

Teamwork

In closing, we are here to support you and your child. If there is anything we can do as a part of your child's team in this educational journey, please feel free to reach out to your school RN.

Resources:

http://www.bon.state.tx.us/pdfs/law_rules_pdfs/nursing_practice_act_pdfs/npa2013.pdf

<http://www.bon.texas.gov/>

https://www.diabeteseducator.org/docs/default-source/practice/practice-resources/position-statements/diabetes-in-the-school-setting-position-statement_final.pdf

<http://www.diabetes.org/living-with-diabetes/parents-and-kids/diabetes-care-at-school/?referrer=http://www.diabetes.org/living-with-diabetes/parents-and-kids/?referrer=https://www.google.com/>

<https://www.niddk.nih.gov/health-information/communication-programs/ndep/health-professionals/helping-student-diabetes-succeed-guide-school-personnel/actions-for-school-personnel-parents-students/school-nurse>

Denton ISD

Health Services: Diabetes and the School RN





At Denton ISD, school nurses want your child to be safe and healthy at school. Denton ISD has a Registered Nurse (RN) on each campus and RN to student ratios range from 1:500 students up to 1:2500 depending on the school. School RNs take care of many acute and chronic illnesses and conditions such as seizure disorders, asthma, cardiac problems, brain injury, and diabetes as well as many others. School RNs are administering medications, performing procedures and monitoring student conditions throughout the day. We also see many children throughout the day for acute illness and injuries.

Diabetes currently affects more than 190,000 children under the age of twenty (AADE, 2016). The incidence is 1.93/1000 for Type 1, and 0.24/1000 for Type 2; and 0.05/1000 for other forms of diabetes (AADE, 2016). Students are at school for a majority of the typical weekday, which requires RNs to keep current with diabetic education and to exercise an astute level of communication with student(s) and parent(s).

Caring for the diabetic student in the school setting requires trust and accountability between the student, parent, school RN and other school personnel. The school RN is responsible for several actions and interventions in the care of the diabetic student, both legally and ethically (e.g. Texas Nurse Practice Act and Texas Board of Nursing). Therefore, the purpose of this educational pamphlet is:

- To outline the role of a Denton ISD school RN in the management of your child's diabetes
- To provide a clear picture of the rights and responsibilities of everyone (parents and staff) involved with your child in diabetes management

- To minimize the impact of the disease on your child's learning potential in the classroom
- To maximize your child's wellness at school

Diabetes Medical Management Plan

- A new plan is required every year from your child's doctor, diabetes educator, case manager, etc.
- The doctor implementing the plan designates nurses to perform specific medical actions within the nurse's scope of practice in the school setting
- The school RN is not allowed to deviate from this medical plan by law
- School RNs must abide by the time frame between insulin doses and boluses
- Although parents may make adjustments that deviate from the plan at home, school RNs are not allowed to make such adjustments at school
- The school RN will communicate with student's diabetic MD/team for any instance in which the parent and school RN disagree on diabetic management during the school day
- Any change in a plan requires a new updated plan from the doctor
- Please be timely in providing all current information from any ongoing clinic visits or changes based on trending data from MD necessary for school RNs to provide the best care for your child

Supplies

- It is the parent's responsibility to provide all supplies for the student to properly manage diabetes while at school; including a glucose testing device, lancet device, strips, glucagon, snacks, sugar tabs/frosting, juice, syringes if

applicable, BD caps, extra insulin, alcohol wipes

- Please make sure your child has a diabetes supply kit to keep supplies with them at all times and extra supplies in the health room

Technology

- School RNs openly embrace technology use in the management of diabetic students while at school as we understand the value of technology contributions in the medical world
- Technology is viewed as a tool to enhance the care of the diabetic student, but does not replace the meaningful 1:1 assessment by the nurse with the student
- School RNs understand the FDA allows for diabetic management to be guided by the Dexcom and other Continuous Glucose Meters (CGMs); However, the gold standard for diabetic management is the diabetic finger stick/glucose meter data
- School RNs must abide by FERPA and HIPPA laws
- Currently, DISD policy does not require school RNs to use Blue Loop or Computer Applications (Dexcom) to monitor glucose data during the school day

Student Self-Management

DISD RNs desire to see your child succeed while at school as they learn to manage their condition. Every year there should be observed self-care mastery of diabetes management skills. While some students learn faster than others, independence and critical thinking are lifelong goals that should be encouraged as long as competence/demonstration of skills supports student choices. By the time your child enters high school, they should be entirely self-sufficient in their management of diabetes (with rare exception).