

MSNO POSITION STATEMENT
CPR and First Aid Training

BACKGROUND

The health needs of students are intensifying in our county's schools. More and more students are requiring specialized health care services while attending school, such as; 1) asthma inhalers or nebulizers, 2) blood glucose testing, 3) insulin injections, 4) epinephrine auto-injections, 5) intermittent catheterizations, etc. Also at issue are potential vulnerabilities to terrorism, after 9/11/01, and the responsibilities of School Districts to be prepared.

The following Education Code sections encourage CPR/First Aid training in schools:

- 49413 - "...it is the intent of the Legislature to encourage school districts and schools, individually or jointly, to develop a program whereby their staff and pupils understand the importance of this training and have appropriate opportunity to develop these skills."
- 49414 -in reference to providing emergency epinephrine auto-injectors to trained personnel for emergency medical aid to persons suffering from anaphylactic reaction; (2) "Training established pursuant to this subdivision shall include all of the following: (D) Instruction and certification in cardiopulmonary resuscitation.
- 49423.5-(1) (c) "Persons providing specialized physical health care services shall also demonstrate competence in basic cardiopulmonary resuscitation..."

STATEMENT

The Marin School Nurse Organization (MSNO) believes that CPR and First Aid Training should be mandatory for school personnel who have responsibilities for the health care of students. The personnel included in the training, should be, but are not limited to the following:

- Administrative assistants
- Health Clerks
- Physical Education teachers
- Yard supervisors
- One school administrator per site
- All personnel working with students who need specialized health care or have other life-threatening conditions, i.e., anaphylaxis, diabetes, seizures, severe asthma

RATIONALE

Students with special health care needs have the right to attend school in the least restrictive setting which does not place them at risk for added health impairment. The student's health care needs should be met by adequately trained personnel and the school nurse is qualified to determine the level of training required to competently perform specific health care procedures. Therefore, it is the belief of the members of MSNO that the above training should include CPR and First Aid Training that is updated at least bi-annually.