

Healthcare Decision Making for Children in Foster Care

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Health coverage in foster care

Health care helps positive brain development and well being



All children in foster care enrolled in CCO



CCO assigns the child an Intensive Care Coordinator



Health recommendations made by provider with family



Who makes health care decisions for children in care?

❑ Resource parents

- Routine health care and mental health care. The exception is immunizations, which require parental agreement to administer.

❑ Child Welfare

- Surgical or other invasive procedures; anesthesia
- Psychotropic medications for children in foster care

❑ Children and young adults 15 and older

- Consent for their own healthcare, and mental healthcare (at age 14)

❑ Children of any age

- Can access reproductive health care in Oregon without the consent of a parent or guardian. The caseworker ensures that the child can access those services when requested or required.

Vaccinations and immunizations

- **Currently require parental agreement** prior to a child receiving routine vaccinations and immunizations while in foster care, including the COVID19 vaccine (11/21).
- **Parents who are not in agreement with vaccinating their child can discuss their concerns** with the child's healthcare provider prior to making a final decision.
- **Parents are permitted to provide or complete the non-medical exemption** form for children when they are not in agreement with vaccinating their child so that the child may attend day care or school.
- **Child Welfare will provide consent for vaccinations** when we are unable to identify or locate a parent to obtain agreement

