

New York State Association of School Nurses

www.nysasn.org

Talking Points: S0385/A10662

Opposition to Non-licensed School Staff Administering Diabetes Care in Schools

- The New York State Department of Health's resource guide "Children with Diabetes: A resource guide for families and schools" is the recognized standard of care for diabetes management in New York's schools.
- If passed, (diabetes bills) would deviate from the NYS Department of Health's expert guidelines fundamentally by **permitting non-licensed school employees to administer insulin to students at school.**
- Insulin has been designated a **high-alert** medication by the Institute for Safe Medication Practices because of the potential for serious harm to the patient, *including death.*
- Currently, trained laypersons may administer Epinephrine and Glucagon in the school setting *in an emergency as a life saving measure.*
- The safety profiles of Epinephrine and Glucagon are very different than the safety profile of insulin, which can cause death if used incorrectly.
- While NY Public Health Law permits non-licensed laypersons to administer insulin in the *daycare* setting, state law does not permit laypersons to administer insulin in the *healthcare* setting under any circumstances.
- New York State Education Law, Article 19 provides the scope of school health services defined as professional healthcare services.
- **Laypersons should not be enabled to administer insulin to school children in New York State.**

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