



Diabetes Management in the School Setting

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Diabetes initiative in schools



- Diabetes management has changed dramatically since 1993.
- Current diabetes management requires frequent blood sugar monitoring and use of insulin at school.
- Health professionals and school staff need to collaborate and become updated regarding diabetes management.



Challenges for Schools

- There is no single recipe.
- Goals, target blood sugar levels, and regimen may vary across individuals.
- The family and the diabetes care team plan the details of the regimen to suit the child and schools must try to incorporate this regimen into the academic day.



Challenges for students with diabetes in the school



- Variability in treatment regimen.
- Variability in students independence with diabetes management.
- School schedule and extracurricular activities.



Challenges for Parents of students with diabetes



- Desire for a safe and effective diabetes management plan in the school setting.
- Lack of understanding of federal and state laws.
- Variability in involvement with a student in the school setting.
- Variability of parent's expectations for independence and working towards self-management of diabetes.



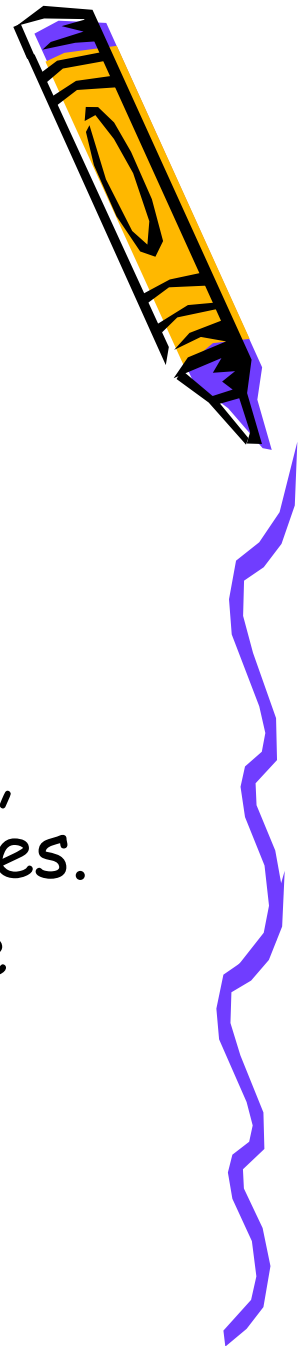
Challenges for school personnel



- Scope of understanding both Type 1 and Type 2 diabetes.
- School staff is focused on education, not health and many have a knowledge deficit regarding diabetes.
- School nurses focus is on safe and effective diabetes management but many may also have a knowledge deficit of current diabetes management.
- Variability in school staff resources.



National Diabetes Education Program (NDEP)



- Designed guidelines to be used in the school setting to help manage students with diabetes.
- Collaborative effort that involved participation from health professionals, community, school personnel, and families.
- NDEP guidelines are now available to be utilized in the school setting.



Goal of NDEP Guidelines

Reduce the morbidity and mortality associated with diabetes and its complications.

Achieve optimal diabetes management in the school setting.



Effective diabetes Management will:



- Help provide immediate safety of student's with diabetes.
- Promote the long-term health of students with diabetes
- Ensure students with diabetes are ready to learn and participate in school
- Minimize the possibility that diabetes-related emergencies will disrupt classroom activities





- *The school nurse, teachers, and other school staff members play an important role in helping students manage their diabetes*



NDEP Diabetes Guide

Purpose

- To educate school personnel about diabetes and to ensure a safe learning environment for students with diabetes



NDEP Guide Overview



- Section 1: Diabetes Primer for School Personnel.
- Section 2: Actions for School Personnel, Parents, and Students.
- Section 3: Tools for Effective Diabetes Management.
- Section 4: School Responsibilities Under Law



Minnesota Supplement

- Task force which collaborated with community, health professionals, schools and families.
- Addendum to NDEP guidelines that is specific to Minnesota.



Minnesota Supplement Provides



- Guidelines for school nurse delegation.
- Guidelines for assigning care when a school nurse is not available
- Sample tools for delegation and supervision.
- Suggested timeline for diabetes training of school personnel.
- Guidelines for training of school personnel.
- Diabetes resource agencies in Minnesota.



Student Outcomes

- The ability to stay healthy while at school, to participate in extra curricular activities and maintain health in the long term.
- The same access to educational opportunities as other children.
- To be successful in the academic setting.

