

## **7:272 STOCK/UNDESIGNATED ASTHMA MEDICATION POLICY**

### **Background**

Respiratory distress is a medical emergency characterized by difficulty breathing. It can be divided into two categories: mild-to-moderate or severe. Public-Act 100-0726 allows IL schools to obtain stock “undesignated” asthma rescue medication and authorizes school nurses and other trained school staff to administer the medication in the event of respiratory distress.

### **Purpose**

The purpose of this document is to provide guidelines for the administration of the district’s stock/undesignated asthma medication to a student or adult experiencing symptoms of an asthma attack who don’t have immediate access to asthma relief medication.

### **Standing Order and Prescription**

The standing order and prescription are provided by Christine Ventress MD which is kept on file with district nurse.

### **Supply**

The district prescription is filled by Petersburg Pharmacy.

### **Maintenance**

The district nurse is responsible for obtaining the renewed standing order and medication.

### **Locations**

Stock asthma medication must be in a clearly marked location, inaccessible to students and undesignated personnel and NOT locked during the school day. They can be found in the following locations:

- Elementary nurse’s office
- JH/HS nurse’s office
- Athletic trainer’s bag

### **Training**

Personnel designated to administer asthma medication will complete an initial online training through TRAIN Illinois and present the certificate of completion as well as review annually with the building nurse.

<http://www.train.org/illinois/course/1100900>

### **Trained Staff Members**

The following staff members will be trained to administer albuterol:

- Nurses
- Athletic trainer
- Designated care aide at JH/HS
- Designated care aide at NBE

## **Indications**

For the treatment of a student or staff member who is showing signs and symptoms of respiratory distress. Respiratory distress is a medical emergency characterized by difficulty breathing. The school nurse or trained personnel shall respond to an emergency of an individual who is perceived to be experiencing respiratory distress. The school nurse or trained personnel shall administer a quick-relief asthma medication in accordance with this protocol.

### **Early warning signs of respiratory distress include:**

- Exposure to known trigger
- Shortness of breath
- Cough
- Wheezing
- Tight chest
- Trouble breathing with exercise

### **Respiratory distress is getting worse if you observe:**

- Breathing is hard and fast
- Nostrils opened wide
- Trouble walking
- Trouble talking
- Retraction (sucking in at ribs and neck)
- Blue or gray lips and nail beds
- Medication is not helping within 15-20 minutes

## **Treatment**

Administration of quick-relief stock/undesignated medication/Albuterol inhaler according to physician order using a spacer device. See Asthma Episode Emergency Response Procedure which is kept on file in the nurse's office.

## **Equipment**

1. Stock quick-relief inhaler (albuterol, ProAir, Proventil, Ventolin, etc.)
2. Spacer-delivery device
3. Student's Asthma Action Plan (if available, FOUND IN THE NURSE'S OFFICE IN THE RED EMERGENCY BINDER)

## **Documentation/Reporting**

If stock asthma medication is administered, the building nurse must complete an Undesignated Asthma Medication Reporting Form and email it to [asthmamed@isbe.net](mailto:asthmamed@isbe.net) within (3) calendar days. The form is kept in the district nurse's office.