



NHSNA Position Statement on Delegation of Glucagon as an Emergency Medication

It is the position of the New Hampshire School Nurses Association, in agreement with the NH Department of Education Technical Advisory re: ED 311.02 that a school nurse alone has the authority to delegate glucagon during the school day or for all school activities, and may delegate only if appropriate under the New Hampshire Nurse Practice Act and the Standards of Delegation for School Nurses in New Hampshire. Parents and school administrators may NOT delegate glucagon administration for any school activities*.

Prior to delegation of glucagon by the school nurse (a licensed registered nurse in the state of New Hampshire), a student specific Individualized Health Care Plan and an Emergency Action Plan written by the school nurse must be in place. This must include a complete and thorough review of the student health history, determination of the potential of need for glucagon, and development of a very specific plan for the administration of glucagon if necessary. Consideration must include the student, health care provider, family, school, administration and school staff, as well as the stability of the student health status. Stability is defined in the New Hampshire Nurse Practice Act.

***Nur 101.21** “Stable client” means a client whose overall health status, as assessed by a licensed nurse, is at the expected baseline or with predictable or expected responses that can occur with known chronic or long term medical conditions.*

To determine stability of the client (student), the school nurse considers the number of emergency room visits for dangerously low blood sugars and the number of incidences in which administration of glucagon has been given. The student must also be competent in self-management of his/her diabetes.

If criteria for delegation are met and the school nurse determines an Unlicensed Assistive Person competent to administer glucagon, the school nurse may delegate glucagon to that UAP.

If the school nurse determines that glucagon cannot be delegated because the student is not stable, not competent in self-management of his/her diabetes, or if a competent UAP is not identified, a licensed nurse will need to accompany the student on field trips or to school sponsored activities.*

The following criteria must be met to determine competency of an Unlicensed Assistive Personnel (UAP):

- The individual must hold current CPR and First Aid certification.

- The individual must be willing to learn how to perform the task of administering the emergency medication during an emergent event
- Assessment of the individual's experience in emergency events and ability to remain calm in an emergency situation.
- The individual must sign a designated form stating they are competent and willing (not coerced) to assume responsibility to administer glucagon in an emergency
- The individual must participate in initial training by the school nurse (a licensed registered nurse), demonstrate skill required, followed by review of glucagon administration quarterly at a minimum or more often as determined by the school nurse.
- The individual understands that they cannot delegate this task to another person.
- The individual must be an employee of the school district.

Once competency of a UAP is determined, the following criteria must be in place before delegation of glucagon occurs:

- The student's diabetes health status must be stable and he/she must be competent in self-management of his/her diabetes care.
- The student must have a current Individualized Health Care Plan and Emergency Action Plan that indicates the student self-manages his/her diabetes, signed by parent, student, and health care provider.
- The Delegatee is identified in the Individual Health Plan
- The Delegatee is known to the student.

Glucagon administration training must include as a minimum:

- The basics of diabetes: the disease process, management of symptoms, the effect of exercise and illness on blood sugars, why care is required at school, the basics of diabetes care at school, short and long term consequences of diabetes.
- How to manage mild to moderate hypoglycemia, as well as severe hypoglycemia Glucagon- what is glucagon? When would it be used? side effects, administration technique. Review and successfully demonstrate proper administration using checklist provided with this document
- Legal considerations
- Review and document an understanding of the implementation of the student's Emergency Action Plan.

See attached Glucagon Administration Checklist

*School Day and all school activities means any time during the school day, afternoon or evening when a child is attending school or other school related activities. RSA 311.02.

*Federal Laws provides important protection to students with disabilities. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and Title II of the American Disabilities Act prohibits discrimination against individuals with disabilities. All schools who receive federal monies are subject to follow section 504, and the ADA (NASN2013).

See Standards of Delegation for School Nurses in New Hampshire

Resources

http://www.education.nh.gov/instruction/school_health/health_laws.htm

<http://www.education.nh.gov/standards/documents/medication.pdf>

<http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/rsa/html/XXX/326-B/326-B-28.htm>

<http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/rsa/html/XXX/326-B/326-B-29.htm>

https://www.ncsbn.org/Delegation_joint_statement_NCSBN-ANA.pdf

<http://www.nasn.org/PolicyAdvocacy/PositionPapersandReports/NASNPositionStatementsFullView/tabid/462/ArticleId/21/Delegation-Revised-2010->

<http://www.nasn.org/PolicyAdvocacy/PositionPapersandReports/NASNPositionStatementsFullView/tabid/462/ArticleId/86/Medication-Administration-in-the-School-Setting-Amended-January-2012>

<http://www.nasn.org/PolicyAdvocacy/PositionPapersandReports/NASNPositionStatementsFullView/tabid/462/ArticleId/643/School-Sponsored-Before-After-and-Extended-School-Year-Programs-The-Role-of-the-School-Nurse-Adopted>

Approved by NHSNA Executive Board 2/27/2015