

Health Care for Children in Substitute Care

SUMMIT COUNTY CHILDREN SERVICES

<p>ORC: 3742.30</p> <p>OAC: 5101:2-42-66; 5101:2-42-66.1; 5101:2-42-6.2</p> <p>USC: NA</p> <p>CFR: NA</p>	<p>ORIGINAL: 7/2015</p> <p>REVISIONS: NA</p> <p>RELATED FORM(S): NA</p> <p>RELATED PROCEDURE/POLICY(IES): Medication/Health Care for Children in the Custody of SCCS; Psychotropic Medication for Children in Custody Procedure</p>
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Administrative | <input type="checkbox"/> Legal |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fiscal | <input type="checkbox"/> Safety & Security |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Human Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Services - All Departments |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Information Technology | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social Services - Foster & Adoption |

All Staff Bargaining Unit Non-Bargaining Management

POLICY:

Summit County Children Services partners with community providers to meet the health care needs of children in our custody. We also adhere to the philosophy that medical treatment should be given in partnership with parents or guardians whenever possible and that parents should be kept informed and remain involved with their child's medical care and discharge planning.

PROCEDURE:

When a child enters substitute care, the assigned caseworker works with the substitute caregiver to schedule mandated medical care, routine well-child care and sick visits as needed. Whenever possible, parents or guardians are included in the planning process for medical care and efforts are made to arrange treatment through the child's existing or previous health care provider.

Mandated Medical Care

SCCS shall coordinate the following services for each child who enters Agency custody:

A. Initial Placement Screenings

A medical screening must occur no later than five (5) working days after the child's placement. Whenever possible, this screening will occur prior to their initial placement into a substitute care setting. Initial screening appointments are scheduled at the CARE Center at Akron Children's Hospital. Exceptions are made for newborns or other children entering our custody immediately upon discharge from a hospital admission. These children may be seen for their initial screening appointment at Locust Pediatrics

Center, The Adolescent Center or other approved Medicaid provider for children placed out of county.

All children who are medically fragile or diabetic are taken to Akron Children's Hospital emergency room for assessment of their current and ongoing medical needs. The hospital may admit the child if necessary to provide necessary training to the substitute caregiver.

Children entering custody through a Juvenile Rule 6 after normal business hours (including weekends), are transported to the ER for examination and necessary treatment if they have significant injuries from abuse, obvious illness or signs of failure to thrive.

During an E.R. visit, the assigned worker should request that E. R. staff complete the following as part of their exam to address the child's immediate needs and avoid returning to the CARE Center for an initial placement screening:

- Screening for communicable diseases
- Identification of any symptoms of illness, injury, or maltreatment
- Documentation of any physical evidence related to abuse and neglect
- Efforts to address any special medical needs or care of the child
- Two 'headshot' photos of the child and photos of any unusual scars or markings.

If the child is age three (3) or under the placement screening indicates that the child has or is at risk of developmental disability or delay, the child is referred to "Help Me Grow". Any child under the age of three who is involved in a substantiated case of child abuse or neglect is also referred to the "Help Me Grow" program for early intervention services.

B. Placement Physical

Each child has a comprehensive physical exam completed no later than sixty (60) days after placement into substitute care. The exam must include a comprehensive physical evaluation, developmental, nutritional, immunization, dental, hearing and vision screening. For any child age 6 or younger, a screening for lead exposure is conducted and referrals made for services as appropriate.

If the child's record of previous immunizations is unavailable at the time of the exam and it is reasonable to assume that the child has received immunizations, immunizations may be postponed until an immunization record is available for review.

The assigned caseworker must refer a child to any needed services identified through the evaluation. Treatment for any diagnosed medical or psychological need is initiated within sixty days of the diagnosis, unless treatment is required sooner. Information and referrals for mental health or other services for children in care are made to various community resources in collaboration with the parents/legal guardian and substitute caregiver to ensure that the child's needs are addressed.

