



Stephanie G. Knutson, MSN, RN School Nurse Consultant

Special Points of Interest:

- Enrollment Requirements for Haitian Refugee Students
- School Nurse Supervisors Conference
- New School Nurse Workshop

Enrollment Requirements for Haitian Refugee Students



Many schools in Connecticut are now facing the need to enroll students that have recently been displaced by the catastrophic earthquake and aftershocks in Haiti. The federal McKinney-Vento Act that requires schools to immediately enroll homeless students into school may be in effect for Haitian refugee students. To determine their homeless status, the school nurse or nursing supervisor should collaborate with the district's local education liaison. The McKinney-Vento Act allows students to enroll without health and immunization information. Once enrolled, many school nurses will be faced with the challenge of working with families and health care providers to obtain the necessary health information. Due to the devastation in Haiti, it will take several months to recover health records, if ever. In the meantime, the Connecticut State Department of Education and the State Department of Public Health has provided guidance on health assessments and immunizations for this population. Please refer to the enrollment requirements for Haitian refugee memorandum on page 2 of this publication.



Allowable Milk Substitutions for Nondisabled Children in the U.S. Department of Agriculture School Nutrition Programs

Schools participating in the U.S. Department of Agriculture school nutrition programs (National School Lunch Program, School Breakfast Program, After-School Snack Program, Seamless Summer and Special Milk Program) must follow the federal requirements for milk substitutions for nondisabled children. These requirements apply to accommodations for children **without disabilities** who can not drink milk, i.e., children who do *not* have a life-threatening food allergy to milk.

School districts have the **option** to make this accommodation and offer an allowable fluid milk substitute for children without disabilities. If the district chooses to make allowable milk substitutions available, they must be available for *all students* when requested by their parent/guardian or medical authority.

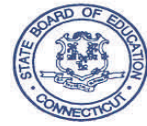
The **Allowable Milk Substitutions** handout is posted online at <http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/cwp/view.asp?a=2626&q=320674> under "Accommodating Special Dietary Needs in Child Nutrition Programs" (fifth bullet) or the direct link to the PDF at http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/lib/sde/PDF/DEPS/Nutrition/Allowable_Milk_Substitutions.pdf.

For additional information, visit the Connecticut State Department of Education Web site (School Nutrition Programs page) at <http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/cwp/view.asp?a=2626&q=320676>. Questions may be directed to:

County	Consultant	E-mail	Phone
Hartford and Windham	Teri Dandeneau	teri.dandeneau@ct.gov	860-807-2079
Litchfield and Middlesex	Fionnuala Brown	fionnuala.brown@ct.gov	860-807-2048
Fairfield and New London	Jackie Schipke	jackie.schipke@ct.gov	860-807-2123
New Haven and Tolland	Bob Zwack	robert.zwack@ct.gov	860-807-2081



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



TO: School Nurse Supervisors
FROM: Cheryl Resha, Education Manager
 Bureau of Health/Nutrition, Family Services and Adult Education
DATE: February 5, 2010
SUBJECT: Enrollment Requirements for Haitian Refugee Students

Many schools in Connecticut are now facing the need to enroll students that have recently been displaced by the catastrophic earthquake and aftershocks in Haiti. The federal McKinney-Vento Act that requires schools to immediately enroll homeless students into school may be in effect for Haitian refugee students. To determine their homeless status, the school nurse or nursing supervisor should collaborate with the district's local homeless education liaison. If determined homeless, the McKinney-Vento Act allows students to enroll without health and immunization information. Once enrolled, many school nurses will be faced with the challenge of working with families and health care providers to obtain the necessary health information. Due to the devastation in Haiti, it will take several months to recover health records, if ever. In the meantime, the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) and the State Department of Public Health (DPH) would like to provide the following guidance on health assessments and immunizations for this population.

Health Assessments

Health assessments including a tuberculosis test (PPD skin test) should be completed by a primary care provider in Connecticut once the family has access to health insurance (either privately or through the Healthcare for Uninsured Kids and Youth [HUSKY] program). Other options may include a health assessment through a school-based health clinic or local health clinic. For information on Medicare and HUSKY eligibility, contact the Department of Social Services toll-free at 1-877-CT-HUSKY (877-284-8759).

