

Policy and Procedures for the Use of Hand Sanitizer

Riverview Children's Center currently uses a hand sanitizer with a CDC recommendation of 60% + isopropyl alcohol when hand washing is not an available option or as a supplement to hand washing. The hand sanitizer does not prohibit use by children; however, it is advised that the hand sanitizer be kept out of the reach of children.

With **written parental permission** (see below) RCC can use hand sanitizer on your child when hand washing is not an available option but would help to reduce exposure to and the spread of germs. This may include use of sanitizer while on field trips, during playground activities, etc.

When sanitizer is applied, a staff person will be physically present and supervising the child. A staff person will make certain that an appropriate amount of the product is applied to the palm of one hand, that hands are rubbed together, and that the product is rubbed over all surfaces of the hands and fingers until the hands are dry. The staff person will remain with the child until the hand sanitizer has dried completely on the child's hands.

When the sanitizer is not in use, it will be kept out of the reach of children.

Staff will continue to ensure that children WASH hands before meals and snacks, after toileting, and after being diapered. As well, a facility person will continue to wash his/her hands before preparing, serving, or eating meals and snacks, after toileting and diapering a child as required by state regulations. Hand sanitizers will NOT be used as a substitution for hand washing when hands are visibly soiled.

In addition to hand washing procedures required by regulations, additional hand washing procedures are in place at RCC for the following situations:

- When a child or staff enter the program/classroom
- When moving between one group to another that involves contact with infants and toddlers
- Before and after adults administer medication
- After handling garbage; after cleaning; after handling pets and after communal water play
- After blowing one's nose

In these circumstances, and only when hand washing is not a viable option, hand sanitizer may be used as a supplement to hand washing.

Please check the statement that applies to your child.

Child's Name: _____

____ **I grant permission** for RCC to use hand sanitizer on my child as a supplement to hand washing outside of the regulatory requirements.

____ **I do not grant permission** for RCC to use hand sanitizer on my child as a supplement to hand washing outside of the regulatory requirements.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date