

EA 2 Seizure Management Care has been changed by policy at the government level and it is affecting our CUPE 728 members. The Ministry of Health's Professional Regulations Branch has stated that regulations and professional standards do not permit seizure rescue medications to be delegated by a nurse.

Your union was not notified of this change prior to it happening and was not able to prepare the membership and this took everyone by surprise.

For our members to upgrade to an EA 2 position, they must be signed off by a nurse for the training provided to qualify for the upper pay grade. In the past, an EA 2 position was given to EA's who were trained to manage seizures with rescue medication. This will no longer be considered a medical need and may be administered by anyone trained by the new Seizure Action Plan and will not qualify for the pay increase.

Some EA 2's have already been affected and we believe more may lose their EA 2 designation due to this change. To maintain the student's designation with an EA 2 status, there must be another reason for the EA 2 portion, such as tube feed, suctioning etc. Please refer to our CA LOU #4 to see your bumping rights if this affects you and/or contact your Steward.

Students with an ongoing seizure disorder will now be covered by a "Seizure Action Plan". The new action plan does not require any training from a nurse and each plan will designate person(s) that would be responsible for administering the lifesaving medication to the student. EA's may still be expected to monitor/record seizures as necessary.

Please visit the following link for more information about Nursing Support Services.

<http://www.bcchildrens.ca/our-services/sunny-hill-health-centre/our-services/nursing-support#Resources>

In Solidarity,
Amanda Williams and Gaylene Garceau