



Section Four: Students

“Together We Learn”

437 – MANAGING STUDENTS WITH DIABETES

Introduction

The Board of Education is committed to the well being of students who may require emergency medical care while at school or during school-sanctioned events. Students who have been physician-diagnosed with diabetes require planned care and support as outlined in the BC Ministry of Education Provincial Standards: Supporting Students with Type I Diabetes in the school setting.

Policy

To support the safety, health and well being of students diagnosed with diabetes, the Board believes that the care of students is a joint responsibility of parents/guardians, school personnel, students, Nursing Support Services and Public Health Nurses.

The following are mandatory to ensure that the care of students diagnosed with diabetes is managed in a safe manner:

1. All students diagnosed with diabetes must have a Diabetes Support Plan and Medical Alert Information Form (refer to Form F436.4) filed at the school office;
2. Students that require delegated nursing tasks related to their diabetes must also have a Nursing Support Services Delegated Care Plan;
3. School personnel who are supervising a student diagnosed with diabetes must be aware of the Diabetes Support Plan and Medical Alert Information Form (refer to Form F436.4), the Nursing Support Services Delegated Care Plan (if applicable) as well as participate in annual mandatory training.

The following outlines the specific responsibilities of parents/guardians, Principals/Vice-Principals, school personnel, students, Nursing Support Services, and Public Health:

1. The parents/guardians have primary responsibility for:
 - communicating information about their child’s diabetic needs to school personnel, Nursing Support Services, and Public Health (if applicable);
 - completing the mandatory Diabetes Support Plan & Medical Alert Information Form (refer to Form F436.4);
 - completing the Diabetes Medication Administration Form (if applicable) (refer to Form F436.4) and assure the prescribed diabetes medication and diabetes supplies are available to school personnel and the student; and



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- informing the designated school personnel immediately of any changes taking place in the health of their child.
2. The Principal/Vice-Principal and/or the designated/supervising school personnel are responsible for:
 - ensuring the safety and well-being of students during school hours and during after hours school-related activities
 - collecting information from parents/guardians related to students diagnosed with diabetes; and,
 - providing a supportive environment for students diagnosed with diabetes
 - collaborating with Nursing Support Services and/or the Public Health Nurse in their role of supporting the health of students diagnosed with diabetes (as needed).
 3. Students have responsibility for:
 - following all health and school guidelines for their diabetes management;
 - keeping their parents/guardians and personal health professionals informed of any concerns related to their diabetes; and,
 - informing school personnel immediately in the event of any medical concerns.
 4. Nursing Support Services are community-based Registered Nurses who assist students and school personnel with diabetes management in the school setting. This includes; creating a Nursing Support Services Delegated Care Plan, and providing training, support and on-going supervision to assigned school personnel.
 5. The Public Health Nurse has responsibility for supporting the health of those students who may be medically at risk so they can participate in school activities successfully. This responsibility includes reviewing the *mandatory* Diabetes Support Plan & Medical Alert Information Form (refer to Form F436.4) provided by parents/guardians, clarifying the needs of these students through communication with parents/guardians, preparing information required by the School Administrator and school personnel to support these students, and co-ordinating training to school personnel involved with these students.

The specific guidelines for the management and overseeing of this process are detailed in Regulations 437R – Managing Students with Diabetes. Students diagnosed with diabetes will be accommodated in accordance with this Policy and Policy and Regulations 436 – Managing Students with Medical Alert/Anaphylaxis Conditions, and with Policy and Regulations 435 - Medical Treatment of Students.