Immunizations

Most students will arrive in Connecticut without immunization records. Given the limited public health infrastructure in Haiti before the earthquake, students arriving without documentation should be considered unvaccinated. Such students should start their vaccination series as soon as possible after enrollment according to the immunization catch up schedule. Students may access community health centers or local health departments for needed immunizations or contact the Immunization Program for help in locating access to vaccination sites.

Recognizing that the McKinney-Vento Act may provide some key services and support for eligible students, the National Center for Homeless Education has posted information about this topic on its Web site at <http://www.serve.org/nche/index.php#new>. In addition, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has information on other health concerns that may be useful to you. This information can be found at <http://www.bt.cdc.gov/disasters/earthquakes/>.

If you have questions about serving displaced students who may be homeless, you should contact your school district's local education liaison to homeless students. For assistance in identifying your local liaison or for additional information on the McKinney-Vento Act, please contact Louis Tallarita at 860-807-2058 or louis.tallarita@ct.gov. Questions regarding immunization requirements may be directed to Mick Bolduc at 860-509-7940 or michael.bolduc@ct.gov. If you have other questions regarding this memorandum, please contact Stephanie Knutson at 860-807-2108 or stephanie.knutson@ct.gov.

CR:sk

cc: Charlene Russell-Tucker, Associate Commissioner, CSDE
 Stephanie Knutson, School Health Consultant, CSDE
 Louis Tallarita, Associate Education Consultant, CSDE
 Mick Bolduc, Epidemiologist, DPH

Organizations Offering to Provide Oral Health Services in Schools

The State Department of Public Health (DPH) and the Connecticut State Dental Association (CSDA) have received many questions from schools regarding dental organizations offering to provide oral health services to children in the school setting. The January 8, 2010, memorandum below from the DPH and the CSDA provides guidance for ensuring that the credentials and protocols of oral health care organizations are appropriate for the school setting. If you have questions or need additional information, please contact the DPH, Office of Oral Health at 860-509-8203 or the CSDA at 860-378-1800.

MEMORANDUM

TO: School Superintendents, Principals, School Nurses and Local Health Directors

FROM: Connecticut Department of Public Health, Office of Oral Health and Connecticut State Dental Association

SUBJECT: Organizations Offering to Provide Oral Health Services in Schools

DATE: January 8, 2010

The CT Department of Public Health and the CT State Dental Association have received many questions from schools regarding new dental organizations (in addition to existing ones) offering to provide oral health services to children in the school setting. Usually these services entail dental screening, prevention and/or dental sealant application. Many of these services also entail the use of mobile dental units or portable dental equipment.

If your school is approached by a mobile oral health organization offering to provide services in your school, it is important that you are comfortable with the credentials and protocols of the organization. To assist you with this, we recommend that schools ask questions of the oral health care organization to ensure that:

- Dentists and dental hygienists providing services are licensed Connecticut dental providers.
- there is appropriate approval, generally from the superintendent and/or school committee, for these providers to practice in the school setting or in mobile dental unit providing care to the school's students.
- the mobile/portable oral health provider maintains an appropriate list of local dentists (including those who are HUSKY providers) who have agreed to provide follow-up treatment and/or emergency dental care to children for issues identified by the mobile/portable oral health providers. If possible, request a copy of the list and the signed memoranda of agreement.
- adequate parental information about the service and consent procedures are in place.
- parents are aware of the location of their child's dental records, including x-rays and that these are readily available to parents.
- there are procedures, with assigned responsibilities; for timely notification of parents and referral to local dentists should treatment needs be identified.
- there is a memorandum of agreement between the school district and the mobile/portable organizations, which outlines the responsibilities of each party.

If any questions remain, please contact the Connecticut Department of Public Health, Office of Oral Health at 860-509-8203 or the CT State Dental Association at 860-378-1800.

Thank you.

Pamela Kilbey-Fox, M.P.H., R.D.H.

