

**JOINT STATEMENT OF THE VERMONT BOARDS OF
PHARMACY, STATE BOARD OF NURSING AND THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

**REGARDING THE ADMINISTRATION OF
MEDICATION ON SCHOOL FIELD TRIPS BY SCHOOL NURSES
POSITION STATEMENT**

On December 6, 2000, duly appointed committees of the above boards met with representative of the Department of Education to discuss administration of student medication on school field trips. As a result of those discussions and in accord with the Nurse Practice Act the following statement was approved.

When it is necessary for a school nurse to delegate responsibility for administering students' medications on field trips, the nurse should attempt to obtain a labeled container from the prescribing pharmacy for the dose needed. It is within the scope of the Nurse Practice Act for the nurse to delegate the administration of the medication to a responsible adult attending the field trip.

The nurse remains responsible for the delegation and must follow proper procedures for delegation of medication as described in the Vermont Standards of Practice for School Health Services manual Appendix 37-1. The nurse should place the medication in a properly labeled container, in adherence with safe nursing practice. The nurse must inform the student's parent or legal guardian of the delegation procedures to be used on the field trip and must give complete instructions to the responsible adult administering the medication. The nurse must ensure that there are clear procedures in place for the receiving, administering, and documenting of the medication administered on the field trip.

Carla Preston
For the Board of Pharmacy

David Wolk
For the Department of Education

Anita Ristau
For the State Board of Nursing

Approved by the above on December 6, 2000