continuing medication regimen; notice
H&S 1799.113	Opioid overdose treatment
H&S Code 11362.7-11362.85	Medicinal cannabis