



15 September 2014

Subject: Insulin Administration at School

School Nurses,

Thank you for contacting us regarding the delegation of correction doses of insulin while at school. We understand there have been concerns raised in reference to corrections being given ONLY at meal times (lunch and breakfast) and not for the possible afternoon or mid-morning hyperglycemia.

Just to clarify terminology:

Correction dose: Rapid-acting insulin given for high blood glucose values

Carbohydrate dose: Rapid-acting insulin given for carbohydrate consumption

The DMMO (Diabetes Medical Management Order) clearly states corrections to be given only at meal times; therefore, we would consider any other timing of a "correction" dose (insulin for high blood glucose) to be inappropriate. When a child is using injections at school, we only recommend corrections be given at meals times; which includes breakfast and lunch.

For a child on an insulin pump, a correction dose would be appropriate at "other times" as the PUMP is determining the insulin dose and has the ability to adjust the insulin dose recommendation based on "insulin on board" (insulin still active in the body that could bring blood glucose levels down). When a child is on a pump, the pump is determining the dose, not trained unlicensed personnel or the RN. When a child is using injections via syringe or insulin pen, we cannot determine "active" insulin on board.

Our recommendations:

- If a child is receiving **injections** (syringe or insulin pen), corrections can be given at school for breakfast and lunch, and can be administered by school personnel. If a parent/guardian wants to give an additional dose it is their prerogative; but they are required to come to the school and administer the dose personally.
- If a child is on a **pump**, correction doses are to be given at meals, if needed and can be given at other times only if the blood glucose is tested and entered into the pump, and the PUMP recommends a correction dose. No adjustments are to be made to this recommended dose by school personnel.

On the DMMO orders we have added a statement under "Additional orders" stating "Correction doses at times other than meals per PUMP recommendations." If a new DMMO is needed for a child on a pump with the pump correction order listed, please contact our office.

If any child is having repeated hyperglycemia at certain times of day parents should contact their diabetes provider and discuss this pattern.

If you have any further questions or concerns, feel free to contact our office.

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