

Awareness Survey about Chronic Health Issues

Directions: This survey for teachers consists of 9 questions about teaching children with a chronic illness. Its purpose is to gauge and create awareness as to the use of an Individual Education Program (IEP) in order to improve the educational outcome for a child with a chronic health issue. Please read all questions carefully and supply the information requested. Your confidential responses are greatly appreciated.

1. Are you aware that there are children in your school who have any of the following conditions (please check those that apply)?

- Asthma
- Rheumatic disease (e.g., juvenile rheumatoid arthritis)
- Primary immunodeficiency
- Diabetes
- Epilepsy (seizure disorder)
- Cancer
- Sickle cell disease
- Cystic fibrosis
- Gastrointestinal diseases
- Other _____

2. Please rank order the following sources of information by which you become aware that a child in your classroom has a chronic illness. The most frequent would be ranked as a 1, the next frequent as a 2, etc.

- School nurse
- Principal/administrator
- Parent
- Child
- Emergency medical forms/school files
- Other _____

3. To what extent are you concerned about the following issues when teaching children with chronic illness?

No Concern Moderate Concern Great Concern
1 2 3 4 5 6

- Medical emergencies at school
- Peers (exclusion, teasing of child with illness)
- Absenteeism/attendance
- Learning (condition or treatment limits cognitive functioning)
- Parents (poor communication, negative experiences, unrealistic expectations)
- Behavior (aggression, withdrawal)
- Fatigue/limited participation
- Social development

4. Circle the number below that best represents the extent to which you believe it is your responsibility to deal with a child's illness issues as they relate to education?

Not Responsible Partly Responsible Totally Responsible
1 2 3 4 5 6

5. Does your school have any formal educational programs (e.g., written handouts) for teachers and/or administrators about childhood chronic illness?

YES NO If yes, please describe _____

6. Check the category below that best describes your training for working with children with a chronic illness in your professional training.

- _____ None
- _____ Guest lecture/brief discussion
- _____ Significant portion of one course or discussion in several courses
- _____ One full course
- _____ More than one course (please describe)

7. Approximately what percentage of chronically ill children in your classroom have an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) that specifically addresses their chronic illness?

_____ %

8. Approximately what percentage of IEPs for children with chronic illness contain the following provisions?

- _____ Ongoing treatment management of the condition
- _____ Acute symptoms of the chronic condition
- _____ Management of activity limitations or nutrition due to the chronic condition
- _____ Educational program or approach that addresses cognitive limitations or underachievement that relate specifically to the chronic health condition or its treatment

9. Please indicate the extent to which each of the factors below are most likely to lead you to conclude that a child's health problem is impacting his or her classroom functioning.

Not at all	Some indication	Definite indication
1	2	3
4	5	6

- _____ Absenteeism
- _____ Fatigue
- _____ Poor concentration or daydreaming
- _____ Failure to complete daily assignments
- _____ Irritability
- _____ Depressed mood or being "down"
- _____ Anxious mood or anxiety
- _____ Peer disagreements
- _____ Physical/somatic complaints
- _____ Crying

Rank the top 4 indicators above starting with the most indicative of classroom interference.

***Thank you for completing this survey. Please email completed surveys to chronickids@rogers.com
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