

Your Child Care Health Consultant Should Know or Be Able to Find Out About:

- ◆ Relevant Regulations
- ◆ Community Health Resources
- ◆ Growth and Development of Children
- ◆ Managing Challenging Behavior in Children
- ◆ Infection Control, including Sanitation and Immunization
- ◆ Injury Prevention and Safe, Active Play
- ◆ Health Record Review
- ◆ Pediatric First Aid
- ◆ Emergency Preparedness
- ◆ Environmental Health
- ◆ Pediatric Nutrition and Food Safety
- ◆ Oral Health
- ◆ Children with Special Health Needs
- ◆ Medication Administration
- ◆ Consultation Skills
- ◆ Receiving Updates on Health and Safety
- ◆ Staff Health



For more information, contact:

ECELS-Healthy Child Care PA

800-24-ECELS

(800-243-2357)

484-446-3003

www.ecels-healthychildcarepa.org

ecels@paaap.org

Pennsylvania Chapter

American Academy of Pediatrics

Rose Tree Corporate Center II

1400 N. Providence Road, Suite 3007

Media, PA 19063

For more discussion of the role of the Child Care Health Consultant, search “health consultant” in *Caring for Our Children: National Health and Safety Performance Standards*, on the website of the National Resource Center for Health and Safety in Child Care, <http://nrckids.org>



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How to Choose and Use a Child Care Health Consultant



American Academy of Pediatrics

DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN™

Pennsylvania Chapter



What is a Child Care Health Consultant?

A Child Care Health Consultant is a health professional who works with early education and school-age practitioners to recognize and promote the health and safety of children, families and their teachers.

Who can be a Child Care Health Consultant?

Child Care Health Consultants should be licensed or certified health professionals with knowledge in pediatrics and developmentally appropriate health and safety practices for non-parental child care. Examples of health professionals who may have the necessary knowledge and skills to be a child care health consultant: nurses, nurse practitioners, physicians, health educators, oral health professionals, nutritionists, and sanitarians.

Where Do You Find a Child Care Health Consultant?

- ◆ Call ECELS-Healthy Child Care PA
- ◆ Local Health Agency
- ◆ Local Health Clinic
- ◆ Children's Hospital
- ◆ Clinicians who care for children

How Do You Select and Arrange for a Child Care Health Consultant?

- ◆ Interview for best qualified consultant in your area
- ◆ Check professional experience and qualifications
- ◆ Sign contract describing all services to be provided and any fees for the service



What Qualifications Should the Child Care Health Consultant Have?

- ◆ Current PA health professional license or certification recognized as a current health professional credential for that type of health professional
- ◆ Knowledge of, and respect for, the education/child care profession
- ◆ Knowledge of pediatric health care, child development, community resources, local and state child care regulations

What Does a Child Care Health Consultant Do?

- ◆ Direct observation of health, safety and nutrition practices in early learning and school-age settings
- ◆ Provide on-site & phone consultation
- ◆ Link children, families, and child care providers with community health resources, e.g., health screenings, health insurance, mental health
- ◆ Help develop policies
- ◆ Provide nutrition/feeding information
- ◆ Provide communicable disease advice
- ◆ Support care for children with special health care needs
- ◆ Provide professional development workshops and mentoring to teach health and safety best practices
- ◆ Provide technical assistance to staff on health and safety concerns
- ◆ Help resolve conflicts between the instructions from a child's health care provider and child care practices
- ◆ Establish collaborative relationship with program staff and families
- ◆ Help programs meet quality criteria for accreditation and recognition

Keystone STAR 3 & 4 programs working on policies with a child care health consultant are eligible for points (LM.3.4.10)