



Questions to Consider When Developing a School Program for the Administration of Stock Emergency Medication(s)

State Laws:

1. ***Are there state laws that currently prohibit the administration of stock emergency medications in schools?*** No, in fact IC 20-34-4.5, allows schools to stock three emergency medications in schools – albuterol, epinephrine and an opioid overdose reversal medication.
2. ***Does the state have a Good Samaritan law or equivalent?*** Yes, Indiana's Good Samaritan Law can be found under IC 34-31-12-1.
3. ***Does the state have exemption from liability laws for medication administration or emergency care?*** Yes, please refer to the list below regarding Indiana Immunity Laws.
4. **INDIANA IMMUNITY LAWS**
IC 34-30-12-1: Indiana Good Samaritan law
IC 34-30-13: Immunity for providing voluntary health care
IC 34-30-13.5: Immunity during a disaster
IC 34-30-14-2: School personnel immunity regarding medication administration
IC 34-30-14-6: School immunity regarding students who self-administer
IC 34-30-14-7: Teacher CPR, choking, and AED immunity
IC 34-30-14-8: School nurse CPR, choking, and AED immunity
IC 34-30-14-9: School CPR, choking, and AED immunity
5. ***Does your state nurse practice act and other relevant laws allow the school nurse to delegate the administration of stock emergency medication to unlicensed assistive personnel (UAP)?*** Yes, for more information regarding delegation, see question 13 below, as well as the Indiana School Nurse Manual.
6. ***Does the state law allow administration of stock emergency medication to school staff and visitors?*** Yes, IC 20-34-4.5 allows trained school personnel to administer stock emergency medications to students, staff, and visitors.

District Policies:

7. ***Is a policy required to develop a stock emergency medication program for the school corporation?*** Yes, schools must have a policy regarding who can administer a particular medication, under what conditions, and what training is required. The school policy should also state how many doses will be stocked at each building location, how the medication will be replaced if used, and if it will be available during before and after school activities. A staff member, preferably the registered school nurse, should be assigned the responsibility of developing specific procedures to ensure this policy is being implemented, administered, and evaluated on a regular basis. Resources for implementing a stock emergency medication program can be found in the School Nurse Community of Resources in the IDOE Moodle.



8. ***Are schools required to stock all three of the medications mentioned in the law?***
No, schools may stock one, two, three, or none of the medications. This would need to be determined at the local level by the school board of each corporation.
9. ***Does the school board support a stock emergency medication program?*** This would need to be determined at the local level by each individual school corporation. The school board would determine which schools, if any, in the corporation would be allowed to stock an emergency medication(s) and develop a school board policy regarding the corporation's stock emergency medication program.
10. ***Does your school corporation medical advisor support a stock emergency medication program?*** If the school corporation has a medical advisor, he/she should be consulted. A stock medication prescription and a standing order for the school can be written by the school medical advisor. If a school corporation does not have a medical advisor, the school may consult with a local healthcare provider who has prescriptive authority, the local health officer by contacting their local health department, or utilize the Indiana Health Commissioner's state standing order and protocol which can be found on the Indiana Department of Health's website.
11. ***What if the school would like to use an alternate route of emergency medication that differs from the state health commissioners?*** The standing orders provided by the state health commissioner has been written for specific types of albuterol, epinephrine, and an opioid overdose prevention medication. If a school would prefer to stock a different type or route of administration for any of these three emergency medications, the school may do so if a local health care provider writes a standing order and protocol for the school, and the school has a policy related to its use.
12. ***Does the district policy allow the delegation of stock emergency medication to UAPs?*** Delegation to UAP's by a registered nurse is allowed per the Indiana State Nurse Practice Act. However, the decision to delegate a nursing task is based on the registered nurse's assessment of the complexity of the nursing task and care, predictability of the health status of the student, staff or visitor, and the educational preparation and demonstrated abilities of the person the registered school nurse is delegating to. School corporations are encouraged to work in partnership with their registered school nurse when developing a local school corporation policy regarding the delegation of any stock emergency medication to UAPs. Please see questions 13 and 14 below, as well as the Indiana School Nurse Manual, to assist schools with making this decision.



School Nurse Practice:

13. ***Is delegation to a UAP regarding the administration of stock emergency medication a safe decision based on the structure of the school environment, school nurse: pupil ratio, and other roles and responsibilities of the school nurse?***

Delegation is the transfer of responsibility for the performance of a task from one individual to another while retaining accountability for the outcome (ANA, 2010).

Through delegation, a registered nurse can direct another individual to do something that that person would not normally be allowed to do (ANA and NCSBN 2006). The decision to delegate is based upon the professional judgement of each individual registered school nurse regarding whether the delegatee can safely perform a selected nursing task. For more information regarding the delegation process and the Indiana RN Standards of Practice rules, please see the Indiana School Nurse Manual.

