

# The 5 Rights to Giving Medications to Children in Child Care

## The 5 Rights

### CHILD

**“Is this the right child— even though you think you know—you must check?”**

- Do you know the child’s first and last name?
- Is this the same child whose full name appears on the:
  - ✓ Health care provider form
  - ✓ Parental permission form
  - ✓ Medication container label
- When unsure as to the identity of the child:
  - ✓ Photo record of child to verify identity with the Director of the child care agency, or designee who knows the child to confirm the identity of the child

### MEDICINE

**“Is this the correct Medicine?”**

- Does the label on the medication container match the name of the medication as it appears on the Permission to Administer Medication form?
  - ✓ The health care provider communication section
  - ✓ The parental permission section
- What is the expiration date on the medication container label? Has the medication expired?

### DOSE

**“Are you giving the exact amount of medicine?”**

- Does the dose follow the directions on the permission form and the medication container label?
  - ✓ The health care provider communication section
  - ✓ The parental permission section
  - ✓ The medication container
- Is the dose clearly stated?
- Do you have the correct measuring device to give the medication?

### ROUTE

**“Are you using the proper method to give the medicine?”**

- How is this medication to be given? (By mouth, ear, eye, nose or applied to the skin)
- Does the route of administration match in all the appropriate places?
  - ✓ The health care provider communication form
  - ✓ The parental permission form
  - ✓ The medication container

### TIME

**“Is it the correct time to give the medicine?”**

- When was the last time the medicine was reported to have been given by the parent?
- When was the last time the medicine was given as recorded on the Medication Administration Record?
- Does the time match the instructions in all the appropriate places?
  - ✓ The health care provider communication form
  - ✓ The parental permission form
  - ✓ The medication container
- Are there specific instructions as to when or how the medication is to be given? Such as with food, on an empty stomach, or before/after eating.
- If the medicine is to be given “as needed”, does the child have symptoms that match the directions on the health care provider communication and parental permission forms?