

Common School-age Infectious Diseases: A School Nurse Perspective



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Disclosure

Emily Poland has nothing to disclose with regard to commercial relationships.

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Overview

- School community: defined
- School nursing practice: defined
- Common infections in schools:
 - Norovirus
 - Conjunctivitis
 - Varicella
- Reporting Requirements

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School Community

- Public
- Charter
- Private 60% Publicly funded
- Private Non-sectarian
- Private sectarian
- Special-purpose private school
- Special-purpose public school
- Nontraditional limited purpose private school



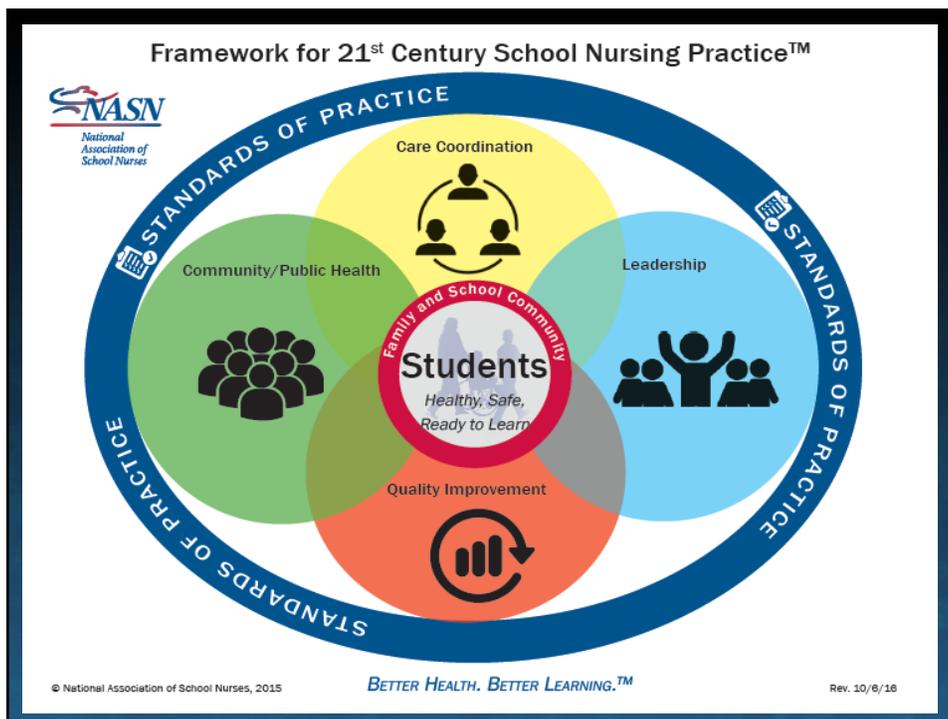
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School Nursing

Maine Board of Nursing : The registered professional school nurse strengthens and facilitates the educational process by promoting and protecting the health and wellness of all students. School nurses minimize health related barriers to learning, assess the health care needs, and link the health service program with education and support services.

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Framework for 21st Century School Nursing Practice™

NASN's *Framework for 21st Century School Nursing Practice* (the *Framework*) provides structure and focus for the key principles and components of current day, evidence-based school nursing practice. It is aligned with the Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child model that calls for a collaborative approach to learning and health (ASCD & CDC, 2014). Central to the *Framework* is student-centered nursing care that occurs within the context of the students' family and school community. Surrounding the students, family, and school community are the non-hierarchical, overlapping key principles of *Care Coordination*, *Leadership*, *Quality Improvement*, and *Community/Public Health*. These principles are surrounded by the fifth principle, *Standards of Practice*, which is foundational for evidence-based, clinically competent, quality care. School nurses daily use the skills outlined in the practice components of each principle to help students be healthy, safe, and ready to learn.

