



# THE SCHOOL NURSE BULLETIN

## AUGUST 2016

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### **Zika Virus: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Guidance for School Districts**

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has developed interim guidance for school districts and school administrators for public health actions pertaining to Zika virus infection. *Zika Virus Response Planning: Interim Guidance for District and School Administrators in the Continental United States and Hawaii (Zika Guidance for Schools)* includes information about the risk for Zika virus infection in K–12 schools, provides guidance when planning school-related activities, and recommends actions that can be taken, in consultation with local public health authorities and government officials, to reduce the potential risk for Zika virus transmission on school premises and among students.

The *Zika Guidance for Schools* includes an overview of the potential roles and responsibilities of public health authorities and school officials, prevention measures that schools can take to reduce mosquito exposure, and information on responding to a case of travel-associated Zika virus infection or confirmed local mosquito-borne transmission of Zika virus.

The *Zika Guidance for Schools* is located on the CDC's Web site at: <http://www.cdc.gov/zika/schools.html> and will be updated as needed when new information becomes available. Current information on this Web site includes:

- Roles and Responsibilities of School Officials and Public Health Authorities;
- Planning for Possible Zika Virus Transmission in K–12 Schools;
- Responding to a Case of Zika Virus Infection in K–12 Schools;
- Responding to Mosquito-Borne Transmission of Zika Virus in the Local Area;
- Considerations for Child Care, Camp, and Higher Education Settings;
- What is already known about this topic?;
- What is added by this report?;
- What are the implications for public health practice?; and
- General Information about Zika Virus

The Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) also has informational resources that are available in English and Spanish, located on their Web site at: <http://www.ct.gov/dph/cwp/view.asp?a=3115&q=580154>. Topics on the DPH Web site include:

- About Zika;
- Symptoms, testing & treatment;
- Prevention;
- Pregnancy;
- Transmission & risks;
- Areas with Zika;
- Mosquito control; and
- Health effects & risks.

The State Department of Education will continue to regularly communicate with school nurse supervisors regarding this issue. If you have questions or need additional information, please contact Stephanie Knutson, Education Consultant, at 860-807-2108 or [stephanie.knutson@ct.gov](mailto:stephanie.knutson@ct.gov).

**Save the Date - Monday, September 26, 2016!**

## **2016 Fall School Nurse Supervisor Workshop: Medication Administration Regulations and Health Policies for Connecticut Schools**

This workshop has been designed to provide guidance to school districts regarding the *Regulations of the Administration of Medication by School Personnel and Administration of Medication During Before- and After-School Programs and School Readiness Programs (Regulations)*. It is designed to provide clarification of the *Regulations* and to assist school districts with the creation or adjustments to their medication administration and school health policies based on state and federal laws.

### **Major topics include:**

- medication administration regulations for schools and implications for delegation, documentation and communication;
- How the Regulations inform school district medication administration and other school health policies; and
- the importance of interdisciplinary team approaches to managing chronic health conditions (including sexual transmitted diseases) and medication administration.
- Review of the laws regarding medications such as glucagon, diastat, epinephrine and naloxone.

This workshop provides an **in-depth walk-through** of the medication administration *Regulations*. We strongly suggest that all new school nurse supervisors attend this workshop!!

Additional information regarding registration and other details will be forthcoming.



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