Pamela Kilbey-Fox, R.D.H., M.P.H.
Interim Director, Office of Oral Health
CT Dept. of Public Health

Carol Dingeldey

Carol Dingeldey, C.A.E.
Executive Director
CT State Dental Association

Professional Development Opportunities

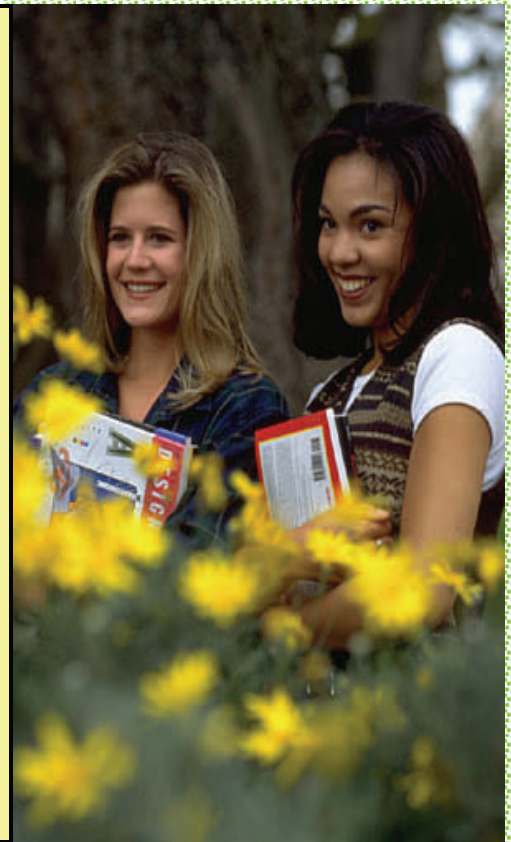
School Nurse Supervisors Conference

Date: February 25, 2010
Time: 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Location: Crowne Plaza Hartford, Cromwell, Connecticut
Fee: \$30.00 per person
CEUs: 0.6
Register by: 2/15/2010

This activity will provide school nurse supervisors with information on multiple state initiatives and trends in the state. Additionally, school nurse supervisors will have the opportunity to network with colleagues. As a result of attending this conference, participants will:

- become familiar with the **proposed** Administration of Medication by School Personnel Regulations;
- become familiar with the *Competency in School Nurse Practice* and the *School Nurse Competencies Checklist and Evaluation Tool*;
- gain knowledge about HINI Influenza prevention, management and vaccination programs; and
- network with other nursing supervisors.

Register online at www.eastconn.org. Click on "Registration." Go to the Connecticut State Department of Education section and click on the title. If you have questions regarding registration, or have difficulty using the online form, e-mail djackson@eastconn.org or call 860-455-1561 and ask for conference services.



New School Nurse Orientation Workshop

Dates: March 3 and March 12, 2010
Time: 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Location: The Rensselaer at Hartford, Connecticut
Fee: None
CEUs: 1.2 (*Attendance at both sessions is mandatory.*)
Register by: 2/21/10

This program will provide an overview of state laws and regulations regarding school health. The program will also address standards of practice for school nurses, competencies, and supervisory issues. Finally, the program will present an overview of the school nurse's role in student achievement, special education and Section 504. As a result of attending this conference, participants will:

- understand state laws and regulations regarding school health;
- learn state mandates for immunizations, health assessments and screenings;
- learn about the school nurse's role in academic achievement;
- learn about documentation in school health services;
- become knowledgeable about special education and Section 504 issues related to school health;
- gain knowledge about HINI Influenza prevention, management and vaccination programs; and
- become familiar with the *Competency in School Nurse Practice* and the *School Nurse Competencies Checklist and Evaluation Tool*.

Register online at www.eastconn.org. Click on "Registration." Go to the Connecticut State Department of Education section and click on the title. If you have questions regarding registration, or have difficulty using the online form, e-mail djackson@eastconn.org or call 860-455-1561 and ask for conference services.



Professional Development Opportunities, Cont'd

!! Save the date !!

Critical Issues in School Health 2010

The 32nd Annual School Health Conference - Hezekiah Beardsley, Connecticut Chapter American Academy of Pediatrics

Date: Thursday, May 20, 2010

Location: Farmington Marriott Hotel, Farmington, Connecticut

Registration information will be made available at the end of February 2010. For additional information, please contact Rhonda at 914-734-1269.