 <p>Standards of Practice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clinical Competence • Clinical Guidelines • Code of Ethics • Critical Thinking • Evidence-based Practice • NASN Position Statements • Nurse Practice Acts • Scope and Standards of Practice 	 <p>Care Coordination</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case Management • Chronic Disease Management • Collaborative Communication • Direct Care • Education • Interdisciplinary Teams • Motivational Interviewing/Counseling • Nursing Delegation • Student Care Plans • Student-centered Care • Student Self-empowerment • Transition Planning 	 <p>Leadership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocacy • Change Agents • Education Reform • Funding and Reimbursement • Healthcare Reform • Lifelong Learner • Models of Practice • Technology • Policy Development and Implementation • Professionalism • Systems-level Leadership 	 <p>Quality Improvement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuous Quality Improvement • Documentation/Data Collection • Evaluation • Meaningful Health/Academic Outcomes • Performance Appraisal • Research • Uniform Data Set 	 <p>Community/Public Health</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to Care • Cultural Competency • Disease Prevention • Environmental Health • Health Education • Health Equity • Healthy People 2020 • Health Promotion • Outreach • Population-based Care • Risk Reduction • Screenings/Referral/Follow-up • Social Determinants of Health • Surveillance
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ASCD & CDC. (2014). *Whole school whole community whole child: A collaborative approach to learning and health*. Retrieved from <http://www.ascd.org/ASCD/pdf/siteASCD/publications/wholechild/wscc-a-collaborative-approach.pdf>

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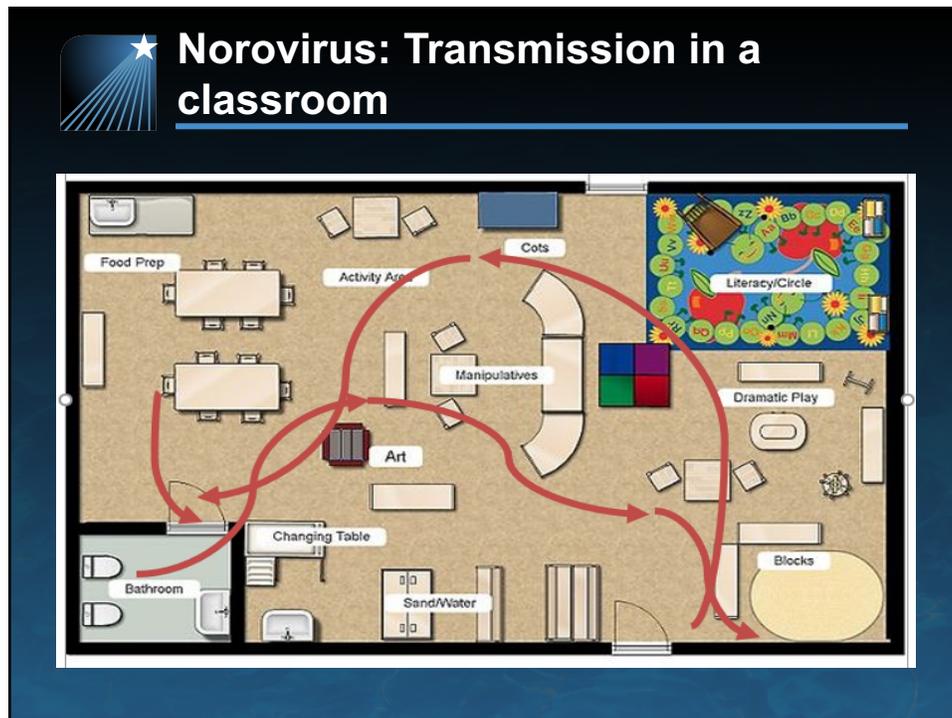
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Norovirus

- Group of viruses causing diarrhea & vomiting
- Quick onset, lasts 1-2 days
- Transmission
 - Spreads easily, fecal-oral route
 - School specifics
 - Role of school nurse

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★ Norovirus: Role of the School Nurse

- Universal teaching to school community
- Monitor symptoms of school children
- Be alert to spikes in illness at different locations/gathering places
 - Classrooms
 - Cafeteria
 - School Bus
 - Sports team
- Educate parents/families on prevention at home and when to return to school

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Norovirus: Reporting

- Norovirus is not a reportable disease, but...
- Outbreak definition for schools:
 - Cluster/outbreak of illness with potential public health significance
 - 15% students absent
 - Any case of unusual illness of infectious cause

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Conjunctivitis

- Signs/Symptoms
 - Redness/swelling of parts of eye
 - Watery or purulent drainage
- Different types

Bacterial	Viral	Allergic
Red/pink itchy painful eyes	Pink, swollen eyes	Redness, usually both eyes
Green/yellow discharge	Watery discharge	Excessive tearing/watery eyes, usually clear
Affects one or both eyes	May only be one eye	Usually both eyes

- Transmission (depends on type)

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Conjunctivitis @ School

- School staff nervous about “pink eye”
 - Frequent referrals to nurse with no complaints from student
- Is it viral, bacterial, or allergic?
 - Not in nursing scope of practice to diagnose
 - Assess symptoms
 - Monitor or refer
- What to tell the teacher who is nervous?



