

From the American Diabetes Association

Subject: Safety for Students with Diabetes in North Dakota Schools!

Students able to are allowed to self manage at school – YES!

Trained non-medical school personnel are allowed to administer insulin – YES! Non-medical school personnel are allowed to be trained (including follow up) by school nurses to administer insulin.

- Can a school nurse provide training on medication administration? YES
If a school nurse is not in the building full time and did the training, is this considered delegation/supervision and would the school nurse be held liable if an error occurs?

If medication administration has not been assigned to the nurse, the nurse may provide the training to an individual who will provide medications. The registered nurse, who verifies a competency, is accountable for verifying and documenting that individual's competency on that given date, but not for the quality of the service provided by that individual over a specified period of time. This is not considered delegation.

- What liability exists for the school nurse if a health problem with a student arises and the nurse has not been involved in the plan of care?

None – The school nurse is required to follow standard emergency procedures.

- What kind of training is required for non-nursing staff to do injections and other invasive procedures in the school setting?

A registered nurse may delegate nursing interventions in accordance with the Nurse Practices Act (NDCC Chapter 43-12.1). Sections 43-12.1-16 and 43-12.1-16.1 allow nurses to delegate and supervise nursing interventions to a person exempt under the Nurse Practices Act. Licensed nurses are accountable to identify acceptable nursing interventions on a specific client by an unlicensed assistive person on an individual basis. The individual to whom the nurse delegates must be registered on the Unlicensed Assistive Person registry or another registry recognized by the board.

- **Can school staff administer an insulin injection?**

If a diabetic student is stable and has specific parameters, an insulin injection may be delegated by the licensed nurse using the rules for specific delegation. NDAC 54-07-08, Specific Delegation of Medication Administration, outlines the process for the nurse to follow.

Trained non-medical school personnel are allowed to administer glucagon – YES! Non-medical school personnel are now allowed to be trained to administer glucagon.

- Can the school medication provider administer the following Emergency Medications?
Glucagon® for Hypoglycemia, Epinephrine for Anaphylaxis, Diastat® Rectal Gel for Seizures
Yes, unless provided for specifically in federal or state law, these medications are not used in a stable, predictable situation. Emergency care procedures must be in place and implemented by the school to allow for Glucagon to be administered in an emergency.
- Many students who use insulin may have a Glucagon Emergency Kit for Low Blood Sugar on hand at all times to counteract severe hypoglycemia that causes loss of consciousness or if sugar cannot be given. Storage temperatures should be less than 90 degrees F (28 degrees C). In the United States, the glucagon kit is dispensed by prescription only. If glucagon is available and you have trained personnel, administer it per the instructions. Glucagon can cause vomiting, so be sure to place the person on his or her side prior to injecting so they do not choke. After injecting glucagon, call 911 or your emergency response number. Follow with food once the person regains consciousness and is able to swallow. Never give food to a person with diabetes who is unconscious from hypoglycemia. (From ND Department of Education School Health Guide page 103.)