



Asthma and Allergy
Foundation of America®
MICHIGAN CHAPTER

media alert

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RE: Children Can Self-carry Their Asthma & Allergy Medicine

(May 31, 2006 – Southfield) With schools almost out for summer, the Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America – Michigan Chapter would like to advise parents and camp staff of recently approved legislation.

The new law, known as PA 120, will permit minor children attending Michigan camps to self-carry and self-administer their asthma inhaler and/or epinephrine auto-injector at all Michigan camps (including camp transportation, or at any activity, event or program sponsored by the camp) when certain conditions are met.

As with Michigan's school law (PA 73 of 2004), there is no minimum age criteria. The decision to permit a child to self-carry and self-administer is based on the capability of each individual child, as determined by the child's parents (or legal guardian) and physician or licensed healthcare provider. The conditions include:

1. Written permission, signed by both a licensed physician (or other healthcare provider licensed to prescribe an inhaler or auto-injector) and the parent or legal guardian
2. This written permission must be provided to the camp
3. An emergency care plan must be on file with the camp
4. Notwithstanding any children's camp policy to the contrary

Unlike the school law, the physician or other healthcare provider does not need to be licensed in the State of Michigan. Children from other states or Canada wishing to attend Michigan camps will be able to use their local physician for the required written permission and emergency care plan.

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To view the newly enrolled law, go to www.michiganlegislature.org and under "Legislative Bill Search" enter 335.

Michigan is the 3rd state in the U.S. (joining New Hampshire & Illinois) with a camp law on the books. With the signing of PA 120, Michigan now has again significantly improved the safety net for children with asthma and life threatening allergies.

For more information about this law, or help with asthma and allergy issues, contact the Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America – Michigan Chapter at #888.444.0333 or aafamich.org.