

# ALERT

**To:** WCT Clients

**DATE:** January 31, 2011

## RE: SELF ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION

On August 10, 2010, the Illinois School Code was amended to revise the authorization requirements for students to self administer asthma medication or epinephrine auto-injectors in public and private schools. See, 105 ILCS 5/22-30.

All Illinois schools, whether public or private, must permit self-administration of medication by a student with asthma or the use of an epinephrine auto-injector by a student as long as the parents/guardian of the student provide the school with written authorization from the parents/guardian and from the student's physician, physician assistant, or advanced practice registered nurse.

Regarding the self-administration of asthma medication, the parents/guardian must also provide the school with the prescription label of the medication - which must contain the name of the medication, the prescribed dosage, and the time at which or circumstances under which the medication is to be administered.

Regarding the use of epinephrine auto-injectors, the parents/guardian must provide the school with a written statement from the student's physician, physician assistant, or advanced practice registered nurse which must contain the name and purpose of the epinephrine auto-injector, the prescribed dosage, and the time or times at which or the special circumstances under which the epinephrine auto-injector is to be administered.

The information regarding the self-administration of asthma medication or the use of an epinephrine auto-injector must be kept on file in the school nurse's office. If there is no school nurse, then the information must be kept on file in an administrator's office.

The school district or private school must inform the parents/ guardian of the student, in writing, that the school and its employees incur no liability, except for willful and wanton conduct, for any injury resulting from the self-administration of medication or use of an epinephrine auto-injector by a student. The parents/guardian must sign a statement acknowledging this.

**If you have any questions, or need a form, please feel free to call us.**

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