First name, Last name

Address

School’s name

Principal’s name

School Address

**Date:**

**Dear Principal \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_:**

This letter is to inform you that our daughter/son \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ has a disease called pulmonary hypertension (PH) / pulmonary arterial hypertension (PAH). PH is a rare disorder of the blood vessels in the lungs. Children with pulmonary arterial hypertension will have varying degrees of symptoms including:

* Fatigue, dizziness, fainting
* Exercise intolerance or shortness of breath during activity
* Nausea, loss of appetite
* Fluid retention, swelling in face, ankles, hands.

**The school should call 911 for immediate medical services should any of the following symptoms be observed:**

* **Severe chest pain**
* **Difficulty breathing**
* **Fainting**
* **Shortness of breath, accompanied by bluish-purple or very pale lips.**

The school should contact the parents if:

1. The child has unusual bluish-purple discoloration of lips/nail-beds
2. The child is feeling dizzy or has a headache
3. Other \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

There is no cure for PAH. However, there are several effective medications used to treat the disease which may be taken orally, inhaled or by constant intravenous. Children may also need oxygen therapy during the day or at night when they are sleeping.

Regular attendance at school may be interrupted because of fatigue, illness, medical appointments or hospitalizations. Cold and flu season is a time of significant risk for these children and may result in critical illness. Therefore, students may benefit from an Individual Education Plan (IEP) to ensure their success at school.

It is imperative that all staff in the building be educated about the medical condition of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Included with this letter is a resource package to provide more specific information about pulmonary arterial hypertension and how best to support children with PAH in the school environment.

Thanks for your support.

Sincerely,

First name, Last name