

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION
AND
PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

IN RE: JOHN B.U. AND JANE A.N. DOE *

INTERIM ORDER

Held: Procedure established
for administration of
EPIPEN.

Date: September 13, 1996

SEP- 3-96 TUE 12:59 PM
AUG-28-96 THU 3:18 PM
AUG-28-96 WED 2:39 PM

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Under statute and regulations of the Board of Regents and the Rhode Island Department of Health only certified nurse teachers may administer prescription medication. There is a unique exception to this rule however which allows for the emergency administration of a prescription medication by a non-nurse teacher when the onset of a life threatening medical condition comes with such suddenness that awaiting the arrival of the nurse teacher puts the student at risk. This exception permits another designated school official to administer an EPIPEN. This itself is a very narrow category of cases. Even this exception is insufficient on the facts of this case. The medical evidence demonstrates, with respect to these two students the potential for severe, immediate and fatal anaphylactic reaction.

Therefore upon any sign of anaphylaxis i.e. breathing difficulties, throat swelling, and/or loss of consciousness, the teacher or other school personnel present shall immediately administer the EPIPEN. There shall be no delay for a 911 call or to obtain the school nurse or other usual personnel. Immediately following administration of the EPIPEN, there shall be a 911 call and school nurse/teacher contact.

Approved

8/28/96

Robert J. Settipane, ms
Robert J. Settipane, ms
Dr. R. V. ...
9/13/96

AUG-28-96 THU 2:36 PM

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OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

SEP 0 1996

LEGAL COUNSEL

Forrest L. Avila

Forrest L. Avila
Hearing Officer

Approved:

Peter McWalters

Peter McWalters
Commissioner

Date: September 13, 1996