

A Policy and Protocol Scavenger Hunt*

Policy/Protocol	Notes
<input type="checkbox"/> AED	All schools must have an AED (MGL Ch 71, Sec 54C)
<input type="checkbox"/> Asthma	MGL Ch 71, Sec 54B specifically allows students with asthma to self-administer medication according to regulation (105 CMR 210.006).
<input type="checkbox"/> Attendance	Chronic absence (missing 10% of school days in a one academic year) is an early warning predictor of student performance. DESE requires all districts to monitor and report on attendance. Every district has attendance policies and school nurses work with administrators on monitoring attendance and addressing absences. Attendance Works provides excellent resources on this topic.
<input type="checkbox"/> Bullying	All districts are required to have policies on bullying
<input type="checkbox"/> Concussion	A full page of resources on Concussion laws, regulations, and management is available on SHIELD's website
<input type="checkbox"/> Cystic Fibrosis	MGL Ch 71, Sec 54B specifically allows students with cystic fibrosis to self-administer enzyme supplement according to regulation (105 CMR 210.006).
<input type="checkbox"/> Diabetes	See The Massachusetts Guide to Managing Diabetes in Schools and Joslin Diabetes Center school nurse resources web page for excellent resources. MGL Ch 71, Sec 54B specifically allows students with diabetes to self-administer according to regulation (105 CMR 210.006).
<input type="checkbox"/> District and School	School committees set overall district policy, and individual schools will also have also building policies (i.e. high school field trip policies).
<input type="checkbox"/> Health	Health policies generally relate to public health such as immunization requirements, physical examinations, and school attendance when ill.
<input type="checkbox"/> Health Screenings	Health and substance use screenings are required by law and regulation. Detailed resources are available in SHIELD's resources site.
<input type="checkbox"/> Lice	Some districts have "no-nit" policies; these are not evidenced based. Head lice pose no health hazards and the American Academy of Pediatrics and National Association of School Nurses have both issued statements that these policies should be abandoned. MDPH also provides excellent resources on lice.
<input type="checkbox"/> Life Threatening Allergies/Epinephrine	See the Managing Life threatening allergies in Schools issued by DESE & MDPH for guidance.
<input type="checkbox"/> Medical Emergency Response Plan	All school districts must have medical emergency response plans(MGL Ch 69, Sec 8A)
<input type="checkbox"/> Medication Administration and Delegation	See SHIELD's Medication Administration and Delegation resource for guidance
<input type="checkbox"/> Naloxone (Narcan)	Districts are encouraged to have naloxone on hand for emergencies. Guidance can be found in SHIELD's resources.
<input type="checkbox"/> Nursing Procedures	Districts may have guidance on skilled nursing procedures such as G-Tube or Central Line management. If not, a good resource is MDPH's MASSTART Program.
<input type="checkbox"/> Substance Use	All schools will have policies related to substance use. Athletic department policies also address substance use in student athletes. Sometimes the goals of these policies may conflict with substance use screening goals (SBIRT), so it's important to understand the nuances of local substance use policies.
<input type="checkbox"/> Universal Precautions	Schools have policies about managing blood and body fluids. Training in universal precautions is usually mandated.
<input type="checkbox"/> Wellness	All schools must have wellness policies and committees (MGL Ch 111, Sec 223)

*Note: This is a select sample of key policies school nurses should know; it is not an exhaustive list. This scavenger hunt was adapted from the ESHS Evaluation Team CQI Project *Creating School Nursing Capacity A Resource Toolkit 2018*.