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Conjunctivitis: Role of School Nurse

- Staff Education
 - Prevention (universal teaching)
 - When to refer to school nurse
- Parent education
 - What to watch for @ home
 - When to see medical provider

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Varicella



- Signs & Symptoms
 - Headache
 - Fever
 - Headache
 - Rash
- Transmission
 - Contact with rash
 - Airborne

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Varicella: Role of the School Nurse

- Immunization tracking
 - Requirements for school entry
 - Yearly report to MeCDC
 - Exemptions
 - By vaccine, grade, classroom in case of outbreak
 - Report suspected case
 - Refer student to medical provider
 - Report to MeCDC

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Varicella: Role of the School Nurse

Immunization Tracking Form For Exempt or Non-Immunized Students

School Name: _____ School Year: _____

Student Name	DOB	Grade	All Vaccine	DtaP	MMR	Polio	Varicella	Tdap	MCV4

Sample tracking sheet for exemptions

- Determine exclusions for outbreak based on potential exposures at school

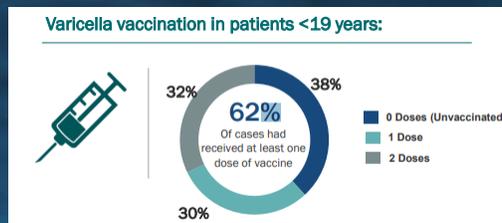
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Varicella: 2018 in Maine

Age	# Cases	% Cases
0-4	59	23%
5-9	40	16%
10-14	18	7%
15-19	5	2%
20-34	26	11%
35-49	21	8%
50+	81	32%
Total	252	100%

Maine Varicella Surveillance 2018



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Reporting Requirements

- Reportable diseases list
 - Suspicion (refer to provider)
 - Parent reported
- Potential Outbreak (15% absenteeism)

Reportable Diseases in Maine

- [Reportable Disease Graphs](#)
- [Vaccines & Preventable Diseases with links to Federal CDC](#)

Anthrax	Cervical Cancer	Diphtheria
Hepatitis A	Hepatitis B	Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib)
Human Papillomavirus (HPV)	Influenza (Flu)	Japanese Encephalitis (JE)
Lyme Disease	Measles	Meningococcal
Monkeypox	Mumps	Pertussis (Whooping Cough)
Pneumococcal	Polio	Rabies
Rotavirus	Rubella (German Measles)	Shingles (Herpes Zoster)
Scarlet fever	Tetanus (Lockjaw)	Tuberculosis
Typhoid Fever	Varicella (Chickenpox)	Yellow Fever

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Reporting Requirements

- High Absenteeism in School (15%)
- School nurse role:
 - Monitor daily attendance
 - Determine level at which to increase surveillance
 - Educate school staff that answer phone
 - Submit report

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Reporting Requirements



15% Absenteeism Reporting Reference Guide

The login page: <https://neo.maine.gov/DOE/NEO/Accounts/Account/Login>
 If you have trouble with login, contact the Help Desk: 624-6896

Located in NEO under Student Data tab

School High Absenteeism Reporting Form

- Report is submitted through DOE
- Both DOE and MeCDC receive report
- Epidemiologist contacts school nurse

Report Date:

1.0 School Details:

School:

Address 1:

Address 2:

City:

State:

Zip Code:

2.0 Contact Information

Nurse:

Email:

3.0 Student and Staff Population

Total Students:

Total Staff:

Total School Population:

4.0 Absenteeism Counts

Absent Students:

Absent Staff:

5.0 Absenteeism Reasons:

GI Symptoms

Respiratory Symptoms

Fever

Rash

Other (Please Specify):

6.0 Notes

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School Nurse Role

355.91 FTE School Nurses in Maine
192,048 School children

- Record review
- Referral
- Educate staff, students, families
- Dispel myths

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