



PROCEDURE

Title/Subject: Services to Minors			
Policy #: OPS - 302	Page 1 of 2	Adoption Date:	Revision Date: 7/16/04
Approved By:		Title: President/Chief Executive Officer	
Approved By:		Title: Vice President/CQI Chairperson	
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Parents or legal guardians will be required to consent to the treatment/delivery of service by The Florida Center of any minor child in all programs. Parents under the age of eighteen (18) may participate in the Healthy Families program without consent of the parent/legal guardian of the teen parent. While the parents/legal guardians of the teen parent are asked to sign consents, Healthy Families is a voluntary program and consent is not required for the teen parent to participate in the service.

For all clinical and diagnostic services, a “Consent for Treatment and Diagnostic Procedures” is contained in each Intake packet provided to the parent/guardian. This packet is either mailed to the parent in advance of the Intake appointment, or given to them to fill out at the time of Intake. The purpose of the form is explained to the parent at the Intake appointment, and the parent is required to sign the form prior to service delivery. The Intake process provides the parent with the following information, and their signature affirms their understanding of their consent:

- Services offered and available through The Florida Center and the parent’s right to choose the services for their child.
- The fees for services and the parent’s responsibility for payment for services rendered.
- Their signature authorizes the appropriate personnel to perform treatment and evaluation procedures as deemed necessary.
- Parents are expected to take part in the decisions regarding the plan of care for their child.

Services provided to children may include, but are not limited to:

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| Preschool Classroom Learning | Individual/Family Counseling |
| Early Intervention Services | Psychiatric Evaluation |
| Occupational Therapy | Child Protective Services |
| Speech/Language Therapy | Parent Education |
| Physical Therapy | Healthy Families |

Parents are also required to authorize staff to give or provide access to emergency medical treatment, should the need arise, during service provision that occurs in the absence of the parent.

As required by Florida Statute 39.407, when a child who is in an out-of-home placement and is in need of medical, psychological, or psychiatric evaluation or treatment, consent will be obtained in the following manner:

- Consent shall be obtained from a parent or legal custodian of the child, or:
- A court order for such treatment shall be obtained.

If a parent or legal custodian of the child is unavailable and his/her whereabouts are unknown, and it is after normal working hours when a court order could be obtained, an authorized agent of the department shall have the authority to consent to necessary medical treatment for the child. This authority is limited to the time reasonably necessary to obtain court authorization. These requirements also apply when a parent or legal custodian is available but refuses to consent to treatment, unless the situation meets the definition of an emergency in s. 743.064 or the treatment needed is related to suspected abuse/neglect by a parent/caregiver/legal custodian.

The Prevention Division of The Florida Center provides Substance Abuse Prevention Education at public schools in our service area. Children do not participate in this program unless accompanied by a participating parent.

Attachments: Consent for Treatment and Diagnostic Procedures
Emergency Medical Treatment/Consent Form