

Permission and Instructions Exceptions



There are three (3) exceptions when you do not need written parental permission and written health care provider instructions:

1. To give **over-the-counter topical ointment, sunscreen and topical insect repellent**:

- You only need written permission from the parent.
- If you are unable to get written or faxed permission from the parent, you can apply the ointment with verbal permission from the parent for one day only. You need written permission to continue giving the ointment on subsequent days.
- You need written instructions from the health care provider if the instructions written on the ointment package state to consult a doctor or if the package directions do not match what the parent is asking you to do.

2. To give a **prescription medication** for one day only:

- If you are unable to get written or faxed permission and instructions from the parent and/or health care provider, you can give the medication with verbal permission from the parent and verbal instructions from the health care provider.
- You can only give the medication on the day you got the verbal permission and instructions.
- You must get written permission from the parent and written instructions from the health care provider to continue giving the medication on subsequent days.

3. To give an **over-the-counter medication** to a child who is **eighteen (18) months or older** for one day only*:

- If you are unable to get written or faxed permission and instructions from the parent and/or health care provider, you can give the medication with verbal permission from the parent. You do not need instructions from the health care provider.
- You must get verbal instructions from the health care provider if the package states to consult a doctor or if the package directions do not match what the parent is asking you to do.
- You can only give the medication on the day you got the verbal permission.
- You must get written permission from the parent and written instructions from the health care provider to continue to give the medication on subsequent days.

*Note: This exception only applies to programs that have the OCFS *Administration of Medication Regulations – 3 Waiver Requests* approved. If your program does not have this waiver, refer to the regulations for additional information.



Handout 4.6

Accepting Verbal Instructions:

Check your program's health care plan to see if you can accept verbal permission and instructions. If you accept verbal permission and instructions, use the OCFS *Verbal Medication Consent Form and Log of Administration* and write down all of the doses you give the child for that day only.

You may only accept verbal instructions from a physician, physician assistant, nurse practitioner or registered nurse on behalf of the child's physician, physician assistant or nurse practitioner. See Handout 4.7.