



STATE OF MARYLAND

DHMH

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Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

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**INTERPRETIVE MEMORANDUM**

**Date:** June 10, 2011

**To:** MD Youth Camp Operators

**From:** Clifford S. Mitchell, Assistant Director, Office of Environmental Health and Food Protection

**Re:** COMAR 10.16.06.33 Nonprescription and Prescription Medicine (Sunscreen)

Effective immediately, the Office of Environmental Health and Food Protection will no longer consider sunscreen a medication requiring a prescriptive order. In order to bring COMAR 10.16.06, Certification for Youth Camps, into better alignment with other childcare regulations and with the Maryland Board of Nursing, the OEHP has adopted the following policy for the regulation of sunscreen use at youth camps in Maryland:

1. Authorization from the parent/guardian must be obtained before applying sunscreen at camp. The authorization must include the camper's name, the parent/guardian's signature, the date signed, the brand of sunscreen and whether or not staff is allowed to assist the camper in the application of the sunscreen.
2. Sunscreen must be provided by the parent/guardian and should be a type that can be used by the camper with little assistance. Camp may not supply sunscreen to campers.
3. Sunscreen provided by the parent/guardian must be logged in by camp staff and labeled indelibly with the camper's name. The sunscreen log should contain the camper's name, the brand, the SPF, the expiration date, and the final disposition of the sunscreen.
4. Campers should, in most instances, apply the sunscreen on their own. If assistance in application is needed, camp staff should limit touching the camper as much as possible. **Under no circumstances should campers assist each other in the application of sunscreen where touching is required in the application process.**
5. A policy regarding staff members assisting campers with the application of sunscreen and limiting direct contact with the camper must be developed. The policy should also encourage parents/guardians to apply sunscreen to their child before the child attends camp for the day. The parents/guardians must be notified of this policy by the camp operator.
6. Reapplication of sunscreen should be according to the directions written on the container.

cc: Helen E. Bowlus, Assistant Attorney General  
Barbara Newman, R.N., M.S., Maryland Board of Nursing  
Alan Taylor, R.S.

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