



Handout Intro.1

MEDICATION ADMINISTRATION TRAINING (MAT) COURSE OVERVIEW

The MAT is a competency-based course approved by the Board of Nursing and Virginia Department of Social Services (VDSS) to train providers who work in child day programs to safely administer medication to children. Staff members who work in licensed or regulated child day programs and who give **prescription drugs** to children are *required* by the *Code of Virginia* to satisfactorily complete the training course, which includes passing written and practical examinations. The course must be facilitated by an *approved* MAT Trainer. Class size is limited to 8 participants.

Effective June 1, 2007, any provider from a *child day center* who chooses to administer prescription *and* non-prescription medication, with the exception of over-the-counter topical ointments, sunscreen and topically applied insect repellent to children in a child day center, must successfully complete a medication administration training approved by the Virginia State Board of Nursing.

Who is Exempt from the MAT course?

- Any person who holds a valid Virginia license as a physician, physician assistant, registered nurse, nurse practitioner, licensed practical nurse or pharmacist is not required to attend the MAT course.

MAT Course Requirements

To attend the MAT course a child care provider or employee of the program must be:

- literate (able to read and write) in the language the health care provider instructions and parental permissions are written. This includes medication labels, inserts and print-outs for the medication.
- have current certification in first aid
- have current certification in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR)

Purpose of MAT Course

The MAT course certifies child care providers to administer medication in a child care setting using seven routes: oral, topical, inhaled, medicated patches, eye, ear and emergency injection of epinephrine using an auto-injector device.



Competency Based Training

The MAT course is a competency based training. Participants will be tested to make sure they understand and can put into practice the information presented. All of the information in which participants are tested in this course is included in the MAT video and on the handouts. Participants are encouraged to use all of the MAT handouts when completing written tests and during the skills demonstrations.

- **Written Test**

Participants will be given a comprehensive written test at the end of the training. There are two formats of questions: multiple choice and true/false. Participants must receive an 80% or higher on the written test. The test also has some questions designed to assess the participant's knowledge of essential information. These questions, marked with a star, must be answered correctly in order to be given a passing score. If a participant does not pass the comprehensive written test, a second test will be administered. If a participant does not pass the written test after two (2) attempts, the participant will need to complete the entire MAT course again.

- **Skills Demonstrations**

The MAT course includes two skills demonstration. The MAT Trainer will observe each participant while he/she demonstrates his/her ability to safely administer medication using techniques taught in the course. Each participant will get two (2) opportunities to successfully demonstrate his/her competency. If a participant is unable to pass the skills demonstrations after two (2) attempts, he/she will need to complete the entire MAT course again.