

JUVENILE COURT HEALTH SERVICES

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Subject: HEALTH ASSESSMENT JUVENILE HALLS		Original Issue Date: 1/21/93	Policy # C-105
		Supersedes: 2/19/2021	Effective Date: 3/4/2022
Departments Consulted: Department of Nursing Department of Medicine	Approved By: (Signature on File) Health Services Administrator (Signature on File) Nursing Director	Approved by: (Signature on File) Medical Director	

PURPOSE

To define the scope and the workflow of the health assessments conducted by staff of the Juvenile Court Health Services (JCHS) of all youth admitted to Central Juvenile Hall and Barry J. Nidorf Juvenile Hall of the Los Angeles County Probation Department.

POLICY

1. Consents are obtained by the appropriate party at the time of the admission/assessment. For further information, see JCHS Policy # C-106 "Consent for Medical Treatment". In summary,
 - o Consent for General Healthcare is the type of consent considered ordinary and routine that would usually not be expected to result in potential risk to the patient. The Probation Department staff obtain this General Consent, in accordance with their directive "Juvenile – Medical Consent", at the time of youth admission.
 - o Youth Medical Consent is the type of consent for those type of healthcare related to reproductive health care, possible victim of abuse/neglect, substance abuse or other situations defined by California State law. This consent is obtained by the nurse at the time of the Nursing Intake Assessment.
2. All youth admitted to Central Juvenile Hall and Barry J. Nidorf Juvenile Hall receive a Nursing Intake Assessment initiated within four hours of their arrival at the residential unit. This assessment will include, but is not limited to, communicable disease screening, immunization status, and basic dental, hearing, vision, and psychosocial screening. A complete nursing physical assessment will also be performed. Any abnormal findings are referred to appropriate disciplines.
3. All youth receive physical exams by a licensed medical provider within 96 hours of admission (excluding holidays). The purpose of the health assessment is to address any abnormal findings, deliver therapeutic measures and provide anticipatory guidance. These will be documented in the youth's treatment plan.
4. The medical provider's health assessment shall be comprehensive and conform to American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) standards.

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5. All youths receive initial oral hygiene instructions during the initial Nursing Intake Assessment and oral exams by licensed Dentist within 60 days of admission. Any dental issues will be addressed in a youth's treatment plan.

PROCEDURE

- The examining medical provider will review relevant documents in the Probation Electronic Medical Records System (PEMRS), including the Nursing Intake Assessment.
- The examining medical provider will further interview the patient to complete the patient history including a HEADSSS assessment (Home, Education, Activities, Drugs, Sex, Safety, and Suicidality) and any other tools appropriate to be used for the individual youth.
- The medical provider will perform an appropriate, complete physical examination in the presence of a chaperone and document it in PEMRS. For all patients, the complete physical examination may include a genitourinary assessment, if clinically indicated. Verbal assent will be obtained prior to the physical examination, and the youth may refuse the examination according to existing procedures for refusing medical treatment.
- The youth's height, weight and BMI will be plotted on a growth curve in PEMRS to determine growth percentiles.
- Findings of the history and physical examination will be reviewed with each youth at the completion of the visit.
- Laboratory and diagnostic tests will be performed and reviewed as appropriate to complete the evaluation of the youth's health status.
- All physical findings as well as the treatment plan for each patient are documented in the visit note in PEMRS.
- If a youth is readmitted to a detention facility within twelve (12) months of a prior admission, he/she will be evaluated by a medical provider who will determine if a complete health appraisal is to be repeated, or if a brief evaluation is appropriate.
- Peer chart reviews are done on a regular basis as a component of the continuous quality improvement program.
- If a youth is detained for over one year, an annual health assessment will be performed at the juvenile hall by a licensed medical provider. If the youth is at a residential treatment

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facility, the licensed medical provider can initiate the annual health assessment there with any follow-up done at the nearest juvenile hall if the camp does not have the necessary resources to complete the physical exam.

AUTHORITY

California Code of Regulations, Title 15, Article 8, Section 1430
California Code of Regulations, Title 15, Article 8, Section 1432
Probation Directive – Juvenile – Medical Consent

REFERENCE

NCCHC Standard Y-E-04

REVISION DATES

July 7, 2011; March 13, 2013; February 1, 2018; February 8, 2020; February 19, 2021; March 4, 2022