

SCHOOL NURSE SAMPLE LETTER

School name: _____

Date: _____

Dear School Nurse -

My child, _____, has been diagnosed with a rare and potentially life-threatening genetic condition called Hereditary Angioedema (HAE).

HAE occurs in about 1 in 10,000 to 1 in 50,000 people. HAE symptoms include episodes of edema in all parts of the body, including the hands, feet, face and airway. In addition, abdominal swelling can be accompanied by nausea and vomiting and excruciating pain. Airway swelling is particularly dangerous and can lead to death by suffocation. You may wish to read more detailed information about HAE at www.haea.org. HAE is not allergic swelling, although it may share a similar appearance. HAE does not respond to antihistamines or corticosteroids. It is important to call 911 immediately if my child reports any signs of swelling in the face, mouth, or throat. This requires immediate medical treatment to ensure that my child's airway is not compromised. HAE attacks often occur spontaneously and can be triggered by many things – including a cold or flu, stress or minor trauma.

My child, _____ may recognize signs of HAE swelling and he/she may need to be excused from school. _____ is currently under the care of Dr. _____ who can be reached during office hours at _____. Attached is the current treatment plan for _____ that his/her doctor has developed. My child is treated with _____ for his/her HAE attacks. If _____ comes to your office feeling ill, please follow these steps:

1. Call 911 immediately if my child reports swelling in the throat, you note a change in his/her voice pitch, or he/she exhibits any difficulty breathing.
2. _____ has been trained in the administration of his/her acute medication as described by Dr. _____.
3. Call me at _____ with any reports of HAE swelling. I am happy to answer any questions and I'm grateful for your partnership in providing the best care for _____ while he/she is at school.

Signed _____ Relationship to Student _____

Attachments:

Prescribing physicians treatment letter
Medication informational brochure
HAE informational flyer