



## Chapter 5: Facilities, Supplies, Equipment, and Environmental Health

### 5.6 Supplies

#### Standard 5.6.0.1: First Aid and Emergency Supplies



The facility should maintain first aid and emergency supplies in each location where children are cared for. The first aid kit or supplies should be kept in a closed container, cabinet, or drawer that is labeled and stored in a location known to all staff, accessible to staff at all times, but locked or otherwise inaccessible to children. When children leave the facility for a walk or to be transported, a designated staff member should bring a transportable first aid kit. In addition, a transportable first aid kit should be in each vehicle that is used to transport children to and from a child care facility.

First aid kits or supplies should be restocked after use. An inventory of first aid supplies should be conducted at least monthly. A log should be kept that lists the date that each inventory was conducted, verification that expiration dates of supplies were checked, location of supplies (i.e., in the facility supply, transportable first aid kit(s), etc.), and the legal name/signature of the staff member who completed the inventory.

The first aid kit should contain at least the following items:

- a. Disposable nonporous, latex-free or non-powdered latex gloves (latex-free recommended);
- b. Scissors;
- c. Tweezers;
- d. Non-glass, non-mercury thermometer to measure a child's temperature;
- e. Bandage tape;
- f. Sterile gauze pads;
- g. Flexible roller gauze;
- h. Triangular bandages;
- i. Safety pins;
- j. Eye patch or dressing;
- k. Pen/pencil and note pad;
- l. Cold pack;
- m. Current American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) standard first aid chart or equivalent first aid guide such as the AAP Pediatric First Aid For Caregivers and Teachers (PedFACTS) Manual;
- n. Coins for use in a pay phone and cell phone;
- o. Water (two liters of sterile water for cleaning wounds or eyes);
- p. Liquid soap to wash injury and hand sanitizer, used with supervision, if hands are not visibly soiled or if no water is present;
- q. Tissues;



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- r. Wipes;
- s. Individually wrapped sanitary pads to contain bleeding of injuries;
- t. Adhesive strip bandages, plastic bags for cloths, gauze, and other materials used in handling blood;
- u. Flashlight;
- v. Whistle;
- w. Battery-powered radio (1).

When children walk or are transported to another location, the transportable first aid kit should include ALL items listed above AND the following emergency information/items:

- a. List of children in attendance (organized by caregiver/teacher they are assigned to) and their emergency contact information (i.e., parents/guardian/emergency contact home, work, and cell phone numbers);
- b. Special care plans for children who have them;
- c. Emergency medications or supplies as specified in the special care plans;
- d. List of emergency contacts (i.e., location information and phone numbers for the Poison Center, nearby hospitals or other emergency care clinics, and other community resource agencies);
- e. Maps;
- f. Written transportation policy and contingency plans.

#### **RATIONALE:**

Facilities must place emphasis on safeguarding each child and ensuring that the staff members are able to handle emergencies (2).

#### **COMMENTS:**

Many centers simply leave a first aid kit in all vehicles used to transport children, regardless of whether the vehicle is used to take a child to or from a center, or for outings. Maps are required in case transporting staff need to find an alternate way back to the facility or another route to emergency services when roads are closed and/or communication and power systems are inaccessible. Programs may want to have access to hand-held or stationary electronic/cellular, or satellite devices (e.g., GIS systems or phones that include relevant features) when transporting to help locate alternative routes during an emergency.

Syrup of Ipecac should not be used to induce vomiting and should not be included in first aid kits or available at a child care program (1). Contact the local poison center at 1-800-222-1222 for instructions if needed.

Hand sanitizers may be used under supervision as an alternative to washing hands with soap and water if wipes are used to remove visible soil before the hand sanitizer is applied.

#### **TYPE OF FACILITY:**

Small Family Child Care Home, Center, Large Family Child Care Home

#### **RELATED STANDARDS:**

[3.2.2.5](#) Hand Sanitizers

[3.6.1.3](#) Thermometers for Taking Human Temperatures

#### **REFERENCES:**



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1. American Academy of Pediatrics. 2007. Pediatric first aid for caregivers and teachers. Rev ed. Elk Grove Village, IL: AAP. <http://www.pedfactsonline.com/>.
2. Fiene, R. 2002. 13 indicators of quality child care: Research update. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation. <http://aspe.hhs.gov/basic-report/13-indicators-quality-child-care>.