



Putnam Valley Central School District

**"The Child, First and Foremost...
Building a Foundation for the Future"**

September 2019

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Our school district is located within the ten-mile emergency-planning zone (EPZ) of the Indian Point nuclear power plant. In January 2001, the federal Nuclear Regulatory Commission amended its policy on the availability and usage of the over-the-counter drug potassium iodide (KI) during a radiological emergency. As a result, New York State also revised its policy regarding providing KI to the general population in the ten-mile emergency planning zones surrounding the Indian Point nuclear power site.

KI is an over-the-counter drug that protects the thyroid from exposure to radioactive iodine. KI only protects one organ against one radioactive substance. It is not an alternative to evacuation or sheltering.

For more information, please go to:

http://www.health.ny.gov/environmental/radiological/potassium_iodide/fact_sheet.htm

In fact, evacuation and sheltering remain New York's primary public protective actions in the event of an accident at any nuclear power site.

Should the County and/or State Department of Health recommend the use of KI during an emergency, the Putnam Valley Central School District will have KI available on-site for your child. Evacuation from the ten-mile EPZ remains our primary radiological action. In the event that evacuation is not immediately possible and/or County and/or State health officials recommend KI use, an appropriate dose of KI will be available for your child.

If you do **not** want the school to provide your child with KI in a radiological emergency, you **must** complete and submit the attached form before October 2, 2019. Please click the link in the email. This form will remain in effect as long as your child attends their current school building, unless you notify us in writing that you now wish your child to be protected with KI. **Please note that if you do not complete the form attached to this email by Wednesday, October 2, 2019 and health officials recommend KI use, your child will receive KI.**

If you have any concerns regarding the emergency use of KI or questions on your child's health and the use of KI, please discuss this with your child's health care provider. If you have any further questions about the school program, please contact your school nurse.

Sincerely,
Dr. Jeremy Luft
Superintendent of Schools

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