

COPY

**Louisiana State Board of Nursing
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MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 9, 1999
TO: J. C. Matherne, RN
East Baton Rouge Parish Schools
North 43rd Street
Baton Rouge, LA 70808
FROM: Patricia Ladner, MN, RN
Nursing Consultant for Practice
RE: Nursing Practice

Pursuant to your request regarding the self administration of insulin in the school setting, the school's policy "Self-Medication" would apply. In accordance with the Board of Nursing's Guidelines that defines Administration of Medication to include self-administration, the legal prescriber must provide directions for the administration. The school nurse should develop a protocol, based on the school's policy, to determine the parameters for self-administration of insulin, such as:

- ◆ orders from a legal prescriber and permission from a parent authorizing the child to self-administer insulin to scale;
- ◆ insulin to scale orders;
- ◆ documented competency of the student's ability to self-administer insulin by the registered school nurse;
- ◆ established parameters by the child's physician that identifies the maximum insulin dose the child can self-administer and when the child's parent, school nurse, or physician must administer the insulin;
- ◆ unlicensed school employees who are willing to supervise the self-administration, witness and document the dose of insulin administered by the child.

This is not intended to be an all inclusive listing of critical elements to be addressed in the protocol but a sampling of critical items for your consideration.

Please contact me if you have any questions regarding this matter.

cc: file