

### XIII. SEIZURE MEDICATIONS

Students with seizures may require emergency medications at school for the management of repeated or prolonged seizures. The student's LHP will determine if and when emergency rescue medication is necessary at school. Students receiving medication for the control of their seizures should have a written IHP/ECP with instructions for how to manage the student's seizures during school hours and school sponsored events.

#### Summary of Provisions

Requirements for the care of students with life-threatening seizures are addressed in [RCW 28A.210.260 Public and Private School Administration of medication](#) and [RCW 28A.210.320 Children with life-threatening health conditions](#).

#### [RCW 28A.210.260 Public and Private School Administration of Medication](#)

- A. The RN may delegate medications for the treatment of seizures via the following routes: oral, topical, eye drops, ear drops or nasal spray. This law does not allow for the delegation of rectal medication.
- B. If a school nurse is on the premises, a nasal spray that is a legend drug or controlled substance must be administered by the school nurse.
- C. If no school nurse is on the premises, a nasal spray that is a legend drug or a controlled substance may be administered by a trained school employee or parent designated adult (PDA) who is not a school nurse.
- D. The board of directors shall allow school employees, who have received appropriate training and volunteered for such training, to administer a nasal spray that is a legend drug or a controlled substance.
- E. After a school employee, who is not a school nurse, administers a nasal spray that is a legend drug or controlled substance, the UAP shall summon emergency medical assistance as soon as possible. Note: Regardless of who administers an emergency seizure medication, emergency medical assistance should be summoned.
- F. The board of directors shall designate a professional person, licensed, pursuant to [RCW 18.71](#) or [RCW 18.79](#) as it applies to registered nurses (RN) and advanced registered nurse practitioners (ARNP), to delegate to, train, and supervise the designated UAP in proper medication procedures.

#### [RCW 28A.210.320 Children with Life-Threatening Health Conditions](#)

- A. This law adds a condition of attendance for students with life-threatening conditions. Treatment and medication orders and nursing care plans requiring medical services must be in place prior to the first day of school.

#### Parent Designated Adult (PDA)

The school district is ultimately responsible for providing nursing care to students at school and school sponsored events. In addition, [RCW 28A. 210.260](#) allows parents of students with epilepsy to select a "parent designated adult" to provide parent-directed nursing care in school.

- A. PDA is a volunteer who may be a school district employee who receives additional training from a healthcare professional or expert in epileptic seizure care, selected by the parent/guardian, and who provides care for the student consistent with the IHP.

- B. To be eligible to be a PDA, a school district employee, not licensed under [RCW 18.79](#) must file, without coercion by the employer, a voluntary written, current, unexpired letter of intent stating the employee's willingness to be a PDA.
- C. If the school district employee chooses not to be a PDA, the employee shall not be subject to any employer reprisal or disciplinary action.
- D. PDA training may be provided by an epilepsy educator who is nationally certified.
- E. PDAs who are not school employees must show evidence of comparable training.
- F. The school's RN is not responsible for the supervision of the PDA for those procedures that are authorized by the parent/guardian however; the RN is still responsible for the overall plan of care.

### **Special Considerations**

- A. A Vagal Nerve Stimulator is not a medication. It is considered a treatment that is used for the management of seizures and can be delegated to UAP by the RN. [DOH NCQAC Advisory Opinion, Registered Nurse Delegation in School Settings.](#)
- B. Students with seizures may qualify for Section 504 accommodations. This needs to be considered in the development of the student's IHP. Follow district policy and procedure for this process.

For additional resources about the care of seizures and treatment modalities, see NCQAC document, [Registered Nurses Coordinating Seizure Management.](#)

*\*NOTE: When considering delegation of emergency seizure medication, "No person may coerce a nurse into compromising patient safety by requiring the nurse to delegate if the nurse determines that it is inappropriate to do so. Nurses shall not be subject to any employer reprisal or disciplinary action by the Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission for refusing to delegate tasks or refusing to provide the required training for delegation if the nurse determines delegations may compromise patient safety."* [RCW 18.79.260](#)