

# UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY OF GENEVA

## **POLICY ON DISPENSING AND ISSUING DRUGS**

This policy is to define the position and responsibility of all UUSG personnel and official representatives of UUSG with regard to the administration, issuing and dispensing of drugs on UUSG property or while on UUSG sponsored trips.

With the exception of the three circumstances described below, it is the policy of UUSG to prohibit any employee, agent or official representative of UUSG to either administer, store, issue, or otherwise provide any persons a drug. A drug for purposes of this policy includes legally prescribed, illegal, and over-the-counter pharmaceuticals.

It is assumed that any person while on UUSG property or attending an official program off-premise who requires a drug will be responsible for his/her own maintenance, consumption, and management as is prudent and/or prescribed. If a minor requires a drug, the parent of said minor shall directly dispense/administer the drug. If the minor is attending a sanctioned program without the parent, the parent shall authorize, in advance and in writing, that the minor will have drug(s) in his possession and has authorization to use them as directed. The minor maintains responsibility for said drug(s) and in no case shall the official UUSG representative be involved (unless a medical emergency arises). An exception to this is allowed when youth are attending an official function not hosted by UUSG (e.g. CON) which requires our UUSG chaperones to "hold" the prescribed, legal medications on behalf of the youth attendees and with the permission of the minor's parent/legal guardian.

A second exception to the above is in the case of a suspected heart attack of an adult victim over 16 years of age. Aspirin (not acetaminophen, ibuprofen or naproxen) and nitroglycerin (if prescribed and present) should be used. The ideal aspirin dose in such instances is two to four baby aspirin or one full or extra strength tablet (325 or 500mg). The lead UUSG rep should ask the victim to chew and swallow an aspirin (unless his/her physician has advised otherwise (e.g., because of allergies or contraindications, including possible harmful interactions with other medications or known disease complications, or past history of stroke). Keep in mind that chewing helps get the aspirin into the bloodstream faster than swallowing it whole. If the victim is not conscious, do not attempt to have him/her ingest anything.

Note that the victim or his family might have aspirin with them for such a purpose. Otherwise the UUSG first aid kits will contain aspirin (or aspirin will be available in a defined location) strictly for such and only purpose. Aspirin which belongs to UUSG shall not be used for other purposes such as pain relief, headaches, menstrual cramps, or any other need.

A third exception to the above is in the case involving emergency use of a prescribed Epinephrine Auto-Injector (often branded and commonly called an Epi-Pen). The normal reason for such a use would be help a patient in an active anaphylaxis condition. Pursuant to Illinois Public Act 099-0711 Epinephrine Auto-Injection Act and covered under Illinois' Good Samaritan Law (745 ILCS 49/67) for those properly trained, we recognize the support of our trained staff and volunteers to aid a patient in need by using the patient's prescribed Epi-Pen.

UUSG requests that parents of all minors who require medications to be used while on UUSG property or attending an official activity regardless of venue would have documented (form

available) such ahead of time for our adult, in-charge leaders to be aware of the potential for a medical issue. However, even in the absence of such pre-arrangements, should a patient with an officially prescribed Epi-Pen have an emergency need, it is the intent of this policy to allow our trained staff and volunteers to help the patient within procedure.

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Approved by the Board of Directors on January 13, 2015  
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