Cultural Competence in Education

With an ever-increasingly diverse student population and the demonstrated need for a culturally competent workforce, educators must learn to adopt culturally responsive teaching strategies. Today's classrooms must re-examine both the content of what we teach and how we teach it in order to reach all students. This workshop will provide participants with key knowledge areas to better enable them to work with students of color, and to prepare all students for a future of diversity.

The Connecticut State Department of Education, with the generous support of Seymour Public Schools offers you this FREE one-day workshop and .6 CEUs will be awarded for full attendance. Deadline to register is May 12, 2010.

Date: Wednesday, May 19, 2010

Time: 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Location: Seymour Middle School Media Center, 211 Mountain Road, Seymour, Connecticut

Registration: April Judd, Seymour Public Schools, 98 Bank Street, Seymour, CT 06483
Tel: 203-888-4564, extension 1902 or Fax: 203-888-1704

You will be notified by Seymour Public Schools via E-MAIL if your application has been accepted. Maximum enrollment is 45 people. There is no on-site registration. Attendees must be pre-registered.



Diabetes "Hands On": Practical Teaching Techniques for Your Practice

This is an interactive, "hands on" program geared to the health care worker who educates patients who have diabetes. Attendees will be provided with a tool kit of materials to enhance their diabetes teaching. This kit will include a variety of teaching tools including food models, artery stenosis models and others. Participants will be asked to share data on the use of these tools via a three to six month post program survey. This program is made possible by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention grant to the Connecticut Diabetes Prevention and Control Program at the two locations listed below. If you have questions, please contact Cindy Kozak at 860-509-7737 or cindy.kozak@ct.gov.

Date: Thursday, March 18, 2010, 12 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Location: Department of Developmental Services, 370 James Street, New Haven, Connecticut

Phone: 203-974-4256 to register

Date: Tuesday, March 23, 2010, 12 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Location: The Lyceum Conference Center, 227 Lawrence Street, Hartford, Connecticut

Phone: 860-244-0077 to register

Professional Development Opportunities, Cont'd

Ready? Set? Go with Asthma!

FREE Educational Program about Exercise-Induced Asthma

Everyone who works with school-age children engaged in sports or other physical activity can benefit from knowing more about exercise-induced asthma. The Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America has created an educational program on this topic that is designed to be used both for presentations to groups or viewed individually. It is an ideal tool for school nurses, coaches and sports leagues, or parent groups.

This **free** resource includes a slide presentation and script and a guide for the presenter. Handouts include: asthma medications and inhaler use; what to do during an asthma attack; quick tips to help students with asthma; and more.

Tools for using these materials to run an education program include: a meeting coordinator guide; meeting evaluation form; and a sample letter to parents/guardians.

To download the program and handouts, go to www.aafa.org (click on "Educational Resources," then "On-line resources." Look for: **Ready? Set? Go with Asthma!**).

If you have questions, please contact Sharon Schumach, Director of Education Programs, Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America - New England Chapter at 781-444-7778 or sharons@aafane.org.



!! Important Notice !!

Nipro GlucoPro Insulin Syringes: Recall !!

Nipro Medical Corporation and the United States Food and Drug Administration notified healthcare professionals of a voluntary nationwide recall of all GlucoPro Insulin Syringes. These syringes may have needles that detach from the syringe. If the needle becomes detached from the syringe during use, it can become stuck in the insulin vial, push back into the syringe, or remain in the skin after injection. This recall includes all product codes and lot numbers with expiration dates before November 1, 2011. The product was distributed nationwide, including Puerto Rico. Consumers who have GlucoPro Insulin Syringes should stop using and return them to point of sale for reimbursement.

Read the complete MedWatch 2010 Safety summary, including a link to the firm press release, at: <http://www.fda.gov/Safety/MedWatch/SafetyInformation/SafetyAlertsforHumanMedicalProducts/ucm198445.htm>.

STEPHANIE G. KNUTSON, MSN, RN SCHOOL NURSE CONSULTANT

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and Adult Education
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**...Keeping CT School Nurses
Informed and Involved!**

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