

## Seizure Safe Schools Act: Updates for the New School Year

In April 2022, SB 1654 Schools; seizure management; treatment plans, also called the Seizure Safe Schools Act, was signed by the Governor and became ARS 15-160.02. That law has been fully operational for two years, and the Arizona Seizure Action Plan (SAP) Committee continues to meet to discuss and address policy and care related to program implementation. The Arizona SAP Committee completed three critical actions for the start of SY24-25.

- **SAP Template Version 2.0:** The Seizure Action Plan template survey was completed in the fall of 2023, and the committee revised the template after collecting and reviewing the survey results. Template version 2.0 was released in May 2024 and is available on the School Nursing and Health Resources webpage (<https://www.azed.gov/wellness/school-nursing-and-health-resources>). The template will continue to be reviewed annually.
- **R7-2-811. Emergency Administration of Seizure Management Plans and Medication:** In the summer of 2023, the Arizona State Board of Education drafted rules to accompany the ARS 15-160.02 law. The SAP Committee assisted with the draft language, providing expert feedback and edits to the document that entered the public review process in the spring of 2024. After public comment sessions were completed, the board heard the rules and unanimously approved them at the June 24<sup>th</sup> meeting. The rules are available on the Arizona State Board of Education website [<https://azsbe.az.gov/sites/default/files/2024-06/R7-2-811%20Seizure%20Rules.pdf>].
- **Arizona State Board of Nursing Advisory Opinion Update for Administration of Rescue Medications:** The SAP Committee heard from school nurses in several districts that the Advisory Opinion drafted in 2013 and last updated in 2020 regarding community administration of Versed limited their ability to accept SAPs with orders to administer this medication. The committee and ADE staff reviewed the Advisory Opinion and noted confusing and outdated information. A formal letter was sent to the Arizona State Board of Nursing Scope of Practice Committee requesting a review of this Advisory Opinion, Intranasal Administration of Midazolam (VERSED) for Treatment of Signs and Symptoms of Acute Seizure Outside the Clinical Setting. The areas of concern presented to the committee at their February 2024 meeting included: (1) clarity regarding the requirement of 'supervised clinical practice' as it relates to the training requirements and would the training approved by the Arizona State Board of Education to meet the Seizure Safe Schools Act also meet the Advisory Opinion's requirements; (2) clarity of the scope of RN practice in providing training and verifying competency of the administration of intranasal Midazolam (VERSED) by other health staff not under the Advisory Opinion when their own scope of practice under the Advisory Opinion was limited; (3) clarification regarding the Advisory Opinion addressing only one medication in the therapeutic family used as seizure rescue medications when they all have similar potential side effects and concerns; and (4) clarification to more fully understand the purpose and implementation of the Advisory Opinion which addresses only one of the medications commonly used for SAPs used in schools. After the inquiry, the committee agreed to complete a review and updated the Advisory Opinion with SAP committee expert advice to address our questions and

concerns. The updates were approved in the April 2024 committee meeting and approved by the Arizona State Board of Nursing at their May 2024 meeting. The new Advisory Opinion is titled Administration of Rescue Medications for Treatment of Signs and Symptoms of Acute Seizure Outside the Clinical Setting, and this document can be found at

[<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1aIrTWdSMfGrE73n4TCrbbwWSdkGe946l/view>]