


Medication Administration in
Early Education and Child Care Settings

HEALTHY FUTURE

Introduction to Medication
Administration in Early Education
and Child Care Settings

Add your name
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Curriculum Objectives

1. Identify different types of medication, why medication is given, and how it is given
2. Improve medication storage, preparation, and administration techniques
3. Support good documentation
4. Recognize and respond to adverse reactions
5. Develop and implement appropriate policies

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Disclaimer

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- Curriculum is not a substitute for written policy and professional medical guidance and not a certification of competency
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What is Covered

- Typical and routine medications for short-term use
- Medications taken on a regular basis for chronic health conditions
- Emergency medications (in general)



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What is Not Covered

- Special medications
- Clinical explanation of the conditions being treated
- Principles of caring for children with special needs
- Dietary issues such as restrictions



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Module 1 Objectives

- Introduction and reasons to give medication
- ADA, IDEA, state regulations
- Responsibility Triangle
- Types of medication



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Why Give Medication in Child Care?




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In general, why are medications given?

- Relieve symptoms
- Prevent illness
- Control or cure health programs

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3 Main Reasons to Give Medication in Child Care



- Maintain health
- Allow a child who is not acutely ill to attend the program
- Comply with laws, regulations, and best practice

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When Should Medication Be Given?

- At home by parents/guardians, if possible
- Minimize the number of doses given at a child care facility



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Standards and Regulations

State licensure regulations

- Seek to ensure basic health and safety parameters
- Are minimal standards for a licensed program to operate legally in specific state

Head Start Standards & Requirements

- Standard and requirements for Early Head Start and Head Start programs

Best Practice Standards

- Are optimal standards to strive towards
- Publications, such as *Caring for Our Children*, attempt to set best practice standards

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What does the ADA Law Say?

Centers have to make reasonable modifications to their policies and practices to integrate children, parents, and guardians with disabilities into their programs

See: <https://www.ada.gov/childqanda.htm>
Department of Justice: 800.514.0301

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How About Liability?

- Liability:
 - something for which one is liable
 - an obligation, responsibility, or debt
- Review liability insurance



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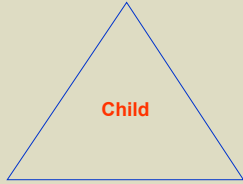
Responsibility Triangle

Parent/Guardian/Caregiver

Child

Child Care Provider

Health Care Professional



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Parent or Guardian Responsibilities

- Regular checkups
- Up-to-date immunizations
- Communication:
 - Child's symptoms & health status
 - Child care
 - Diagnosis & care
- Compliance with medication policies




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Parent/Guardian Responsibilities, continued

- Seeing if medication can be given at home
- Providing:
 - properly labeled medication
 - appropriate measuring devices
- Promptly picking up their child
- Arranging for back-up care
- Working with child care providers
- Up-to-date emergency contact information



I Agree


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Child Care Provider Responsibilities

- Periodic monitoring of health records
- Daily health checks
- Clear policies
- Good hygiene practices
- Promptly communicating
- Using available resources
- Obtaining training




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Health Care Professional Responsibilities

- Complete child care health forms
- Discuss medication needs
- Adapt medication schedules
- Provide guidance and education
- Promote disease prevention
- Promote good health practices
- Be accessible to child care staff



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Child Care Health Consultants



- Provides consultation
- Technical assistance on health issues in child care
- Child Care Resource & Referral Agency www.naccrra.org

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Types of Medication

- Prescription (Rx), over-the-counter (OTC), and non-traditional
- Brand name and generic
- Oral, topical, and inhaled, etc.



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Prescription Medication

- Can only be prescribed by an authorized health care professional
- Are dispensed by a pharmacist
- Are considered "controlled substances" if they can be dangerous or addictive



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Promoting the health of all children

OTC Medication

Can be purchased without a prescription

- Vitamins
- Sun screen
- Insect repellent
- Non-medicated diaper cream
- Homeopathic medication
- Herbal medication



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Promoting the health of all children

Common OTC Medication

- Fever reducer or pain reliever
- Antihistamines
- Mild cortisone cream
- Cough syrups and cold remedies
- Nose drops
- Medications used for common gastrointestinal problems
- *Many OTC medications do not have dosing information for children under the age of 24 months*



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Brand Name and Generic Medications

- Both prescription and OTC medications come as
 - Brand name
 - Generic
- Mistakes and confusion
 - Names that are difficult to remember and to say
 - Available under several names
 - Sound alike names


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Forms of Medication: Oral



Tablets

- Coated and uncoated
- Chewable
- Scored

Capsules

- Swallow
- Sprinkle

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Promoting Health, Learning, and Well-Being

Forms of Medication: Oral continued

Liquids

- Suspension
- Syrups
- Elixirs




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Promoting Health, Learning, and Well-Being

Forms of Medication: Oral continued



- Sublingual
 - Placed under the tongue
 - Melting strips and tablets
 - Absorbed directly in the mouth
- Gums and gels

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Forms of Medication: Topical

- Drips: Eyes, ears, or nose
- Sprays: Nose or Throat
- Patches



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Forms of Medication: Topical, continued

- Creams, Ointments, and Sprays for external application of medication for rash or skin problems
 - Prescription versus OTC
 - Preventive versus treatment




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Forms of Medication: Inhalation



- *Inhalation*: Breathing or inhaling a drug into the respiratory tract
- Methods include:
 - *Inhaler*
 - *Nebulizer*
 - *Powders*
 - *Spray*

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Forms of Medication: Injection

- Epinephrine Injection
- Glucagon
- Insulin

These medications need special training and will not be covered in this program

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Forms of Medication: Suppository

- Suppositories are inserted into the rectum
- Need special training
- States vary, so check your local laws and regulations

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PediaLink: Medication Administration in Early Care and Education Settings

ONLINE COURSE

Medication Administration in Early Care and Education Settings

PediaLink
The AAP Online Learning Center

For more information, an online course is available through PediaLink.

To sign up please visit:
<https://shop.aap.org/medication-administration-in-early-care-and-education-settings/>

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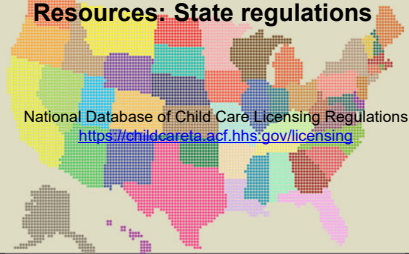
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Resources: State regulations

National Database of Child Care Licensing Regulations
<https://childcareta.acf.hhs.gov/licensing>



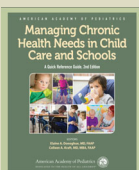
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More Resources



Caring for Our Children (CFOC) National Health and Safety Performance Standards: Guidelines for Out-of-Home Child Care Programs, 3rd edition.

It is available online at: <http://nrckids.org/>

This book is available from the American Academy of Pediatrics

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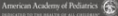
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Acknowledgements

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- The recommendations in this curriculum do not indicate an exclusive course of treatment or serve as a standard of medical care. Variations, taking into account individual circumstances, may be appropriate.
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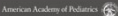
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Acknowledgements

- **Colorado:** Guidelines for Medication Administration: An Instructional Program for Training Unlicensed Personnel to Give Medication in Out-of-Home Child Care, Schools, and Camp Settings, Fifth Edition, 2008, developed by Healthy Child Care Colorado
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- **West Virginia:** Medication Administration: An Instructional Program for Teaching Non-Medical Personnel to Give Medication in Child Care Centers in West Virginia developed by Healthy Child Care West Virginia and the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Services



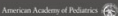
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