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M. Rony François, M.D., M.S.P.H., Ph.D.
Secretary

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 11, 2006

TO: County Health Department Administrators

FROM: Bonita J. Sorensen, M.D., M.B.A.
Deputy State Health Officer

SUBJECT: The Role of the Professional School Nurse in the Delegation of Care in Florida Schools - Technical Assistance Guidelines

INFORMATION ONLY

We are pleased to provide you with the enclosed document, *The Role of the Professional School Nurse in the Delegation of Care in Florida Schools - Technical Assistance Guidelines*. Over the past two years, a workgroup consisting of County Health Department and local School District school health coordinators, Department of Health, School Health Services program staff, Department of Education staff, and the school nursing community, worked diligently on defining the role of the school health nurse. This workgroup reviewed school health related statutes and rules, and identified issues relating to delegation to unlicensed assistive personnel, with the goal of proposing unambiguous guidelines for the delegation of care in schools. This is critical in today's rapidly changing school environment that requires school nurses to provide increasingly more specialized care for medically complex children during the school day.

These technical assistance guidelines identify practice standards, clarify the role of the school nurse, provide clarification for delegation consistent with Florida's Nurse Practice Act, section 464.001-464.027, *Florida Statutes*, and provide school nurses with guidance on the training and supervision of paraprofessionals.

If you have any questions or would like more information, please call the Department of Health, School Health Services Program at (850) 245-4445.

BS/sb/mko

cc: County Health Department Nursing Directors
School Health Coordinators
Department of Education, School Nurse Consultant