

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
CHILDREN'S DIVISION
P. O. BOX 88
JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI
JUNE 7, 2021
M E M O R A N D U M

TO: CHILDREN'S DIVISION AND CONTRACTED STAFF
FROM: JOANIE ROGERS, INTERIM DIRECTOR
SUBJECT: REVISED POLICY ON IMMUNIZATIONS
DISCUSSION:

The purpose of this memorandum is to notify case managers and resource providers of the change in the policy for immunizations and the addition of emergency use authorized vaccines.

Immunizations Schedules

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has revised their immunization schedules for children 0-18 and 19 and over. The Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) has placed the new 2021 schedules on their website. The links to these schedules have been placed in policy.

Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) currently granted for COVID-19

The case manager, resource provider, or youth 18 and older who provide their own consent, may provide consent for any vaccines approved by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The case manager will refer to the following guidelines <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/acip-recs/vacc-specific/covid-19.html>, to determine if the EUA vaccine has been approved for a child specific age group.

The case manager and resource provider will talk with the child in an age and developmentally appropriate manner about receiving the EUA vaccine, just like other health care decisions, and ensure that the child understands:

- receiving the vaccine is voluntary;
- the physician can help answer any questions about the vaccine, benefits, or potential side effects.

The case manager will then consult with the child's physician regarding whether it is appropriate for the child to receive the vaccine. If the vaccine has been recommended by the physician the case manager will make at least two (2) attempts to contact a parent(s)/legal guardian to provide notice of the recommendation and to confirm consent or opt-out of the administration of the EUA vaccine.

Contact with the parent(s) will include a conversation about the recommended treatment, possible side effects and educational resources to assist with the decision-making process. The [COVID-19 Vaccination Information](#) document may be used to provide information to the parent/legal guardian. In the event that a parent(s)/legal guardian and the child are not in agreement whether to receive the vaccine or to opt-out, the case manager will facilitate a discussion with the family to attempt to reach a consensus. If a consensus is not reached, the case manager will make a referral to the Division of Legal Services.

If the case manager is unable to contact the parent(s) within a reasonable timeframe the case manager may follow the physician's recommendation regarding the EUA vaccine.

Any services provided for immunizations or EUA vaccines will be documented in FACES. Any documents received will be uploaded to OnBase and a copy placed in the child's physical file.

NECESSARY ACTION

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

PROGRAM SPECIALIST CONTACT

Larry Smith
Program Specialist
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Larry.K.Smith@dss.mo.gov

MANAGER CONTACT

Melissa Kenny
Unit Manager
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CHILD WELFARE MANUAL REVISIONS

[Chapter 4 Working With Children, Subsection 3 – Medical and Behavioral Health Planning](#)

FORMS AND INSTRUCTIONS N/A**REFERENCE DOCUMENTS AND RESOURCES**

<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/info-by-product/clinical-considerations.html>

RELATED STATUTE N/A