



## **400.51**

■ POLICY

□ GUIDELINE

### **ADMINISTRATION**

#### **ADMINISTERING MEDICATIONS TO YOUTH**

A youth using prescribed medication during a youth ministry activity 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 youth's name.
4. Accurate records of the medication given must be kept filed.
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 youth.

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 Datriil) 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 youth because of its connection to Reye's Syndrome.

Coordinators of youth ministry are permitted to administer prescribed medication to a youth when conditions exist, which in the judgment of the coordinator, merit giving assistance to the youth (e.g., immaturity of the youth, nature of the medication). Coordinators of youth ministry are not required to administer medication to students.

At the discretion of the pastor, the coordinator of youth ministry may require that medication be kept by youth ministry team members until the youth needs to use it.