C. Psychological Evaluations for Children Adjudicated Delinquent

For any child who has been adjudicated delinquent, a psychological examination will be conducted within sixty (60) days of the child's entry into substitute care unless a psychological examination was conducted within twelve months prior to the date the child entered into care and a copy of the examination is in the child's case record. If no psychological examination of the child is available, an examination to detect mental and emotional disorders shall be performed by a licensed social worker or counselor.

D. Placement Change Physicals

Physical exams are scheduled prior to a placement change. In an emergency situation where a physical cannot take place prior to a move, the physical must take place as soon as possible after the move and the reasons for the delay must be documented in SACWIS.

E. Dental Care

For any child over three years of age, a dental exam shall be conducted no later than six (6) months after the child's placement into substitute care and annually thereafter. Younger children may be referred for dental services as appropriate.

Dental care for children in the custody of SCCS is provided by dental providers in the community (see attached Summit County Dental Provider List). If a child is placed more than 30 miles from the agency, the child(ren) may be seen by a Medicaid provider closer to their placement.

Caregivers are provided a list of approved dental providers (see attached Summit County Dental Provider List) and may schedule appointments for required examinations or any needed treatment with a provider close to their home. The caregiver must notify the assigned worker of any scheduled appointment. The assigned caseworker is responsible for completing the dental authorization form and faxing it to the provider for both initial appointments and ongoing treatment.

F. Annual Physicals

Children who remain in custody must receive annual physical and dental examinations. Annual exams shall be scheduled no later than thirty days after the yearly anniversary date of their last physical and/or dental exam.

G. Lead Screening

SCCS obtains lead exposure screenings routinely for children at 12 and 24 months of age. Lead screenings for children over age 6 may be conducted if determined necessary by the physician.

H. Coordination of Care

Children with complex medical and or behavioral health needs often see a variety of providers. The assigned worker is responsible to ensure that there is a sharing of information among the providers and that all providers are aware of all current

medications. A current medication list including dosages should accompany the child to each medical appointment.

I. Discharge Physicals

Discharge physicals are required prior to a child exiting agency custody. The parent/legal guardian should be invited to attend and continuity of care after discharged should be discussed and encouraged.

J. Documentation

Foster and Kinship Caregivers are asked to request a summary sheet from the medical provider at the time of each medical appointment. This information is subsequently shared with the caseworker during child visits in the substitute care placement.

In the absence of summary sheets, the assigned caseworker is responsible for gathering all medical and dental information from each provider. The caseworker documents mandated medical/dental appointments such as the placement screening, placement physical, initial and annual dental exams and discharge physical in SACWIS. A child's health record shall contain the following items when applicable:

1. A list of a child's most recent and current medical, mental health, dental, and other health care providers;
2. Immunizations and dates of immunizations;
3. A record of a child's illnesses, hospitalizations, surgeries, impairments, injuries and other significant medical problems and dates for each event;
4. A record of physical health examination and treatment;
5. A record of dental examinations and treatment;
6. A record of vision examinations and treatment;
7. A record of speech and hearing assessments and therapy/treatment;
8. A record of developmental assessments and therapy/treatment;
9. A record of mental health assessments and therapy/treatment;
10. A record of drug screenings, assessments and therapy/treatment;
11. A record of the child's sexual development history, including any family planning methods;
12. A record of the child's sexual abuse;
13. A record of the child's prescription and nonprescription medications and any allergies to medications;
14. A record of the child's food allergies and other allergies;
15. The child's cultural background as it relates to nutrition, health care practices and other relevant information;
16. The health history of the biological parents and extended family; and
17. Any other pertinent health information necessary to assure that those persons providing care for the child have adequate information to provide such care

Assistance with documentation can be provided by Clerical staff as available.

The Director of Social Services or designee documents all authorizations, changes and discontinuations of psychotropic medications (refer to Psychotropic Medication for Children in Custody Procedure). All medical records must be sent to the Records Department for inclusion into the child's file.