

Medications

The **administration** of medications to students in CREC Magnet Schools and Student Service Programs follows the policies established by the Connecticut State Department of Health. Any medication to be administered to a student must be delivered directly to the school nurse by a parent, guardian, or responsible adult and must be ***in the original labeled container***.

The school nurse can accept no more than a **90 day** school day supply of a student's medication. No medication, either prescription or over the counter, can be stored at school or administered to any student unless permission from a parent/guardian (signature) and orders from a licensed provider or dentist have been received in writing on the **Medication Authorization** form. ***This authorization must be renewed each school year.***

Inhalers

Students at CREC Middle/High Schools will be allowed to carry and self-administer their metered dose inhaler (MDI) medication in school as needed for asthma and other respiratory conditions. To ensure a safe environment for your child, you and your child's physician will need to complete an authorization form and return it to the school nurse. The nurse will review proper MDI administration technique with your child and evaluate that self-administration is safe and appropriate. You and your child must then sign the self-administration assessment and contract form. The students will be allowed to carry their prescribed inhaler at all times. You may choose to keep an additional MDI in the health office should your child forget his/her inhaler. **Prescribed Meter Dose Inhalers (MDI) are considered an emergency rescue medication used as needed when a student has symptoms associated with difficulty breathing.** Students must follow up with the school nurse for an assessment of symptoms once the MDI is used to determine if further care is needed.

Epinephrine

Students in CREC Middle/High Schools are allowed to carry and self-administer their prescribed Epinephrine auto injector medication in school as needed for severe allergic reactions. To ensure a safe environment for your child, you and your child's physician will need to complete an authorization form and return it to the school nurse. The nurse will review proper Epinephrine administration technique with your child and evaluate that self-administration is safe and appropriate. The student will be allowed to carry the Epinephrine at all times. We encourage you to keep an additional Epinephrine auto injector in the Health Office should your child forget to bring their Epinephrine to school.

Students Carrying Medications

With the exception of prescribed diabetic monitoring supplies, asthma inhalers and epinephrine for anaphylactic reactions, **under no circumstances** should a student be carrying medication on their person during school hours on school grounds. If there is a medication that is needed to be taken by a student during the school day, it needs to be kept in the school nursing office. There needs to be a Medication Authorization form signed by both the medical provider and the parent/guardian. **This applies to every medication from prescription to over the counter, such as any type of antibiotics, Motrin, Tylenol, Midol, TUMS or Lactaid etc. This also includes cough drops.**

If a student is found to have medication on them during school hours, it will be held in the nursing office for a parent to pick up, and the student's grade level administrator will be notified.

Medication Administration in CREC Magnet Schools and Student Service Programs

The term "medication" refers to any category of prescription and nonprescription preparations.

The following information regarding medication administration in school will be strictly enforced:

1. The CREC Magnet Schools and Student Service Programs maintain a policy as mandated by the Connecticut Department of Health for the administration of authorized medications by school personnel.
2. The term medication includes both prescription and nonprescription preparations and refers to any type of pills, drops, lotions, ointments, creams, liquids, and injectable substances.
3. A school nurse, registered nurse, or a licensed practical nurse under the supervision of a qualified school nurse may administer authorized medications. In the absence of licensed nursing personnel, qualified personnel who have been educated to do so, may administer authorized medications.
4. ***No medication shall be stored at school or administered to any student unless there is authorization from a parent/legal guardian and order from a MD/DDS/OD/PA/APRN have been received in writing on the designated form. This form must specify the following in writing:***
 - Student name and Date of Birth
 - Medication trade name and generic name
 - Condition which necessitates the medication
 - Duration of order
 - Dosage of order
 - Time/frequency of administration

- Method of administration
- Possible side effects and management of named side effects
- Any history of known allergic reactions

Orders must be renewed each school year or at any time the medication is changed.

No medication may be administered without:

- a. the written order of an authorized prescriber;
- b. the written authorization (**signature**) of the student's parent or guardian or eligible student; and
- c. the written permission of the parent for the exchange of information between the prescriber and the school nurse necessary to ensure the safe administration of such medication.

