

Medication in the Nurse's Office

I am sometimes asked if I can give a medication to a student during the school day. As much as I would like to always say yes, I have to follow Connecticut state law and regulations which require a written medication order from an authorized prescriber (physician, dentist, advanced practice registered nurse or physician's assistant). The order is written on the medication authorization form which is now at the Saint Mary web site. The parent must also sign the form that the medication can be given. This regulation applies even to over-the-counter medication. The medication has to be in an unopened, labeled container. I can't give a student medication that is delivered in a zip lock bag. Medication should be delivered and picked up by the parent rather than traveling in backpacks so that it can be safely secured in the nurse's office. The exception to requiring a doctor's signature is the school provided Acetaminophen/Ibuprofen form which only needs to be filled out by the parent. I follow the instructions of the Ridgefield Medical Advisor, which states I can only give Ibuprofen and Acetaminophen each two times per month. If more Acetaminophen/Ibuprofen is needed or the medication is needed for a field trip, then a medication order from your provider must be filled out. Although I know this sounds like a lot of rules and regulations, it is all in the best interest of keeping your child healthy and safe.

Please call me with any questions, 203-438-7288, ext 253.

Nurse Carolyn