

Students

Pediculosis (Head Lice)

1. Definitions

Head Lice: Tiny grey to brown insects about the size of a sesame seed that live in human hair and feed on human blood to survive. Head lice do not fly or jump, but crawl. Without a human host they can only live for about one to two days.

Nits: Tiny white oval-shaped louse eggs attached to strands of hair next to the scalp.

School Nurse: is a registered nurse (RN) who has a certificate of registration under s. 441.06 or who is licensed as a registered nurse in a party state, as defined in s. 441.50 (2)(j) who performs for compensation of any act in the observation or care of the ill, injured, or infirm, or for the maintenance of health or prevention of illness of others, that requires substantial nursing skill, knowledge, or training, or application of nursing principles based on biological, physical, and social sciences, herein referred to as the School Nurse.

Medical Advisor: physician licensed to practice in the State of Wisconsin

2. Policy

The head lice management program will be under the direction of the Director of Health Services.

The Racine Unified School District shall have trained individuals who will implement the head lice management program guidelines.

The Medical Advisor in collaboration with the Director of Health Services, school nurses, interested community partners, school staff, and parents/guardians shall review the head lice management program guidelines and policy periodically to ensure that it is meeting the needs of the School District and its families and is based on current scientific knowledge.

Legal Reference:

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC, 2010)

<http://www.cdc.gov/parasites/lice/head/>

Frankowski, B.L., & Bocchini, J.A., and Council on School Health and Committee on Infectious Diseases. (2010). Head Lice. *Pediatrics*, 126, 392. Available at:

<http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/126/2/392.full.html>.

National Association of School Nurses. (2011) *Position Statement: Pediculosis Management in the School Setting*. Available at:

<http://www.nasn.org/PolicyAdvocacy/PositionPapersandReports/NASNPositionStatementsFullView/tabid/462/Articleid/40/Pediculosis-Management-in-the-School-Setting-Revised-2011>

University of Texas, School of Nursing, Family Nurse Practitioner Program. (2008) *Guidelines for the diagnosis and treatment of pediculosis capitis (head lice) in children and adults* 2008. Austin (TX): University of Texas, School of Nursing.

Policy adopted: January 26, 2015