5. Ibuprofen or an aspirin substitute containing acetaminophen may be administered to a student with the written authorization of a parent or legal guardian on the Standing Order permission form designated for this purpose or within the online registration. The permission form and online registration will specify the following for administration:

- Ibuprofen (Motrin) and/or Acetaminophen (Tylenol) to be chosen
- Condition which necessitates the medication
- Duration of medication
- Dosage of order – Ibuprofen/Motrin 400mg max dose, Acetaminophen/Tylenol 650mg max dose, students 12 years old and younger will be dosed by weight each visit. The school nurse will call the parent of elementary school students prior to administering.
- Time/frequency of administration – Ibuprofen/Motrin and Acetaminophen/Tylenol can be given every 6 hours as needed
- Any history of known allergic reactions

At no time will both Ibuprofen (Motrin) and Acetaminophen (Tylenol) be administered together at the same time or on an alternated schedule through the standing order provided by the CREC Medical Advisor. If the medication administered does not provide the relief necessary to continue the student's stay in school, the parent/guardian will be called.

A student requiring daily administration of either Ibuprofen (Motrin) or Acetaminophen (Tylenol), or has had either medication administered more than 6 times during a school month, will be required to obtain a written order from their provider.

The CREC Standing Order for Ibuprofen (Motrin) and Acetaminophen (Tylenol) must be renewed each school year.

6. Parents or legal guardians are responsible for supplying the nurse with all medications ordered. All medications must be delivered ***in the original labeled containers*** to the licensed nursing personnel by a **parent, legal guardian, or other responsible adult**. You may request that the pharmacist prepare two separate bottles if the medication is to be given at home and at school. No medication will be accepted in envelopes or baggies. **Do not send any type of pills, drops, lotions, ointments, creams, liquids, or injected substances to school with your child.**

7. Students may carry and self-administer their prescribed Metered Dose Inhaler and EpiPen or other epinephrine auto-injector medication, following procedural guidelines with MD/parent/legal guardian authorization forms completed. Students who have diabetes, may carry and self-administer their prescribed blood glucose testing and diabetes care supplies following procedural guidelines with MD/parent/legal guardian authorization forms completed, The School Nurse will review the Student Medication Self Administration Assessment and Contract with the student.

8. If a student-athlete participating in intramural or interscholastic events will be carrying their (a) inhalant medications prescribed to treat respiratory conditions or (2) medication administered with a cartridge injector for students with a medically diagnosed allergic condition which may require prompt treatment to protect the student against serious harm or death, or (3) diabetes management medications be sure to have the prescriber's **self-administration authorization box checked** on the student's Medication Administration Authorization Form.

9. If a student refuses to take a prescribed medication, the parent/guardian will be notified. Parents/guardians will be notified to pick up medications that their child refuses to take for 10 school days.

10. All liquid medication must be received in the original bottles. No more than a 90 day supply of a student's medication will be accepted by the nurse. All medications will be stored in a designated area. No medication will be stored without the appropriate documentation.

11. Any medication purchased over-the-counter must be brought to school in the original unopened container.

12. Benadryl will not be used as substitute for an EpiPen (epinephrine) in the event of a suspected anaphylactic reaction. Epinephrine will be used as the primary medication.

13. All medications will be properly destroyed if not picked up within one week following termination of the order or **during school hours on the last day of school.**

14. Licensed nursing personnel will record the original medication order or the parent/legal guardian authorization form and subsequent changes in the student's cumulative health record. The nurse will also maintain a medication administration record for each student who receives medication during school hours.

15. Parents and legal guardians may be invited to accompany their child on a field trip and administer the necessary medication. Medications may be administered on field trips by qualified personnel trained in medication administration. A parent or legal guardian may be asked to provide a single dose of prescription medication dispensed from the pharmacy for field trip use. The parent or legal guardian of a student requiring multiple doses of a prescription medication must obtain a pharmacy dispensed travel pack, which is a limited quantity prescription from the pharmacist. A travel pack must have its own proof of use record for controlled substances.

16. Prescribed medication should not be administered during school hours if it is possible to achieve the desired effects by home administration outside school hours.

17. An epinephrine auto-injector can **only** be discontinued with written notification from an authorized prescriber.

18. A parent/guardian may come to school and administer medication to their child during the school day. The parent/guardian will accept responsibility for the administration and effects of any medication given under their direction.