

160-4-8-.18 DIABETES MEDICAL MANAGEMENT PLANS.

(1) DEFINITIONS.

(a) **Diabetes medical management plan** - a document developed by the student's physician or other health care professional that sets out the health services, including the student's target range for blood glucose levels, needed by the student at school and is signed by the student's parent or guardian.

(b) **Health care professional** - a doctor of medicine or osteopathy licensed by the Georgia Composite Medical Board pursuant to Article 2, Chapter 34, Title 43 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated or a legally authorized designee acting pursuant to job description or nurse protocol agreement approved by the Georgia Composite Medical Board.

(c) **Trained diabetes personnel** - a school employee who volunteers to be trained in accordance with this rule. Such employee shall not be required to be a health care professional.

(2) REQUIREMENTS.

(a) Each local board of education and state-chartered special school shall ensure that there are at least two school employees trained in accordance with the Georgia Department of Education's, *Guidelines for the Care Needed for Students with Diabetes* in each school that has a student with diabetes. This training shall be conducted by a school nurse or other health care professional with expertise in diabetes and shall take place prior to the commencement of each school year, or as needed when a student with diabetes enrolls at a school, or when a student is newly diagnosed with diabetes. Local boards of education shall ensure that the school nurse or other health care professional provides follow-up training and supervision as necessary for compliance with this rule.

(b) Each local school system and state chartered special school shall provide information in the recognition of diabetes related emergency situations to all employed or contracted bus drivers responsible for the transportation of a student with diabetes.

(c) Each school shall review and implement the diabetes medical management plan provided by the parent or guardian of a student with diabetes who seeks diabetes care while at school.

(d) In accordance with the request of a parent or guardian of a student with diabetes and the student's diabetes medical management plan, the school nurse or, in the absence of the school nurse, trained diabetes personnel shall perform functions including, but not limited to, responding to blood glucose levels that are outside of the student's target range; administering glucagon; administering insulin, or assisting a student in administering insulin through the insulin delivery system the student uses; providing oral diabetes medications; checking and recording blood glucose levels and ketone levels, or

assisting a student with such checking and recording; and following instructions regarding meals, snacks, and physical activity. These activities shall not constitute the practice of nursing and shall be exempted from all applicable statutory and regulatory provisions that restrict what activities can be delegated to or performed by a person who is not a licensed health care professional.

(e) The school nurse or at least one trained diabetes personnel shall be on site at each school and available during regular school hours to provide care to each student with a diabetes medical management plan being implemented by the school. For purposes of field trips, the parent or guardian, or designee of such parent or guardian, of a student with diabetes may, at the discretion of the school, accompany such student on a field trip.

(f) A student's school choice under O.C.G.A. § 20-2-2130 or other applicable law shall in no way be restricted because the student has diabetes.

(g) Upon written request of a student's parent or guardian and if authorized by the student's diabetes medical management plan, a student with diabetes shall be permitted to perform blood glucose checks, administer insulin through the insulin delivery system the student uses, treat hypoglycemia and hyperglycemia, and otherwise attend to the monitoring and treatment of his or her diabetes in the classroom, in any area of the school or school grounds, and at any school related activity, and he or she shall be permitted to possess on his or her person at all times all necessary supplies and equipment to perform such monitoring and treatment functions.

(h) No physician, nurse, school employee, local school system, or state chartered special school shall be liable for civil damages or subject to disciplinary action under professional licensing regulations or school disciplinary policies as a result of the activities authorized or required by O.C.G.A. § 20-2-779 when such acts are committed as an ordinarily reasonably prudent physician, nurse, school employee, local school system, or state chartered special school would have acted under the same or similar circumstances.

Authority: O.C.G.A. § 20-2-240; 20-2-779.

Adopted: August 22, 2012

Effective: September 12, 2012