Medication Administration in Early Education and Child Care Settings

PARTICIPANT’S MANUAL

American Academy of Pediatrics
DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN

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The recommendations in this curriculum do not indicate an exclusive course of treatment or serve as a standard of medical care. Variations, taking into account individual circumstances, may be appropriate.

Please note: Listing of resources does not imply an endorsement by the AAP. The AAP is not responsible for the content of the resources mentioned in this curriculum. Phone numbers and Web site addresses are as current as possible, but may change at any time.

Note: Brand names are for your information only. The AAP does not recommend any specific brand of drugs or products.

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Introduction

The Healthy Futures: Improving Health Outcomes for Young Children, Medication Administration Curriculum has been made available by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) Early Education and Child Care Initiatives.

The Medication Administration Curriculum is a collaborative effort of health care and early education and child care professionals from the AAP, Child Care Bureau State Administrators, Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems, Family Voices, National Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies, National Association for the Education of Young Children, National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners, National Child Care Information and Technical Assistance Center, National Resource Center for Health and Safety in Child Care and Early Education, National Training Institute for Child Care Health Consultants, and the Office of Head Start.

Beginning in October 2008, a Project Advisory Group, led by Elaine Donoghue, MD, FAAP, Stephanie Nelson, MS, CHES, and Deborah Mullen, Captus Communications, was developed. This group of more than 15 health care and early education and child care professionals was divided into 3 subgroups: a Content Work Group, a State-specific Issues Work Group, and an Implementation Work Group.

The Content Work Group reviewed the current resources available from state initiatives and, with permission, drew from their content and format for this curriculum. Initiatives from Colorado, New Jersey, North Carolina, and West Virginia were particularly helpful in the development of the Healthy Futures Medication Administration Curriculum.

The State-specific Issues Work Group reviewed state-specific regulations, Head Start Performance Standards, and National Association for the Education of Young Children Accreditation Standards and reported to the Content Work Group their findings and the impact on the Healthy Futures Medication Administration Curriculum.

The Implementation Work Group developed strategies to assist the AAP Chapter Child Care Contacts in how to facilitate the Healthy Futures Medication Administration Curriculum throughout their states. The group also looked at strategies to incorporate state-specific information.

The Healthy Futures Medication Administration Curriculum went through extensive review through the AAP, specifically, the Board of Directors; Committee on Early Childhood, Adoption, and Dependent Care; Committee on Medical Liability and Risk Management; Council on Community Pediatrics; Council on School Health; Medical Home Implementation Project Advisory Committee; Section on Early Education and Child Care; Section on Allergy and Immunology; and the Section on Pediatric Pulmonology.

Optimal instructors for this course include Child Care Health Consultants, pediatricians, or other licensed health care professionals with experience in child care settings.