

## **Medication Information**

The New York State Health Department has specific regulations that impact those children who will need to take prescription or non-prescription medications while here at school or the summer program. If your child is on a prescription medication or you expect that your child **might** need non-prescription, "over the counter" medications, you will need to fill out the medication administration form and have your child bring it to the first day of school or the summer program. The New York State Health Department is now requiring that all children needing medications have a physician's script or standing orders with all medications, including "over the counter" varieties. Children needing these medications are also required to self-administer as there is no nurse on staff.

Medications (prescription and non-prescription drugs) must be in the original container and labeled with the patient's full name, the date the prescription was filled, expiration date, direction for use, precautions (if any), dispensing pharmacy (name and address), and the name of physician prescribing the medication.

A doctors standing order/written prescription must come with each prescription medication and they must contain the same dosage information. The pharmacy script label on the original bottle does not replace the standing order. An individual medication order signed by a physician or other medical provider (physician's assistant, nurse practitioner, dentist, etc.) is required for self medication. Orders confirm that a medication is current and there has been no change in medication or dosage from that which was originally prescribed and listed on the prescription container.

Over the counter drugs (Tylenol, ibuprofen, etc.) cannot be given to children for self-administration without a standing order/prescription from a physician (including authorization and instructions for use.) Please do not bring any over-the-counter medications with you to the school or summer program that are listed on the physician's written order form. These medications will be provided by the school or summer program if it is determined they are needed. Parental permission by itself is not sufficient for a child to self-administer medications. A physician's signature is still required by New York State Health Department for a child to receive "over the counter" medications. Any "over the counter" medications not listed on the physician's order form should be labeled with the complete name of the child and stored in the school's infirmary.

Individuals that may need emergency medications should carry the medications themselves (Epi-pens, inhalers etc.) with the proper paperwork on file with the school or summer program. When necessary, staff may be assigned to carry the medication; however, care must be taken to ensure that the patient and medication remain in close proximity to facilitate immediate administration.

A Medication Administration form for your physician to fill out for prescription and "over the counter" medications is included for your convenience. Please fill it out, have your doctor sign it and have your child bring it with them on the first day of school or the summer program. No medications will be allowed to be self-administered without the proper paperwork signed by a physician and parent.