

■ POLICY

□ GUIDELINE

MINORS AND ADULTS

ADMINISTERING MEDICATIONS TO MINORS

A minor using prescribed medication during an activity sponsored by a parish catechetical program must have on file a signed medical authorization form from the parent or guardian, and a properly completed physician’s statement. The authorization must include the following:

1. Written permission from the parent (s) or guardian (s).
2. A physician’s verification of the necessity for the medication; name of medication; dosage; times or intervals at which it is to be taken; duration; and possible side effects.
3. Medication must be in original containers and have affixed label including the minor’s name.
4. Accurate records of the medication given must be kept.
5. A statement releasing and holding parish personnel harmless from any and all liability for damages or injury resulting directly or indirectly from the presence of the medication during the activity or its use by the minor.

The possession or use of non-prescription, over-the-counter medication during activities is discouraged. Administration of these medications (i.e. throat lozenges, acetaminophen drugs such as Tylenol and Datril) should be determined on the local level, if the parish determines that adequate team members are available, and as long as appropriate permission forms are on file. The parish will not administer aspirin to minors because of its connection to Reye’s Syndrome.

Catechetical leaders are permitted to administer prescribed medication to a minor when conditions exist, which in the judgment of the catechetical leader, merit giving assistance to the minor (e.g., immaturity of the child or youth, nature of the medication). Catechetical leaders are not required to administer medication to minors.

At the discretion of the pastor, the catechetical leader may require that medication be kept by him or her until the minor needs to use it.

**Office of Religious Education and Catechesis
Catholic Diocese of Columbus**

Adopted	<u>8/04</u>
Reviewed	<u>8/10, 7/17</u>
Revised	<u>7/17</u>