



## **SCOUTS South Africa Guidelines on Section 0 medication**

Dear Scout members,

SCOUTS South Africa National Office has received a number of queries concerning Section 0 medication, like for example paracetamol which can be found in Panado. Can this type of medication be given to children and youths during a camp, activity, event and / or meeting by a Scouter or Akela? We met with a chief inspector of the pharmaceutical Board and he informed us that any individual can give Section 0 medication if deemed necessary to children, provided they stick to the prescribed dosage and if the pain and/or discomfort continues the child/youth gets further medical treatment.

When a parent gives the Adult leader in charge the authorisation and authority, as per the event consent forms, to take our minor members to seek medical help if they are in pain or hurt, this also implies that the Adult leader can give section 0 medication according to the prescribed dosages – unless otherwise indicated in the form - in order to alleviate pain.

In order to verify whether the medication you would like to give the child/youth is section 0, you need to read the label of the original container in which the medication is sold in supermarkets and/or pharmacies. The label will read "Section 0 medication".

Please be advised that even though SCOUTS South Africa allows Adult Leaders to give children/youths Section 0 medication, it stresses that the proper dosages need to be adhered to, that if the problem persists the parents need to be informed and further medical help sought. Misuse due to negligence will be treated as a serious infraction.

For more information: [info@scouts.org.za](mailto:info@scouts.org.za)

Kind regards,

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