

Students with type 1 diabetes are supported through a cross-ministry approach involving the Ministries of Health and Education. The approach is outlined in Provincial Standards for Diabetes Support in School Setting and can be downloaded at

http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/health/diabetes/diabetes_support_in_school_settings.pdf

These changes are in response to requests from parents and recommendations from an independent Child Health BC report (www.childhealthbc.ca).

The Nursing Support Services (NSS) program provides support to students with type 1 diabetes who are not able to do their own blood glucose monitoring and/or give their own insulin. NSS Coordinators are available to train and monitor school staff to perform these tasks or to supervise a student who is not yet independent (a process called “delegation”). The NSS Practice Standards on Diabetes in the School Setting provides more detail on the support provided through the NSS program and can be downloaded at

http://www.mcf.gov.bc.ca/spec_needs/pdf/nss_practice_standards_diabetes.pdf.

Anyone can refer a child to NSS. Parents who are interested in having insulin administered by school staff for their child must have the *Diabetes Medication Administration Form* completed and signed by the student’s physician. This form can be downloaded at

http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/health/diabetes/diabetes_medication_administration_form.pdf.

Delegation is a process that is tailored for each student and takes time to implement. School staff will not be able to administer insulin or perform blood glucose monitoring independently until training is complete. Parents are responsible for their child’s care during the school day until staff are fully trained.

Nursing Support Services are provided through regional Health Authorities across the province. Contact your local health unit (the telephone number can be found in the blue pages of your local telephone directory, or call HealthLinkBC by dialling 811).