

Revisions 2008–09

“Working Together: Health Services for Children in Foster Care”

The Health Services Manual was published and distributed in early 2004. Seven thousand manuals in tabbed 3-ring binders were sent to regional offices, local social services districts, and voluntary foster care agencies. No changes have been made since that time. The revisions are published at

http://www.ocfs.state.ny.us/main/sppd/health_services/manual.asp

OCFS will notify users that updates have been posted and can be downloaded from the site. We do not plan another hard copy distribution.

General changes

1. Updates to reflect new medical policies and practices (e.g. revised standards for preventive care from the American Academy of Pediatrics)
2. Updates to reflect new OCFS program and practice focus (e.g. trauma-informed)
3. Updates to reflect new health related statutes and regulations across NYS agencies
4. Inclusion of CONNECTIONS
5. Review and updates for references, phone numbers, and web links

Significant Changes by Chapter

Chapter 1 – Initial Evaluation of Child’s Health

- Updated immunization schedule
- Added info on NYS Immunization Information System (NYSIIS)
- Clarified language about multiple assessments
- Clarification on lab tests (urinalysis)
- More guidance on dental (from AAP)
- Noted ACS requires exam by dentist at age 2
- More info on developmental assessments (from AAP)
- Additional assessment resources

Chapter 2 – Preventive/Ongoing Health Care

- New chart that shows AAP well-child schedule (required for all children in foster care) compared with enhanced schedule recommended for children in foster care
- Updates on early intervention referrals and transition between EI and preschool special education programs
- Recommendations for urine drug screening
- More on smoking in foster homes (04-OCFS-INF-05)
- Information on methamphetamine

Chapter 3 – Special Health Care Services

- Information on Bridges to Health
- More on Newborn Screening

- Note on emergency contraception
- HPV immunization
- Updates to GLBTQ terms and resources
- Principles for the treatment of juvenile sexual offenders

Chapter 4 – Health Care Coordination

- Findings from OCFS’ care coordination pilot
- More guidance on implementing health care coordination, including lessons learned from our pilot
- Added information about letters to final-discharged youth 18–21 years of age notifying them of continued MA coverage

Chapter 5 – Medication

- Training recommendations
- Changes consistent with 08-OCFS-INF-02

Chapter 6 – Consent

- Biological family’s medical information
- Changes consistent with 08-OCFS-INF-02
- Consent and relatives (FCA 657)
- Youth’s right to consent to and refuse mental health and substance abuse services (14 NYCRR 527.8 and 817.3)

Chapter 7 – Confidentiality

- Clarification on confidentiality of substance abuse info
- CASA access to health info with court order
- Case planner, case manager, caseworker need to know health and HIV info
- References to CONNECTIONS system

Chapter 8 – Medical Records

- Required fields for the Health Services Module in CONNECTIONS
- Update to Required Forms and Notices

Chapter 9 – Working with Providers

- Changed MMIS to eMedNY
- Updates to reflect categorical eligibility for MA
- Updated MA per diem section
- Added reference to MA coverage for final-discharged youth 18–21 years of age

Chapter 10- Supporting Caregivers

- No substantive changes

Appendix A

- Revised Family Health History form to align with CONNECTIONS Bio Family Health tab

- Revised Informed Consent form. Added voluntary agency guidance and form developed by Region 4 for psychotropic medication consent
- Added Application for Discreet Medicaid Rate
- Review and update to all web links

Appendix B

- Added 09-OCFS-ADM-15 Medicaid Coverage for Final-Discharged Youth 18 to 21 Years of Age