

2018 School Health Update March 2018

- 1) To order replacement Narcan:
 - a. The information to order replacement Narcan, at a reduced cost, can be found on the school health webpage at <http://www.health.pa.gov/My%20Health/School%20Health/Pages/Narcan-Program-in-Schools.aspx#>
 - b. The last quoted price from Adapt Pharma was \$75 for a 2-dose carton
- 2) Chronic Condition Count:
 - a. The Chronic Conditions count is to be taken March 15-30
 - i. These are reported on the school's annual SHARRS report
 - b. The SHARRS instruction manual provides further guidance on collecting this data
- 3) Dental Hygiene Services Program Authorization Plan:
 - a. The plan must be **submitted** no later than April 30 for the upcoming school year
 - i. Completing the authorization plan does not submit it. Make sure it is submitted- **any SHARRS user may submit the plan**
 - b. Any schools that do not submit the Dental Hygiene Authorization Plan **by April 30** will automatically be classified as a "Mandated Dental Program" and will not be able to convert to a hygiene program after April 30- **NO EXCEPTIONS** permitted due to the dynamics of the SHARRS programming
- 4) Limitations to Act 48 submission into the Professional Education Record Management System (PERMS):
 - a. The Bureau of Public Health Preparedness (BPHP) was informed, by the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE), that they are not authorized to enter Act 48 continuing education credits for courses taken prior to June 8, 2017
 - b. BPHP was also informed that they are not authorized to enter Act 48 continuing education credits if a nurse's certification status is "Inactive"
 - c. The PDE must be contacted directly with any further questions or for assistance
- 5) Nursing Services Staffing:
 - a. **Certified School Nurse (CSN)** is the only licensed registered nurse who may manage and direct the care of a caseload of students in Pennsylvania. **Students must be under the caseload assignment of a certified school nurse at all times**
 - i. Only a CSN may substitute for another CSN
 - ii. **Section 1401.** Definitions - As used in this article-- (8) "School nurse" means a licensed registered nurse properly certificated by the Superintendent of Public Instruction as a school nurse who is employed by a school district ...
 - iii. **Section 1402.** Health Services - (a.1) Every child of school age shall be provided with school nurse services...
 - iv. **Section 1410.** Employment of School Health Personnel - (a)... all school districts ... shall employ one or more school nurses ...
 - v. **Section 1421.** Powers and Duties of the Secretary of Health and of the Superintendent of Public Instruction; Rules and Regulations - ... Approve certification of school nurses and dental hygienists for employment by a school district or joint school board and administer and direct their services and program: Provided, That the services of school nurses and dental hygienists shall be utilized exclusively in connection with medical and dental examinations and associated health activities

- vi. **23.34. School nurses** - The duties of school nurses shall be those assigned by the school district or joint school board which are **exclusively connected with medical and dental school health activities**. The technical content of the duties of the nurse shall be those prescribed by the Department of Health
- b. **Supplemental staff nurses (LPNs or non-certified RNs)** may be hired to assist the CSN to provide daily care of students and assist with completion of mandated screens and exams, as their licensure allows
 - i. The CSN needs to be physically present on the school grounds and be available for verbal direction or provide on-site assistance to the supplemental staff nurse as needed
 - ii. The **noncertified RN may not carry a caseload assignment** and functions in the school setting under the CSN who serves as the RN's team leader and case manager
 - iii. If a CSN is absent and a substitute is a supplemental licensed nurse covering the daily needs, the caseload of the absent CSNs' assignment must be temporarily redistributed so the supplemental nurse has a CSN to report to and receive direction from
 - iv. The RN lacks the education that provides the concepts, framework, applications and issues unique to school based health care delivery
 - v. An **LPN** may be used in the school but per their licensure **may not function independently**
 - 1. **21.141. Definitions *Practice of practical nursing***—The performance of selected nursing acts in the care of the ill, injured or infirm under the direction of a licensed professional nurse, a licensed physician or a licensed dentist which do not require the specialized skill, judgment and knowledge required in professional nursing. Example: there is no assessment language in the license
- c. Pa Department of Education Certification Staffing Policies (CSPGs)
 - i. **CSPG 80 School Nurse (Kindergarten-12)** ... When a school district employs an individual in the job title "school nurse," this person must be a certified School Nurse whether employed as a professional or temporary professional...
 - ii. **CSPG 95 Principal (Kindergarten-12)** ... Supervision and direction of certified and non-certified staff persons required for school operation exclusive of directing health services controlled by the Nurse Practice Act...
 - iii. **CSPG 101 Utilization of Paraprofessional Staff** ... Paraprofessionals serving as health room aides cannot be directed to engage in health-related activities reserved exclusively for licensed professionals and controlled by the Nurse Practice Act, or other medically related laws...