

Management of asthma in schools

From October 2010, the management of a suspected asthma emergency in a child or adult in a Queensland school will be governed under Section 256B of the Health (Drugs and Poisons) Regulation 1996.

What the Regulation says:

256B Persons with certain asthma management training

(1) To the extent necessary to perform first aid at a workplace or community event, a person who has completed an asthma management course approved by the chief executive is authorised to administer S3 salbutamol or S3 terbutaline.

(2) In this section—

community event includes a sporting or recreational event.

From October 2010, schools will be considered a workplace under this regulation.

What does this mean for schools and school staff?

From October 2010, staff in Queensland schools are required to have completed an approved asthma management course (and hold a certificate or document issued by their training provider that identifies their successful completion of a course) if they wish to:

- **Purchase** blue reliever medication for use within the school and store the blue reliever within the school's first aid kit and
- **Administer** blue reliever medication for the management of a suspected asthma emergency in an adult or child within the school.

A list of asthma management courses deemed as satisfactory can be found on the Queensland Health Fact Sheet HDPR96.Asthma Management Courses– September 2008.

From October 2010, staff in Queensland schools will no longer be permitted to purchase or administer blue reliever medication without the appropriate training referred to above.

For further information about asthma and Asthma Foundation of Queensland training programs, telephone the Asthma InfoLine on 1800 645 130.