

Area:	Health Services
Subject:	HS37 – Vision Screening
Reference:	1304.20 (b)(1), Child Health and Disability Prevention (CHDP) and Early Prevention and Diagnostic Screening Schedule (EPSDT)
Policy:	Head Start Programs will obtain age appropriate vision screening based on enrolled child's EPSDT Schedule within 45 calendar days of child's first day of enrollment. For all programs operating 90 days or less, the vision screening will be obtained within 30 calendar days.

Procedure:

1. Parent/Guardian to complete Consent form during application/enrollment.
Note: If Parent/Guardian refuses child vision screening on Consent form, Designated Health staff will provide Parent/Guardian with health education/rationale for services. This will be documented in the Family Case Notes and communicated to the assigned Head Start Nurse so that on-site screening does not occur.
2. When physical results/medical records are received without documentation of vision screening, Designated Health Staff shall attempt to obtain results from the child's health care provider. When child has not been screened by his/her health care provider within the child's individual EPSDT guidelines/time frames, the Head Start Nurse will screen the child within 45 calendar days of enrollment (30 days for programs operating 90 days or less). If there are no results received, or health care provider did not test child for any reason, the Head Start Nurse will proceed with on-site vision screening.
3. Children between the ages of 4-5+ years will be screened according to their EPSDT schedule.
4. Head Start Nurse will follow the facility's Active Supervision Plan and communicate clearly with Educators if screening is taking place out of visual range of Educators. The Head Start Nurse will communicate with Educators also when returning screened children to facility activities in order to account for every child during transition.
5. Children who drop and re-enroll within the same program year do not need an additional screening.
6. Vision results for each child will be entered into the electronic tracking system, shared at Case Conferencing meetings, and written on front of child health file.
7. Parent/Guardian will be notified of screening results utilizing the Vision Screening Results form.

Vision Screening For Children Ages 3-5 Years:

8. Designated Health Staff shall make arrangements with the Educator for vision screening to be conducted at the facility, utilizing the LEA Symbols Test.
9. Vision Screening – Designated Health Staff
 - Mark off 10 foot distance.

- Introduce the pictures to children.
 - Have child cover right eye with occluder/small paper cup.
 - From the 10 foot distance have child verbally state object seen. If child is unable to verbalize, use sample picture board for child to point.
 - Repeat with left eye covered.
 - When a child cannot complete screening, re-screen within 2 weeks.
 - Results will be documented utilizing the On Screen Results form. This document will be kept at the Center and/or Central office Location for children enrolled in FCCH.
10. Referral will be made to the child's medical provider for the following results:
 11. 3 year olds = Up to 20/50 – Pass (refer at 20/60a)
 12. 4 and 5 year olds = up to 20/40 – Pass (refer at 20/50)
 13. 2 line difference between both eyes
 14. Uncontrolled eye movements noted as eyes are covered – uncovered: refer to optometrists/CCS Services.
 15. Referral will be made to the Disabilities Supervisor by e-mail to determine if additional services/support are needed if the child has an underlying chronic health condition that significantly impacts the child's vision.
 16. Visual acuity is 20/70 or less in the better eye, after correction

For Children Ages 0 – 3 Years:

17. Designated Health Staff shall review child physical and Health History to determine if "Well Baby Check" by child's health care provider has been completed. The results will be shared at Case Conference to determine if further assessments/referrals are needed or identified.
18. Designated Health Staff will update electronic tracking system at 1, 2, 4, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 24 months of age per child's EPSDT schedule.
19. The Disabilities Supervisor will be notified in an e-mail of any child that has significant vision loss as verified by the child's healthcare provider or has an underlying chronic health condition that impacts child's vision.

Supervised by: Director of Health Services

Performed by: Head Start Nurse/Designated Health Staff/Educators

Forms needed: Consent form, Physical Exam/Child Medical Records, Referral Forms, Vision Screening Results form, Child Health Cum, Electronic Tracking Reports

Frequency: Annually – as needed