

Medical Conditions Policy



Policy Relevant to:	All Team members, Educators & families
Last Reviewed:	July 2023
Next Review:	August 2025
NQF:	2.1, 2.1.1, 2.2, 2.2.1, 2.2.2
NQS:	12, 85, 86, 87, 89, 90, 90(1)(iv), 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 136, 162(C)(D), 168, 170, 173 (2)(f), 174
National Law:	

Adventure Patch aims to support children's wellbeing and manage specific healthcare needs, allergy or relevant medical condition. Adventure Patch services will work in accordance with the *Education and Care Services National Regulations* to ensure health related policies and procedures are implemented. We aim to take every reasonable precaution to protect children's health and safety by explicitly adhering to individual medical management and risk management plans and responding to any emergency situation should they arise.

Purpose

The *Education and Care Services National Regulations* requires Adventure Patch to ensure our services have policies and procedures in place for medical conditions. We aim to efficiently respond to and manage the medical conditions, including asthma, diabetes (if required) and anaphylaxis to ensure the safety and wellbeing of children, educators, team members, families, and visitors at our services.

Duty of Care

Adventure Patch has a legal responsibility to take reasonable steps to ensure the health needs of children enrolled in our services are met. This includes our responsibility to provide:

- a) a safe environment for children free of foreseeable harm and
- b) adequate supervision of children at all times.

Implementation

Adventure Patch will involve all educators, team members, families and children in regular discussions about medical conditions and general health and wellbeing throughout our curriculum. Adventure Patch is committed to adhering to privacy and confidentiality procedures when dealing with individual health care needs, allergies or relevant medical conditions including having families provide written permission to display the child's medical management plan in prominent positions within services.

There are a number of concerns that must be considered when a child with a diagnosed health care need, allergy, or medical condition is enrolled at Adventure Patch. Key procedures and strategies must be in place prior to the child commencing at our services to ensure their individual health, safety and wellbeing.



It is imperative that all educators and volunteers at Adventure Patch services follow a child's medical management plan in the event of an incident related to a child's specific health care need, allergy, or medical condition.

Adventure Patch is committed to ensuring the inclusion of children with diagnosed medical conditions within its programs and to providing a safe and caring learning environment for these children. Inclusive programs encourage and allow all children genuine opportunities to participate in early learning programs.

Adventure Patch will:

- Adhere to privacy and confidentiality procedures when dealing with individual health needs. All documentation regarding the child and their medical condition will be shared confidentially at all times.
- New and existing enrolment forms are reviewed to identify any specific health care need, allergy or medical condition.
- Educators are also responsible for raising any concerns with a child's parents about any medical condition/suspected medical condition or known allergens that pose a risk to the child.
- A child is not enrolled at or will attend Adventure Patch services without a medical management plan and prescribed medication by their medical practitioner especially for life-threatening conditions.
- Under the *Education and Care Services National Regulations* children with a diagnosed medical condition that require medication must not attend the Centre without their medication which has been prescribed by the child's medical practitioner in relation to their specific health care need, allergy or relevant medical condition.
- Educators and team members will have a clear understanding of children's individual health care needs, allergy or relevant medical condition that may be ongoing or acute/short term in nature and will follow child's Medical Management Action Plan.
- Educators are provided with annual ASCIA anaphylaxis e-training to provide consistent and evidence-based approaches to prevention, recognition and emergency treatment of anaphylaxis.
- At least one educator or RPIC is in attendance at all times with a current accredited first aid certificate, emergency asthma management and emergency anaphylaxis management certificate (as approved by ACECQA).
- Risk minimisation plan has been developed in consultation with parents and management prior to the child commencing at the service.
- Educators and staff will be informed immediately about any changes to a child's medical management plan and risk management plan.
- Where medication is administered to a child at Adventure Patch, educators, and staff hold a duty of care to ensure that medication is administered in accordance with regulations and law. Medication will only be administered at Adventure Patch services where absolutely necessary to ensure a child's continued health and well-being.
- In the event of an incident relating to the child's specific health care need, allergy or relevant medical condition the child's Medical Management Action Plan will be followed by the service educators.



- Paracetamol will not be administered unless in an emergency and only with written permission from parents (i.e. email or text message). In the event that authorised persons cannot be contacted in an emergency, paracetamol can be administered at the discretion of the Centre Leader or Manager providing permission has been given on the enrolment form.

In the case of an emergency.

- If verbal authorisation is given by a parent or a person named in the child's enrolment record as authorised to consent to administration of medication, the service will require written confirmation.
- If such a person cannot reasonably be contacted in the circumstances, a registered medical practitioner or an emergency service will be contacted.
- Medication may be administered to a child without an authorisation in case of an anaphylaxis or asthma emergency.

Related Policies

Acceptance and Refusal of Authorisations Policy
Administration of Medication Policy
Child Safe Environment Policy
Enrolment Policy
Health and Safety Policy
Incident, Injury, Trauma and Illness Policy
Nutrition Policy
Privacy and Confidentiality Policy
Sick Children Policy
Supervision Policy
Work Health and Safety Policy


Sources

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Federal Register of Legislation *Privacy Act 1988*.
Guide to the National Quality Framework. (2017). (Amended 2023).
National Health and Medical Research Council. (2013). *Staying Healthy: Preventing infectious diseases in early childhood education and care services* (5th Ed.). Australia: Commonwealth of Australia. NSW Government. (n.d.).
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Revised National Quality Standard. (2018).

Review History

Policy Reviewed By:	Service Managers	Scott Norris	July 2023
POLICY REVIEWED	July 2023	NEXT REVIEW DATE	July 2025
Modifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • policy maintenance - no major changes to policy • hyperlinks checked and repaired as required • 		
POLICY REVIEWED	PREVIOUS MODIFICATIONS		NEXT REVIEW DATE
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 		

Signed

CEO:	
Manager:	S. Norris