

**Parkway School Health Services Clinical Protocol**  
**Administering Homeopathic and Naturopathic Medications to Students**

**May 2017**

Parkway School District staff, including school nurses, will not take on the responsibility of administering homeopathic medications to students. School nurses are responsible for ensuring that they understand all of the side effects and interactions of any medication they administer. They also are responsible for questioning dosages that are outside of recommended ranges. Homeopathic and naturopathic preparations have not been reviewed and approved by the Food and Drug Administration, so we do not have the evidence to be assured that we understand all of the side effects and interactions. All medications, even homeopathic ones, have potential side effects, adverse reactions, and interactions with medications and foods. Dosage requirements are unlikely to exist for the administration of herbal preparations to school age children. Herbal preparations are unregulated by the FDA resulting in potential inconsistent amounts of the product and contamination, making a dose variable and unpredictable, which can be a special concern where children are concerned.

Parkway School District understands and respects parents who decide to give their children these medications and the district is not passing judgement on that decision. The district requires that these medications be given at home and that the school nurse or other school staff not take on this responsibility. Alternatively, parents are welcome to come to school and administer the medication themselves. Administering nonregulated medications would cause school nurses to practice outside of the bounds of their responsibilities under the Missouri Nurse Practice Act.

5/23/17