



Health, Early Learning and Care: Update on Emerging Policies

Head Start Research and Evaluation Committee

Danette Glassy, MD, FAAP
American Academy of Pediatrics
Clinical Professor, University of
Washington
Mercer Island Pediatrics
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Summary

Health Reform Law

Home Visiting Initiative funded through
Affordable Care Act

Performance Standards: *Caring For Our
Children, 3rd Edition*

Quality/Outcomes and Health Practices
Improving Health Practices





Health and Head Start

- Model Health Practices
- Increase Health Literacy of Children and Families
- A site for Health and Development Interventions
 - Screenings
 - Health Delivery
 - Not to provide primary care





Health Reform Law and Children

- Improve *Access to Health Care*
 - Reimbursement, Workforce, Health insurance
- Improve *Quality of Health Care*
 - **Medical Home** promoted
 - Bright Futures services covered
 - Preventive Care incentives





Medical Home

- System of quality health care delivery
- Proven method to improve health status and satisfaction
- Not a *place*, but an approach to providing primary care and ensuring coordination of all health care
- For more information about Medical Home and Early Learning Settings, see

www.healthychildcare.org/Presentations.html

<http://www.medicalhomeinfo.org/>





Medical Home

- Accessible
- Continuous
- Comprehensive
- Family-Centered
- Coordinated
- Compassionate
- Culturally Effective





Health Reform Law and Children

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Bright Futures



Prevention and health
promotion for infants,
children, adolescents,
and their families™

- National health promotion, disease prevention initiative
- Uses developmentally based approach to develop Guidelines for pediatric care
- Evidence for effectiveness a core criterion
- Steering Committee comprised of diverse professionals
- Includes toolkits and templates for implementation





Home Visiting and Affordable Care Act

- Funds available for evidence-based maternal, infant and early childhood home visiting programs for at-risk families from 2010-2014
- States to improve coordination and expand capacity after completing a needs assessment

<http://mchb.hrsa.gov/programs/homevisiting/>





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Program Health and Safety Practices

- Health and safety topics in early learning for children to prevent harm & promote health
 - Injuries (minor to serious, physical and social-emotional)
 - Infectious diseases
 - Healthful habits
 - Policies and practices
 - Care plans for children with chronic health conditions





Caring for Our Children

National Health and Safety Performance Standards
Guidelines for Early Care and Education Programs

Third Edition



American Academy
of Pediatrics
DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN™



American
Public Health
Association



National Resource Center
for Health and Safety
in Child Care and
Early Education

Caring for Our Children: National Health and Safety Performance Standards; Guidelines for Early Care and Education Programs, 3rd Edition, June 2011

Editorial Steering Committee

- **AAP** – Danette Glassy, MD, FAAP, Co-chair
- **APHA** – Jonathan Kotch, MD, FAAP, Co-chair
- **MCHB Project Officer** – Barbara Hamilton, MA
- **NRC** – Marilyn Krajicek, EdD, RN, FAAN



Caring For Our Children, 3rd Edition

- Funded through Maternal and Child Health Bureau Cooperative Agreement **(MCHB)**
- Definitive source on best practice in health and safety in early care and education settings
- Evidence-based
- Expert consensus
- 10 Technical Panels - 85 panel members - Content Experts from AAP, APHA, and subject specialists
- Model for health & safety practices





Caring For Our Children, 3rd Ed, Content

Chapter 1: Staffing

Chapter 2: Program Activities for Healthy Development

Chapter 3: Health Promotion and Protection

Chapter 4: Nutrition and Food Service

Chapter 5: Facilities, Supplies, Equipment & Environmental Health

Chapter 6: Play Areas/Playgrounds & Transportation

Chapter 7: Infectious Disease

Chapter 8: Children With Special Health Care Needs & Disabilities

Chapter 9: Administration

Chapter 10: Licensing & Community Action





13 Quality Indicators

Fiene R. *13 Indicators of Quality Child Care: Research Update*. Washington, DC: Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation; 2002

- Based upon previous edition of *CFOC*
- Examines the evidence that these indicators statistically predict positive outcomes for children and overall compliance with regulations by programs





13 Quality Indicators

- Child Abuse Prevention
- Immunizations
- Child: Staff Ratios and Group Size
- Staff Qualifications
- Staff Training
- Supervision/Discipline
- Fire Drills
- Medication Policies
- Emergency Preparedness and Plans
- Outdoor Playground
- Toxic Substances and Environmental Health
- Handwashing and Diapering Policies and Compliance





Health and Head Start

- Model Health Practices
- Increase Health Literacy of Children and Families
- A Site for Health and Development Interventions
- But ***HOW?***
 - Requirements, Consultation, Training/Support





Requirements (Performance Standards)

- Healthy and safe policies and procedures
- Ensuring children's access to Medical Home (not providing primary care)
- Improving health literacy





Consultation



Caring For Our Children:

- Health Consultation
- Mental Health Consultation
- Nutrition Professional Consultation
- Oral Health Training





Training/Support

- Office of Head Start - National Center on Health
 - Just awarded to the AAP
- National Training Institute for Child Care Health Consultants
 - <http://nti.unc.edu/>
- Center for Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation
 - www.ecmhc.org/





Office of Head Start- National Center on Health

- Healthy Nutrition, Physical Activity and Overweight/Obesity Prevention
- Developmental and Behavioral Services
- Injury Prevention
- Health Literacy
- Oral Health and Dental Homes
- Asthma Prevention
- Tobacco Exposure Prevention





Research Agenda

Study the effectiveness of various forms and systems of health/mental health consultation on

- overall quality of program
- teacher/caregiver compliance with performance standards
- family/child health literacy
- educational outcomes

