



### **Rationale**

To promote the health of students, the CISVA works with the Ministry of Health, the medical health professionals of Vancouver Coastal Health and Fraser Health Authorities.

### **Policy**

In accordance with the BC Health Act (Schools) CISVA schools are to have procedures in place that cover communicable disease control (immunization), prevention of infection from blood-borne viruses, school management of students infected with blood borne pathogens, and prevention and management of anaphylaxis in a school setting.

### **Procedure**

1. Communicable Disease Control
  - The immunization program provided by Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH) and Fraser Health Authorities is aimed at maintaining adequate levels of protection in school populations against major vaccine-preventable diseases.
  - The school administrator will:
    - a) Distribute immunization information and consent forms (VCH, FHA, school and/or CISVA information are distributed as necessary);
    - b) Collect completed forms for the community health nurse (to be handed over to the community nurse once collected);
    - c) Provide a safe environment in the school for delivery of the immunization program.
  - The Parent/Guardian will:
    - a) Provide immunization records when a student registers in the school for the first time.
    - b) Provide a completed consent form for the student for all immunizations (consent form will indicate yes or no).
  - The Student will:
    - a) Return signed parental consent forms to the school (no student can give personal consent for an immunization).
    - b) Attend designated immunization areas in an orderly manner.



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2. Prevention of Infection from Blood-Borne Viruses (HIV, HEP B, HEP C) ➤ Use gloves at all times to avoid contact with blood or body fluids.
  - Dispose of dressings and materials used to cleanse wounds in a plastic baglined covered receptacle.
  - Use approved disinfectant for blood spills.
  - Provide a puncture-proof sharps container to discard contaminated objects.
  
3. Students Infected with Blood Borne Pathogens
  - Mandatory disclosure of infection is not required; assume that anyone could be infected with blood borne pathogen.
  - Follow all Ministry of Health Guidelines in prevention of infection.
  - Follow local health authorities' (VCH & Fraser Health) guidelines on flu infection in the school (i.e. 10% of school population absent due to illness reporting procedure).
  
4. Prevention and Management of Anaphylaxis in the School Setting
  - Although most anaphylactic children learn to administer their own medication by about age 8, individuals of any age may require help during a reaction due to rapid progression of the symptoms. Therefore, adult supervision is required.
    - a) Provide training for all staff members in the use of the epinephrine injector.
    - b) Telephone 911 and inform that a child is having an anaphylactic reaction.
    - c) Telephone parents/guardians.
    - d) Have a staff member accompany the child to the hospital if parent not available or not immediately present to receive the child at the hospital.
    - e) Location of Epinephrine :
      - Epinephrine injectors provided by the parent/guardian should be kept in a covered and secure area (unlocked) known to all staff.
      - As soon as students are old enough they should carry their own injectors.



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- f) Review school emergency procedures for each anaphylactic student with staff and parents/guardians annually and as directed by a physician.

#### 5. Children with Medical Conditions

Children with medical conditions such as seizures, asthma or diabetes are to have a care plan in place. The Community Health nurse can be a source of information and assistance in effecting a plan. For additional diabetes resources for schools refer to the BC Children's Hospital Endocrinology website.

##### Parents' Role

- a) Make the school aware of their child's medical condition and provide updates if this condition changes.
- b) Assist the school in completing a care plan for their child.
- c) Provide appropriate medications both for management and emergency and determine a plan with the school about where and how these should be kept and administered.

##### School's Role

- a) Keep a record of students who have identified medical conditions.
- b) Ensure that care plans for students with medical conditions are updated regularly.
- c) Consult with the Community Health nurse if you have questions about a care plan for a student. (see VCH website – plan forms available for download.)

##### Administration of Medication

In the case of ongoing administration or self administration of medication or provision of a health care procedure a plan with parental consent is to be in place with accompanying medical documents and/or support.

In the case of the administration or self administration of medication (Tylenol, Advil etc) that is occasional parental permission is to be provided.



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If medication is required while a student is attending school, an administrator or any person designated by him/her shall administer or supervise the self administration of medication. If required the community health nurse will train a person/persons in the administration of medication or health care procedure.

No person shall perform any medical or health care procedure or administration of a medication that endangers the well being of a student or subjects that person to risk of injury or liability of negligence. (The exception is in the case of a life threatening emergency).

#### Head Injuries

All head injuries are to be reported and filed.

Parent/guardian is to be informed and made aware of the injury.

A student with a head injury is to be monitored for symptoms of possible concussion.

Reference: BC Health Act Vancouver Coastal Health website (student health –Your Health link) Fraser Health Regional Health Protection Guideline (VCH) Mayo Clinic website (head injuries) 'thinkfirst' Football BC – <a href="http://www.playfootball.bc.ca">www.playfootball.bc.ca</a> (concussions) Cross-reference:	Approved: Board of Directors
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