

### SEIZURES (EPILEPSY)

A seizure disorder or epilepsy does not exclude an individual from participating at Philmont. However, the seizure disorder should be well controlled by medications. A minimum one year seizure-free period is considered to be adequate control. Exceptions to this guideline may be considered by Philmont's chief medical officer and will be based on the specific type of seizure and the likely risks to the individual and to other members of the crew. The medical staff at the Health Lodge may place some restrictions on activities (rock-climbing, horse riding, etc.) for those individuals who are approved for participation but whose seizures are incompletely controlled.

### ASTHMA, ALLERGY OR ANAPHYLAXIS

Asthma should be well-controlled before coming to Philmont. Well-controlled asthma means: 1) the use of a short-acting bronchodilator MDI (albuterol, Ventolin, Proventil) 0 or 1 time a day; 2) no need for nighttime treatment with a short-acting bronchodilator. Well controlled asthma may include the use of long-acting bronchodilators, inhaled steroids or oral medications such as Singulair. You must meet these guidelines in order to participate. You will **not** be allowed to participate if: 1) you have exercise asthma not prevented by medications; or 2) you have been hospitalized or have gone to the emergency room to treat asthma in the past 6 months; or 3) you have needed treatment with oral steroids (prednisone) in the past 6 months.

You must bring a 15 day supply of your medications **and** a spare short-acting bronchodilator. At least one other member of the crew should know how to recognize signs of worsening asthma or an asthma attack, and should know how to use the bronchodilator. Any person who has needed treatment for asthma in the past 3 years must carry an inhaler on the trek. If you do not bring an inhaler, you must buy an inhaler at Philmont before you will be allowed to participate.

Allergy shots may be given to persons on a maintenance dose and who have not had an anaphylactic reaction. You must bring your own medications. Philmont staff may not be able to give allergy shots while persons are on their trek.

Persons who have had an anaphylactic reaction for any cause must contact Philmont before coming. If you are allowed to participate, you will be required to have appropriate treatment with you. You and at least one other member of your crew must know how to give the treatment. If you do not bring appropriate treatment with you, you will be required to buy it at Philmont before you will be allowed to participate.

### RECENT MUSCULOSKELETAL INJURIES AND ORTHOPEDIC SURGERY

Every Philmont participant will put a great deal of strain on feet, ankles, and knees. Participants who have had orthopedic surgery, including arthroscopic surgery or significant musculoskeletal injuries, within the past six (6) months, find it difficult or impossible to negotiate Philmont's steep rocky trails. To be cleared to backpack by the Philmont medical staff, individuals with significant musculoskeletal problems (including back problems) or recent orthopedic surgery must have a letter of clearance from their orthopedic surgeon or treating physician. A person with a cast on any extremity may participate only if approved by a Philmont physician. Ingrown toenails are a common problem and must be treated 30 days prior to arrival. All such problems will be reviewed by a Philmont physician to determine if participation in a trek will be permitted.

### PSYCHOLOGICAL AND EMOTIONAL DIFFICULTIES

A psychological disorder does not necessarily exclude an individual from participation. Parents and advisors should be aware that a Philmont trek is not designed to assist participants to overcome psychological or emotional problems. Experience demonstrates that these problems frequently become magnified, not lessened, when a participant is subjected to the physical and mental challenges of a trek at high elevation, carrying a heavy backpack over steep, rocky trails. Any condition should be well controlled without the services of a mental health practitioner. **Under no circumstance should medication be stopped immediately prior to a Philmont trek and medication should be continued while at Philmont.** Participants requiring medication must bring an appropriate supply. The nearest mental health support is three (3) hours from Philmont.

### MEDICATIONS and IMMUNIZATIONS

Each participant at Philmont who has a condition requiring medication should bring an appropriate supply for the duration of the trip. The pharmacy at the Health Lodge is limited and the identical medications may not be available. In certain circumstances duplicate or even triplicate supplies of vital medications are