
	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: 5/24/22	Governing Body Approval: 5/23/19	Governing Body Revision: 8/4/22
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Policy:

A critical health concern is a ~~ny-medically~~ identified health or mental health condition that affects the child while in the care of the Early Head Start (EHS) Service Provider ~~and that~~ may require medication, monitoring, or emergency care. ~~EHS will use the Child Health History form and Well Child Exams to identify any health needs relative to a Critical Health Concern. EHS will develop and implement procedures that address the following:~~

Critical health concerns that need an accommodations while ~~the a~~ child is in the care of an EHS provider must be diagnosed by a healthcare professional ~~and documented on a signed statement/ form~~ before child attends the center.

EHS staff in collaboration with the Service Providers will develop and implement procedures system 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.
- ~~• Identify and address major community health issues, as indicated in the Community Assessment and parent survey, and shared at the Health Advisory Committee or by the local health department.~~
- ~~• Identify and address any relevant critical health concern data related to child assessment data, including health problems such as failure to thrive, diabetes, asthma, anaphylaxis, epinephrine injection, and any other condition requiring special health care considerations. Provide resources/ information when needed.~~
- ~~• Identify appropriate professionals, such as physical therapists, speech therapists, occupational therapists, doctors, and dentist for consultations on ways to assist staff and families, working with children with disabilities or health related concerns.~~

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 (132)