

State of Delaware Child Protection Accountability Commission Child Abuse Medical Response Committee

WEDNESDAY, MAY 18, 2016 -- 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

In Attendance:

Randy Williams, CAC (Co-Chair)
Captain Patricia Davies, NCCPD
The Honorable Joelle Hitch, Family Court
Lt. Col. Matthew Jamison, NCCPD
Detective Joe Miller, WPD
Captain Pete Sawyer, DSP
Donna Shaffer, CAC Board Member

Dawn Culp, Bayhealth Medical Center
Jean Gardner, DFS
Kathy Hudson, Nanticoke Health Services
Col. Nathaniel McQueen, DSP
Rosalie Morales, OCA
Cara Sawyer, Esq., DSCYF
Anita Symonds, Christiana Care Health System

Not Present:

Dr. Allan De Jong, Nemours-AIDHC (Co-Chair)
Tania Culley, Esq., OCA
Josette Manning, Esq., DAG

Mike Cochran, Esq., CPAC
Chief Laura Giles, Police Chiefs Counsel
Nemours-AIDHC Vacancy

MINUTES

Randy Williams, Co-Chair, welcomed everyone and attendees introduced themselves. A motion was made to approve the minutes. All attendees were in favor. No changes were made to the March minutes.

MEETING WITH SANE PROGRAMS

Mr. Williams, Dr. De Jong and Donna Shaffer met with representatives from the various SANE programs in early May to discuss the draft guidelines. Dawn Culp, Kathy Hudson, and Anita Symonds were also in attendance at the Committee meeting.

DRAFT GUIDELINES

The Committee reviewed the draft matrixes for Serious Physical Abuse, Physical Abuse, and Other Abuse/Neglect Scenarios. To simplify the language, it was suggested that “MDT qualified medical services provider” be changed in all the matrixes to “designated medical services provider.” For all fact patterns in which a medical response is immediate, the call to the designated medical services provider will be within 24 hours as opposed to as needed. In addition, for all fact patterns involving siblings or housemates of children, the word juvenile was added before housemates and the bullet points were removed.

For the first fact pattern under the Serious Physical Injury Matrix, the medical response for a child 0-6 months of age was changed to an emergency situation and the time frame was made immediate. This fact pattern was repeated in the Physical Abuse Matrix; the Committee agreed it only needed to be listed in the Serious Physical Injury Matrix. Additionally, the medical response, for the three fact patterns in the Physical Abuse Matrix related to patterned bruises,

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unjustified force and malnourished children, was changed to an emergency situation and the time frame was made immediate. The bulleted examples were also removed from all fact patterns in the Physical Abuse Matrix.

The Other Abuse/Neglect Scenarios Matrix was renamed to the Neglect Matrix. The Committee recommended removing all but four of the fact patterns under the Neglect Matrix. Drug-endangered children, child left unsupervised, non-compliance with medical treatment, and caregiver/investigator requested examination were retained as written. The medical response for the first three fact patterns was changed to an “immediate medical response at discretion of first responder.”

A motion was made by Lt. Col. Jamison to approve the guidelines with the recommended changes and to include the guidelines in the report to CPAC. Judge Hitch seconded. Ms. Culp, Ms. Hudson, and Ms. Symonds abstained. All others were in favor of the motion.

Ms. Morales will make the recommended changes. Mr. Williams will draft the report to CPAC.

VOCA FUNDING

The grant application was rejected by the Criminal Justice Council.

ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF COMMITTEE

The following recommendation was forwarded to the Committee by CPAC: consider the medical findings from the Child Abuse and Neglect Panel and recommend an action plan specifically targeted at highlighting to physicians their frontline responsibilities in the diagnosing and reporting of suspected child abuse. The Committee discussed the recommendation and agreed it was not appropriate for the group to address. Mr. Williams will provide CPAC with an update at the next Quarterly Meeting.

UPCOMING MEETING DATES

- Wednesday, June 22, 2016 from 10:00am-12:00pm (Cancelled)
- Wednesday, August 3, 2016 from 10:00am-12:00pm
- Wednesday, September 28, 2016 from 10:00am-12:00pm
- To be discussed at next meeting:
 - Report to CPAC

PUBLIC COMMENT AND ADJOURNMENT

There being no public comment, the meeting was adjourned at Noon.