

File: JLCD-R - ADMINISTRATION OF OVER-THE-COUNTER MEDICATION

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-pruritus [i.e. poison ivy, poison oak, etc.]. 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 Douglas Public School System will adopt an over-the-counter medication policy under orders from our school physician and in accordance with the Board of Registration in Nursing's, policy for the administration of over-the-counter medications. This includes the following: acetaminophen, ibuprofen, diphenhydramine for localized allergic reactions, and antacids.

Only 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. These "Standing Orders" are kept in the Health Office. Written permission for administration of-the-counter medication will be obtained at the beginning of each school year when the Parent/Guardian signs the DPS Health Office Nurse Emergency Form. The school nurse will document the administration as per nursing protocol.