

	DHS Early Head Start Program Policy		
HEALTH 6			
SUBJECT	Critical Health Concerns		
REFERENCE	Comprehensive Health Services		
EFFECTIVE	8/1/2019		
Policy Council Approval: 4/23/19	Policy Council Revision: pending	Governing Body Approval: 5/23/19	Governing Body Revision: pending
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Policy:

A critical health concern is any identified health or mental health condition that affects the child while in the care of the Early Head Start (EHS) Service Provider that may require medication, monitoring, or emergency care. Critical health concerns that need an accommodation while a child is in the care of an EHS provider must be diagnosed by a healthcare professional before child attends the center.

EHS staff in collaboration with the Service Providers will develop and implement procedures to:

- Identify and provide necessary care for the child once the health care professionals note/ action plan has been provided.
- Accommodate unconfirmed critical health concerns, that are not life threatening, when medical documentation is pending and the child is already enrolled.
- Share relevant individual child health and mental health information with appropriate center staff.
- Address health and mental health emergencies.

Follow-up and documentation related to critical health concerns will be conducted according to the *Early Head Start ChildPlus Scan Order and Process Guide*, and *ChildPlus Data Entry Guide*.

Performance Standard:

1302.42

Other References:

Caring for Our Children;
Child Care Regulations 746.605 (12)