

Nursing Support Services (NSS) Principles and Philosophy of Care for Type 1 Diabetes Delegated Care Plan in the School Setting

1. Through the use of provincially-developed care plans, we aim to provide safe, consistent and equitable care for children in all areas of the province of B.C.
2. We strive to achieve consistent, comprehensive, coordinated and safe quality care management in schools by working collaboratively as an interprofessional team that includes the child¹, family², diabetes clinic and/or most responsible provider, Ministry of Education, School Administrator, Education Assistant (EA)³, and the Nursing Support Services Coordinator (NSSC).
3. Using open lines of communication, this interprofessional team facilitates timely sharing of consistent information regarding the child's care plan.
4. Care plans are founded upon the principles of safety to prevent hypoglycemic events and timely response to both hypoglycemic and hyperglycemic events as per the child's care plan.
5. Care plans and support through NSS are intended to facilitate a positive and safe school experience and optimal learning environment.
6. Care provided at school may look different than the care provided at home. The care at school will focus on safe diabetes care and minimizing the disruptions to the child's school experience.
7. Delegated care plans and support through NSS are intended to facilitate a child's transition to independence in managing their diabetes care (if cognitively and functionally achievable) using a pre-planned, individualized pathway founded upon the child's abilities.
8. Providing safe care is everyone's goal. A child helps to participate in their own safety by:
 - a. Independently carrying their own fast-acting carbohydrates,
 - b. Independently carrying their own CGM/FGM receiver/wand if using this technology for glucose monitoring in school, and
 - c. Cooperating with or completing (when independent) a BG finger-poke check as per their care plan.
9. Care plans will only apply to technology that has been Health Canada approved.
10. Care plans that involve diabetes technology (i.e. pumps, sensors) need to have a back-up plan in place in case the technology fails.
11. In order to be safely delegated to EA staff, care plans must meet the practice standards as per the BC College of Nurses and Midwives (BCCNM).
12. Before a care plan can be put in place within the school setting, a family must be competent in providing diabetes care for their child and be an involved participant in their child's ongoing care plan requirements.

¹ In this document child refers to school age 4 – 19 years old (Kindergarten to grade 12)

² In this document family refers to those individual(s) who have legal rights to the child (ie. legal guardians).

³ Education Assistant role can hold various titles across B.C. Equivalents are SEA, SSA, CEA.