14. ***Are there enough UAPs willing and competent, in each school building, to administer a stock emergency medication to ensure a safe and timely response to a potential life-threatening emergency?*** This would need to be determined at the local level by each individual school corporation in collaboration with the school corporation's registered school nurse.

Education for Administration of Stock Emergency Medications:

15. ***How will the UAP determine when a stock emergency medication should be administered?*** This is to be determined by the delegating registered nurse based on the standing medical order from the prescribing licensed healthcare provider, the local school policy, and the registered nurse's training to the UAP.
16. ***What education and training should be provided regarding the potential side effects that can be expected?*** The delegating registered nurse must educate and train any designated school staff regarding the potential side effects that may occur and the appropriate steps to take to manage these potential side effects.
17. ***What education will be given regarding the supportive care to be provided before and after a stock emergency medication has been administered?*** The delegating registered nurse must educate and train any designated school staff regarding the appropriate steps to take before and after a stock emergency medication has been administered.
18. ***How often will education and training be provided?*** This is to be determined by the delegating registered nurse and the local school policy. At a minimum, annual training should occur at the beginning of each school year.



Medication:

19. ***Who will be responsible for procuring and maintaining any of these stock emergency medications?*** This would need to be determined at the local level by each individual school corporation.
20. ***How many doses will schools have in each building?*** This would be determined by the standing medical order from the prescribing licensed health care provider and the local school policy with input from the registered school nurse.
21. ***Where will the stock emergency medication(s) be stored?*** This would be determined by the local school policy. Information regarding the storage of emergency medication, as well as other medication considerations, can be found in the Indiana School Nurse Manual.
22. ***Will a standing order allow for the administration of a second dose?*** This would be determined by the standing medical order from the prescribing licensed healthcare provider and the local school policy with input from the registered school nurse. If a second dose is allowed, the standing order should include the indications for administering a second dose. Additionally, schools must also have an adequate supply of the stock emergency medication available to allow a second dose to be administered.
23. ***How will the district fund further supplies of the stock emergency medication(s)?*** This would need to be determined at the local level by each individual school corporation and should become part of the school's stock emergency medication policy.
24. ***Will the continued procuring and maintenance of any of these stock emergency medications be cost prohibitive for the school district?*** The sustainability of stocking one, two or all three of these emergency medications should be discussed by the local school board and should be included as part of the school's stock emergency medication policy.
25. ***Will the stock emergency medication(s) be available for before/after school events and school sponsored events?*** Administering a stock emergency medication before and after school activities is allowed in the law. However, it is up to the standing medical order from the prescribing license healthcare provider and the local school board regarding the perimeters of when this medication can be administered, by whom, under what circumstances, where the medication will be stored, how the medication can be accessed at before and school events, and the training required for this to occur.
26. ***Will the stock emergency medication(s) be available for community groups using the building for non-school sponsored events?*** Administering a stock emergency medication by non-school employees is not covered under IC 20-34-4.5. This would be determined by the standing medical order from the prescribing licensed healthcare provider, the local school policy, and any building usage agreements.



27. ***Will the standing order for the stock emergency medication(s) allow the administration of the medication(s) to staff and visitors?*** IC 20-34-4.5 allows trained school personnel to administer stock emergency medication(s) to students, staff and visitors. The persons allowed to administer a particular emergency medication should be clearly stated in the standing medical order from the prescribing licensed healthcare provider and the local school policy.
28. ***Which formulation of the stock emergency medication will your district stock (i.e. intramuscular vs. intranasal)?*** IC 20-34-4.5 does not specify a specific formulation that schools must stock. Thus, this would be determined by the standing medical order from the prescribing licensed healthcare provider and the local school policy with input from the registered school nurse.
29. ***Does the standing order require a specific formulation of the stock emergency medication?*** Yes, the standing order should state the dose and route for administering each specific stock medication. The formulation would be determined by the standing medical order from the prescribing licensed healthcare provider and the local school policy with input from the registered school nurse.

Community Need:

30. ***What is the average response time in the community for emergency medical services (EMS)?*** The local school board, or their designee, should determine this information based on input from local EMS personnel. By determining the EMS response time, schools can better develop policies that best fit the needs of their community.
31. ***Do local EMS, fire department, and/or law enforcement personnel carry any of these stock emergency medications?*** The local school board, or their designee, should determine this information based on input from local EMS, fire, and law enforcement personnel.
32. ***Have EMS had to administer any of these emergency medications in a school setting or school sponsored activity before?*** The local school board, or their designee, should determine this information based on input from local EMS personnel.
33. ***Do school police officers or safety resource officers carry any of these emergency medications?*** The local school board, or their designee, should determine this information based on input from local EMS and law enforcement personnel.
34. ***Are there other groups/individuals working on stock medication(s) access and administration issues in your community?*** Schools are encouraged to reach out to community partners and stakeholders in order to coordinate efforts and resources.