

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

CHILDREN'S DIVISION

P. O. BOX 88

JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI

June 18, 2013

What's Inside: New protocol for the medical response to child sexual abuse

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: REGIONAL EXECUTIVE STAFF, CIRCUIT MANAGERS, AND CHILDREN'S DIVISION STAFF

FROM: CANDACE A. SHIVELY, DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: INTRODUCTION TO A MEDICALLY BASED SCREENING PROTOCOL FOR THE MEDICAL RESPONSE TO CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE/ASSAULT

DISCUSSION:

The purpose of this memorandum is to introduce the screening protocol for the medical response to child sexual abuse. The SAFE-CARE Advisory Council developed this protocol to ensure compliance with Missouri Revised Statute Section 334.950.4 which requires the SAFE-CARE network to formulate recommendations concerning medically based screening processes and forensic evidence collection for children who may be in need of an emergency examination following an alleged sexual assault. Such recommendations shall be provided to the SAFE-CARE providers, child advocacy centers, hospitals and licensed practitioners that provide emergency examinations for children suspected of being victims of abuse.

While this protocol was developed specifically to guide professionals responsible for conducting medical examinations of children, all Children's Division staff involved in child sexual abuse investigations should be familiar with the protocol.

NECESSARY ACTION

1. Review this memorandum with all Children's Division staff.
2. Review revised Child Welfare Manual chapters as indicated below.
3. All questions should be cleared through normal supervisory channels and directed to:

PDS CONTACT

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PROGRAM MANAGER

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CHILD WELFARE MANUAL REVISIONS N/A
FORMS AND INSTRUCTIONS N/A
REFERENCE DOCUMENTS AND RESOURCES SAFE-CARE Network , Medical Response Protocol
RELATED STATUTE RSMo. 334.950.4
ADMINISTRATIVE RULE NA
COUNCIL ON ACCREDITATION (COA) STANDARDS N/A
CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES REVIEW (CFSR) N/A
PROTECTIVE FACTORS N/A
FACES REQUIREMENTS N/A