

# School Nurse Bulletin

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## Special Points of Interest:

- *Competency in School Nurse Practice*
- *Asthma Reporting Form*
- *2009 School Health Services Survey*

## COMPETENCY IN SCHOOL NURSE PRACTICE

This document is designed to support the practice of school nursing within Connecticut schools. The areas of school nurse competency, supervision and evaluation are presented in an effort to promote high-quality school health services. The school nurse competencies delineate the knowledge and skills needed to practice nursing in the school setting. The competencies may be used in a variety of ways: a framework of nursing school instructors; an orientation plan for new school nurses; an evaluation tool for school nurses; a goal-setting tool for school nurses; and a program planning tool. You may access this document at: [http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/lib/sde/PDF/deps/student/health/Nursing\\_Competencies.pdf](http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/lib/sde/PDF/deps/student/health/Nursing_Competencies.pdf).

The accompanying School Nurse Competency Checklist and Evaluation Tool can be found at the following link: [http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/lib/sde/PDF/deps/student/health/Nursing\\_Competencies\\_Checklist.pdf](http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/lib/sde/PDF/deps/student/health/Nursing_Competencies_Checklist.pdf). It is based on the *School Nursing Scope and Standards of Practice* (ANA and NASN, 2005). Sixteen standards are presented and each section in this tool represents a separate standard.

In order to fully use these competencies to guide individual school nurse practice, it is essential that some overarching principles are in place at the district level. These include an introduction to district policies and procedures, familiarity with the data system within the district for data collection and nursing documentation, knowing how and when to access the nursing supervisor, and having access to available resources both inside and outside the school district.

### !!REMINDER!!

#### 2009 School Health Services Survey Due June 6, 2009

The Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) would again like to request your participation in the School Health Services Information Survey. In 2007-08, the participation rate was 73 percent. The Connecticut State Department of Education's goal is 100 percent participation. This survey represents an opportunity to continue documenting the school health services provided to students and staff in Connecticut public and private, non-profit schools. Surveys should be completed by **June 6, 2009**, to allow adequate time for data analysis. All information needed to complete the survey may be found on the EDUCATION CONNECTION web site at: [http://www.educationconnection.org/new/programs/prog\\_sde.php](http://www.educationconnection.org/new/programs/prog_sde.php). If you are unable to meet this deadline, please contact Stephanie Knutson at [Stephanie.knutson@ct.gov](mailto:Stephanie.knutson@ct.gov).

### UPDATES FROM... THE CONNECTICUT STATE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

#### 2008-09 Asthma Reporting Form

Connecticut General Statute Section 10-206 requires that schools report information on students with asthma to the Connecticut Department of Public Health (CDPH) on an annual basis. The Asthma Reporting form, Asthma Action Plan form and letters from CDPH with instructions for completion of the forms are attached. Asthma Reporting Forms can also be found at: <http://www.ct.gov/dph/asthma>.



Asthma Reporting  
Reminder June...



Asthma Action Plan  
Letter.pdf ...



Asthma Action Plan  
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#### Spring Asthma Newsletter

The **Spring Asthma Newsletter** can be accessed at the following link: [http://www.ct.gov/dph/lib/dph/hems/asthma/pdf/spring\\_2009.pdf](http://www.ct.gov/dph/lib/dph/hems/asthma/pdf/spring_2009.pdf)

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITY

### **Illness and Outbreaks in the School Setting**

An update on policies and procedures for school administrators and local health officials. Features current information on the Novel H1N1 virus, school closure recommendations and community mitigation plans. Please register at the following link: <http://ct.train.org>. This event is being sponsored by the Connecticut Department of Public Health and the Connecticut State Department of Education. This is a great opportunity for nursing supervisors to attend with their district superintendents.

Date: July 22, 2009

Location: Southern Connecticut State University

Time: 8a.m. to 12:30p.m.

Course Id#: 1017817

### **School Nurse Emergency Medical Services for Children Program**

The purpose of this program is to reduce morbidity and mortality in children and youths who are injured or become ill at school. This three-day workshop will be presented by a team of instructors and includes lectures, slides, an assessment demonstration, triage and critical problem-solving scenarios with emergency medical services personnel. For more information, contact the program administrator at: [cpdinfo@uconn.edu](mailto:cpdinfo@uconn.edu) or call the Center for Continuing Studies at 860-486-3231. Additional information may be found at: [http://continuingstudies.uconn.edu/professional/health/school\\_nurse.html](http://continuingstudies.uconn.edu/professional/health/school_nurse.html).

Date: August 11, 12 and 13, 2009

Location: University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT

## ARTICLE OF INTEREST...

### **Weight bias in the classroom: tools for educators**

Overweight or obese children are vulnerable to weight bias and may be the target of stereotypes, prejudice, and unfair treatment because of their weight. A new resource from the Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity helps schools and educators think about and intervene in weight bias issues. Weight bias can be expressed in different ways among students: verbal comments (e.g., name-calling, derogatory comments, and teasing); physical aggression (e.g., being pushed, shoved, kicked, and bullied); and social exclusion (e.g., being avoided, ignored, and excluded by others). The bias most often occurs in the school setting, according to the center, but teachers can play an important role in reducing it. Studies show that overweight and obese children who are victimized because of their weight are more susceptible to depression, low self-esteem, and poor body image. Some research has also demonstrated that victimized obese youth are two to three times more likely to engage in suicidal thoughts and behaviors than overweight children who are not victimized. Weight bias also limits children's social relationships, making them more likely to be socially isolated and less likely to be chosen as friends. Additional information may be found at the following link: [http://yaleruddcenter.org/what\\_we\\_do.aspx?id=200](http://yaleruddcenter.org/what_we_do.aspx?id=200).

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We're on the Web!

<http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/cwp/view.asp?a=2678&q=320768>

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