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FACT SHEET

A Parent's Guide to Common Health Questions in a Licensed Youth Camp

Medications in a Youth Camp:

Campers may receive medications in a licensed youth camp only under the following conditions:

- A licensed physician, physician assistant, advanced practice registered nurse or registered nurse may administer medications.
- An unlicensed camp staff member who has been satisfactorily trained in medication administration may administer oral, topical, inhalant, and emergency injectable medications.
- A camper may self-administer medications.

All medications must have a written order from an authorized prescriber (e.g. physician, physician assistant or advanced practice registered nurse.) This includes both over-the-counter (OTC) medications such as Tylenol and aspirin and prescription medications.

All medications must also have the written permission of the parent in order for the medications to be administered.

All medications that will be self-administered by the camper require the written permission of the parent and the authorized prescriber.

All medications must be stored in the original child resistant safety containers and be properly labeled. This would include inhaler and Epi-pen injectable medications.

- Medications that are not in the original containers and are not properly labeled are not acceptable. This presents a potential safety risk to the camper who may receive the wrong medication.
- Save the original package and/or container(s) that the medications come in and bring that packaging to camp.
- Consult with your local pharmacist for further assistance if necessary.

If the camp has a registered nurse, the nurse may administer some medications in accordance with the camp physician's standing orders using stock medications. If the camp does not have a registered nurse, the camp can only administer medications in accordance with an individual order for the camper. Please check with your child's camp to see if there is a nurse.

Health Records in a Youth Camp:

All campers must present a copy of a physical examination or health status certification.

- The form must be dated within thirty-six (36) months prior to arrival at camp.
- The physical examination used for school purposes may be used for a youth camp.
- The form must include a complete immunization history for the camper.

The purpose of the camper's health record is to provide important information in the event of an emergency or other health guidance that may be necessary. Plan ahead and retain a copy of your child's physical examination used for school purposes. Take the form to camp so that the staff you are entrusting your child with will be prepared.