



Department of
Health Services

North East Independent School District

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AUTHORIZATION TO CARRY AND SELF-ADMINISTER A PRESCRIPTION ASTHMA INHALER

The 77th Texas Legislature enacted House Bill 1688 which amended the Texas Education Code to entitle a student with asthma to possess and self-administer a prescription asthma inhaler while on school property or at a school related event. Each request for a student to carry and self-administer a prescription asthma inhaler will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis and must be in full compliance with House Bill 1688 and North East Independent School District Policy.

The following protocols have been established in compliance with House Bill 1688 to allow students to self-manage their asthma and provide for the safety of all students:

- The student's parents/guardian will provide a written physician's order to include the student's name; diagnosis of asthma; the name and dose of the prescription asthma inhaler; the frequency of use; and special precautions. The order must also state it is medically necessary for the student to carry and self-administer the prescription asthma inhaler and that the student is capable of doing so.
- The prescription asthma inhaler has been prescribed for the student in possession of the inhaler as indicated by the prescription label.
- The parent/guardian must provide written consent for their child to possess and self-administer a prescription asthma inhaler while on school property or at a school-related event.
- The RN will meet with the parent and student to review this procedure and sign the form agreeing to comply with NEISD protocols. The RN will forward the names of students with asthma who are authorized to carry and self-administer their prescription asthma inhaler to the principal and designated assistant principal.
- The RN will serve as the liaison for the parent/guardian, student, faculty, campus administrators, and physician regarding the student's care.
- The RN will inform the student's teachers, coaches, extracurricular activity sponsors, and other district employees that the student may possess and self-administer their prescription asthma inhaler. This will be done confidentially and only on a need-to-know basis.
- The student will demonstrate the ability to properly use the prescription inhaler; identify signs and symptoms requiring self-medication; agree to self-chart the times the inhaler is used; agree to meet with the nurse to review self-charting; agree to report to the RN if desired effects are not obtained within the expected time frame; express understanding the inhaler is only for their personal use and is not to be in the possession of another student for any reason; and express understanding of the responsibilities and safety factors related to carrying and self-administering a prescription asthma inhaler.

- If prescribed, the student will use a spacer when self-administering the prescription asthma inhaler.
- If it is learned that the student demonstrated a lack of ability to properly use the prescription inhaler or is not complying with physician's orders or district policies, the RN will notify those involved to assess and review the situation and make the appropriate changes in the student's Individualized Health Plan (IHP).
- To ensure that a student always has access to an inhaler, a second inhaler is to be kept in a locked cabinet in the school clinic. This inhaler will be used in the event the inhaler usually carried by the student malfunctions, is depleted during the day, or if the student comes to school without an inhaler. If the student is in middle school or high school and participates in school-sponsored extracurricular activities, it is recommended that an additional inhaler be kept in a locked case or cabinet in close proximity to the student.
- The RN will prepare an Individualized Health Plan (IHP) that incorporates the student's Asthma Action Plan, if available, from the physician. The IHP will be reviewed and updated as the treatment plan changes, as physician's orders are received, and at the beginning of every school year.
- The RN, with permission from the student's parent/guardian, will collaborate with the prescribing physician as necessary to facilitate optimum treatment for the student.
- By signing this form, the student, parent/guardian, and RN indicate they understand and agree to follow this protocol.

STUDENT: _____ DATE: _____

PARENT: _____ DATE: _____

RN: _____ DATE: _____

LVN: _____ DATE: _____