

# **File: JLCD - MEDICATION POLICY**

I. The Douglas Public Schools (DPS) follows the regulations under the Massachusetts Department of Public Health 105 CMR 210.000: THE ADMINISTRATION OF PRESCRIPTION MEDICATIONS IN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS and the Massachusetts Department Board of Registration of Nursing regulations. The DPS Physician and the DPS Nurse Leader shall supervise the Medication Administration Program and develop and oversee procedures to administer such a program. Nursing staff shall establish a record-keeping program for each student requiring medication.

II. The School Nurse shall develop in collaboration with Parents/Guardians a Medication Administration Plan (MAP) for each student requiring such medication administration. Provision for medication administration during field trips and other short-term special school events shall be a part of the plan. Nurses will not delegate medication administration for out-of-state field trips. Epinephrine and prescription medication is administered only in accordance with a written medication administration plan (MAP) developed by the school nurse and updated annually. The school district shall, through the district nurse leader, register with the MA Department of Public Health, School Health Unit (MA DPH SHU) and train non-licensed personnel in the use of Epi-pens. The school district shall, also, through the District Nurse Leader, register with the MA DPH SHU MA Controlled Substance Registry (MCSR), select and train specific non licensed personnel to administer routine scheduled medications and prescribed albuterol inhalers on field trips and in case the school nurse is not on the premises at the scheduled administration time.

III. A student may be responsible for self-administration of his or her own medication upon meeting certain requirements established by procedures in (I). Following consultation with the school nurse, students who fall into the following exceptions may self-administer medications:

1. Students with asthma or other respiratory diseases may possess and self administer prescription inhalers provided they later inform the school nurse for safety and record keeping.
2. Students with cystic fibrosis may possess and self administer prescription enzyme supplements provided they later inform the school nurse for safety and record keeping.
3. Students with diabetes may possess and self administer glucose monitoring tests and insulin delivery systems provided they later inform the school nurse for safety and record keeping.
4. Students with Life Threatening Allergies may possess and self administer epinephrine via auto injector provided they immediately inform the nearest adult and the Health Office in order to dial 911.

IV. Alternative therapies such as homeopathic, herbal, and nutritional supplements will only be administered when there is a written order from a Massachusetts licensed prescriber who is caring for the student. The school nurse may not administer any type of regimen if it is not approved by the FDA, in accordance with the Nurse Practice Act and 105 CMR 210.000.

V. Medication errors - Failure to administer medication according to the prescribed order will be reported to the parent and the DPS nurse leader as procedure established in (I).

VI. The DPS district may, in conjunction with the School Physician and the School Nurse Leader, stock nasal naloxone (Narcan). Trained School Nurses, Medical Personnel and First Responders may administer nasal naloxone to individuals experiencing a life threatening opiate overdose in a school setting.

Legal Ref.: M.G.L. 71:54B

Department of Public Health Regulations: 105 CMR 210.000