



September 8, 2022

CLIFF 1239472

Dear Those Concerned:

The safety, health, and wellbeing of children while they attend school is paramount to the Ministry of Health. We understand how critically important it is to ensure your child is supported with seizure care while at school.

The Ministry of Health is aware of issues regarding the administration of seizure rescue medications in schools and recognizes the challenges that families face. We have worked, in collaboration with the Ministry of Education and Child Care, towards a solution that will support the training of school staff to ensure children requiring emergency seizure care at school are supported.

To date, Nursing Support Services (NSS), a program of the Provincial Health Services Authority (PHSA), has delegated the administration of seizure rescue medication to a child's dedicated Educational Assistant (EA) under their professional license. We were recently advised by the Ministry of Health's Professional Regulations Branch that regulations and professional standards do not permit seizure rescue medications to be delegated by a nurse. The current approach using NSS delegation requires changes to ensure children can continue to receive the care they need at school. The solution being implemented is similar to how other emergency rescue medications, such as EpiPen for anaphylaxis, are delivered.

This means that going forward, non-medical school staff will continue to be able to administer seizure rescue medication, but it will not be attached to a nurses' license as a delegated task. Non-medical school staff will instead be covered by Section 14 (b) of the *Health Professions Act* that allows for persons not designated as health professionals to give first aid or temporary assistance in an emergency.

While NSS will continue to train non-medical school staff to administer seizure rescue medication for the current school year, there are some important changes for families. Instead of an NSS Delegated Care Plan signed off by the NSS nurse and the non-medical school staff, there will now be a requirement to develop a Seizure Action Plan.

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The Seizure Action Plan includes detailed information regarding your child's care needs, medications, and acknowledgment that medications will be administered in the school setting by school staff. Your child's Seizure Action Plan requires approval by your child's school administration, their physician, and a parent/guardian.

If you require support with the development of your child's Seizure Action Plan, please contact your child's physician/care team to assist. The Seizure Action Plan, along with a checklist to prepare for training and better understand your role in supporting your child's seizure care while at school, are included with this correspondence.

Once your child's Seizure Action Plan and medication have been provided to their school, school staff will submit a request for training to NSS. NSS will provide training to school staff on seizure care, including the administration of seizure rescue medication for the 2022/23 school year. NSS will develop a training schedule with an aim to complete training as early in the school year as possible and will also be available to support with training throughout the school year should there be changes to your child's medication, school staff, or school setting. After training is completed, schools will refer all questions about a child's seizure care to the family/caregiver. NSS is available to provide further training at the request of the school.

It is important to note that training is a mandatory component of seizure care in the school setting and must be completed before school staff may administer medications. Until training is complete, if your child is not currently supported by NSS, basic seizure first aid along with a call to parent(s)/guardian(s) as well as 911 will be provided in the event they experience a seizure at school.

If your child was supported by NSS during the last school year, has a current prescription for medication in the school setting, and has had no changes to their intervention care plan or in school support staff, they will receive seizure rescue intervention as they did last year while school staff await training for the 2022/23 school year.

As a result of this change, the requirement that a child has received a seizure rescue medication within the last 12 months is being suspended. NSS will provide training to non-medical school staff regardless of whether the child has required the medication within the last 12 months.

To ensure safe delivery of medications and standardize medication delivery methods, intranasal administration is the preferred method of medication administration for children prescribed midazolam. We encourage you to share this letter, along with the Seizure Action Plan, with your child's physician/prescriber at your earliest convenience to ensure any necessary adjustments to prescribed medications can be made.

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We look forward to our continued partnership to support your child's care needs while at school. If you have any questions or concerns, we invite you to reach out to the Ministry of Health contact provided below.

Patient and Client Relations  
Ministry of Health  
1 (833) 552-1891  
[hlth.health@gov.bc.ca](mailto:hlth.health@gov.bc.ca)

Sincerely,



Kristy Anderson  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
Hospital and Provincial Health Services Division

Attachments:

Seizure Action Plan  
Training Checklist

pc: Patient and Client Relations