

Medical Care: Consent

SUMMIT COUNTY CHILDREN SERVICES

<p>ORC: 3701.242; 3701.243; 5153.11; 5153.16</p> <p>OAC: 5101:2-5-14; 5101:2-42-66.2</p> <p>USC: NA</p> <p>CFR: NA</p>	<p>ORIGINAL: 8/1/14</p> <p>REVISIONS: N/A</p> <p>RELATED FORM(S): Parental Consent for Medical and Dental Care</p> <p>RELATED PROCEDURE/POLICY(IES): N/A</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 ensure that children in our custody receive both mandated and needed medical care. 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:

Routine Medical Care

Summit County Children Services believes that consent for medical treatment for children in Agency custody should be given in partnership with parents or guardians whenever possible. Therefore, at the time of removal or as soon as possible thereafter, the assigned worker will discuss the child's medical needs with the parents and ask them to sign the "Parental Authorization for Medical and Dental Care" form consenting to routine medical care. This form authorizes routine treatment for medical and dental care, including, but not limited to, physicals and check-ups; screenings, consultations, and evaluations; therapeutic and diagnostic procedures; blood work and lab work; routine dental care (i.e., cleaning, x-rays); non-routine dental care that does not require general anesthesia (i.e., fillings, crowns, extractions, root canals); immunizations; influenza vaccines; x-rays; and the administration of medications (i.e., antibiotics and psychotropic medications for children age 6 and above) necessary or appropriate in the care and treatment of the child, etc.

If parent(s) or guardian(s) refuse to sign the Parental Authorization form, the assigned worker must notify the Director of Social Services, who will authorize routine medical care.

Surgical Consent

The assigned worker must seek written consent from the child's parent/guardian if a child in Emergency Temporary Custody (ETC), Temporary Custody (TC), or through a Juvenile Rule 6 requires surgery or general anesthesia for any procedure. Parental consent should also be sought for children in Planned Permanent Living Arrangement (PPLA) status if the parent/guardian has remained actively involved with the child.

If parents are unable to be contacted, the assigned worker will write a memo through the chain of command to the Director of Social Service or Designee explaining the need for the procedure and all attempts to contact parents.

HIV Testing

When SCCS holds custody of a child and an allegation of the exchange of bodily fluids has occurred, parental/guardian approval is not required for HIV testing. The Director of Social Services or Social Services Department Director will approve such testing when recommended by a medical professional. Additionally, minors are allowed by law to request HIV testing without parent/guardian approval (see Ohio Revised Code § 3701.242). For all other requests for HIV testing, parental consent must be received, except for children in Permanent Custody (PC) or PPLA status when parents are not involved, and a chain of command memo requesting authorization must be submitted through the Director of Social Services.

See also "HIV Screening (Testing) for Children in Agency Custody" procedure.

Psychotropic Medication

Authorization for psychotropic medication is approved through the office of the Director of Social Services. However, when SCCS holds custody of a child under the age of 6, either through a JR6, ETC, TC or PPLA, prior approval from parent(s) or guardian(s) is requested before the initiation of any psychotropic medications.

If parents are not in agreement with psychotropic medication for their child an opportunity should be provided for them to meet with the prescribing psychiatrist to better understand the treatment recommendations. If the parents continue to disagree and all treatment providers agree that medication is necessary, the assigned caseworker must submit a memo through the chain of command to the office of the Executive Director documenting the need and parents reason for refusal.

See also "Psychotropic Medication for Children in Custody" procedure.

Consent After Business Hours (Evenings, Weekends, and Holidays)

During evening, weekends, or holiday hours, the hotline worker will advise the on-call Supervisor of the need for routine medical authorization, emergency room visit, or hospital admission for a child and may contact the hospital to grant consent. Parents must be contacted for any non-routine procedure prior granting consent for the hospital to treat the child. The scheduled administrative back-up person must contact the Deputy Executive Director of Social Services or the Executive Director or Designee for any non-routine surgical procedure or when parental consent cannot be obtained.