

Students with Insulin Pumps and/or Continuous Glucose Monitors

Use of an Insulin Pump

An insulin pump is a computerized device that is programmed to deliver small, steady doses of insulin throughout the day. Additional doses are required to cover food intake and to lower blood glucose levels.

Due to various manufacturers, the different models and functions of insulin pumps and the continuous introduction of new models and capabilities of the pumps, parent(s)/guardian(s) are asked to perform all basic set-up and maintenance care tasks at home.

In the event a pump should malfunction, become dislodged, or come off the body, insulin will be administered in accordance with the DMMP. The parent(s)/guardian(s) will be notified. If the student has been identified per the DMMP, as independent in insulin pump management skills to include re-insertion, he/she can re-insert the infusion set/pump. If the student is unable to perform this skill and the parent(s)/guardian(s) are not available to come to school to re-insert the infusion set/pump, insulin will be administered by insulin vial and syringe as per the DMMP.

Virginia Code § 22.1-274.01:1.A., states each local school board employee who is a registered nurse, licensed practical nurse, or certified nurse aide and who has been trained in the administration of insulin, including the use and insertion of insulin pumps and the administration of glucagon may assist a student who is diagnosed with diabetes and who carries an insulin pump with the insertion or re-insertion of the pump or any of its parts. Prescriber authorization and parental consent shall be obtained for any such employee to assist with the insertion or re-insertion of the pump or any of its parts. Nothing in this section shall require any employee to assist with the insertion or re-insertion of the pump or any of its parts.

Use of Continuous Glucose Monitors

A continuous glucose monitor (CGM) is a device that measures the blood glucose levels and trends throughout the day. The CGM is a useful tool for identifying trends and can enhance the ability of the personal diabetes health care team to make needed adjustments to the student's diabetes plan. The CGM can measure the glucose in the fluid between the cells at regular intervals and sends the current equivalent glucose level wirelessly to a monitor. The monitor may be part of the insulin pump or a separate device, which many include a smartphone that is carried or worn by the student in a pocket, backpack, or a purse. The CGM sets off an alarm when blood glucose levels are out of range, or when they are increasing or decreasing at a rapid rate. Appropriate actions, in accordance with the student's DMMP, should be taken when the CGM alarms. At this time, treatment decisions and diabetes care plan adjustments should not be based solely on CGM results, except if indicated on the DMMP and for the specific model of CGM, as indicated on the DMMP

Some CGM's transmit data remotely to multiple devices at the same time via smartphone technology. Understanding the capabilities of the wireless systems in the individual schools, every reasonable effort should be made to assist in this process. Parents are asked to perform all CGM maintenance care tasks at home to include required regular calibrations.