

# Chapter 5

## Section 48: Child Welfare Field Nurses Intake Nursing Assessment

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## Child Welfare Field Nurses Intake Nursing Assessment

Children and young adults receive a comprehensive intake nursing assessment shortly after coming into foster care.

These assessments include:

- A comprehensive physical assessment;
- An assessment of any immediate medical needs;
- A nutrition assessment;
- A safety assessment;
- Coordination of services with the PCP if one is already identified;
- Medication management;
- Sexual health education for young adult;
- Child specific health related teaching and training for resource families;
- Referrals to providers and services; and
- Follow up visits as needed to ensure medical needs are being met.

The purpose of this assessment is to assess the child for any immediate health or medical issues, to make any needed referrals and to assist with coordinating services as needed.

During this assessment the nurse will promote nutrition and a healthy lifestyle for children in foster care based on their identified needs. If it is determined by the Child Welfare Contracted Field Nurse that a child requires a Personal Care Assessment during the Intake Nursing Assessment, the Personal Care Assessment will be done at that time.

The caseworker will also receive a copy of the completed assessment with any nursing recommendations made or nursing intervention completed. A copy of the Intake Nursing Assessment will also be placed in the child or young adult's file cabinet in OR-Kids.

A timely Nursing Assessment is dependent upon the following actions:

- It is imperative that the placement be entered and approved timely.
- Complete accurate placement information in OR-Kids.

## Intake Nursing Assessments for Children in Interstate Compact Placements of Children (ICPC)

Child Welfare Contracted Field Nurses will conduct an Intake Nursing Assessment for ICPC children who come into Oregon. The assessment is the same as the Intake Nursing assessment listed above.

### ICPC Intake Nursing Assessment Referral Process

- The caseworker will receive notification that the Child Welfare Contracted Field Nurse has received a referral

for a child placed in the state of Oregon under ICPC. A copy of the home study will be included with the referral.

- The Child Welfare Contracted Field Nurse will communicate any concerns, recommendations and referrals made to the caseworker, and the caseworker will receive a copy of the written assessment. A copy of the assessment will also be saved in the file cabinet in OR-Kids.
- All program questions can be directed to the Health and Wellness Services Program Manager, or Designee

## In Home/Trial Reunification Nursing Assessments

Child Welfare Contracted Field Nurses will conduct nursing assessments for children and families on in-home/trial reunification cases. This will include:

- All children who enter trial reunification;
- All children under 3 years old on an in-home case; and
- Children and families with health issues, at the request of the caseworker.

The purpose of the Child Welfare Contracted Field Nurse in-home visits with families on in-home plans, is to assist the family in a successful trial reunification or successfully maintaining family unity. This will be accomplished by:

- Providing trauma informed care;
- Assisting families in accessing and engaging community-based services;
- Increasing family engagement with their medical home;
- Providing health education to promote physical, emotional, and mental health;
- Promoting ACEs literacy;
- Assisting in coordination of care across agencies and providers;
- Providing physical and developmental screenings as needed; and
- Assessing home health and safety.

Each family will receive a comprehensive nursing assessment, referrals to community resources and services, and a wellness toolkit. In most cases this will be a one-time visit to the home.

The Child Welfare Contracted Field Nurse is required to communicate with the caseworker prior to making an appointment with the family. It is important that the caseworker connect with the Child Welfare Contracted Field Nurse and ensure that the family is aware that a nurse will be calling to schedule an appointment.

The caseworker and office manager will receive a request for parent or caregiver's address verification from Central Office. The caseworker or office manager must respond within 72 hours or three business days to ensure a timely assessment.

If the parent(s) and child(ren) are placed in a treatment facility together it is the responsibility of the caseworker to still

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notify Central Office of this placement and whether or not a nurse would be able to conduct the assessment on the premises where the parent(s) and child(ren) are residing. If an assessment cannot be completed at this location, the case worker will need to inform Central Office of the situation and then follow up once the parent(s) and child(ren) are in a residence where the assessment can be conducted.

The caseworker will receive notification that the Child Welfare Contracted Field Nurse has received a referral. The notification will include contact information for the assigned Child Welfare Contracted Field Nurse. The referral will include:

- Most current CANS Results for each child, if available
- Most current, applicable Ongoing Safety Plan, if available

Once the primary caseworker receives the referral notice packet they must make contact with the Child Welfare Contracted Field Nurse.

**NOTE:** *Child Welfare Contracted Field Nurses will not schedule an appointment with the Parent(s)/Caregiver(s) until contact has occurred between the caseworker and the Child Welfare Contracted Field Nurse.*

Child Welfare Contracted Field Nurse will schedule an appointment with the Parent(s)/Caregiver(s) to conduct the In-Home Nursing Assessment. During this time each family will receive a comprehensive nursing assessment, referrals to community resources and services, and a wellness toolkit. In most cases this will be a one-time visit to the home. Caseworkers can request a copy of the current wellness toolkit as needed.

The Child Welfare Contracted Field Nurse will communicate any concerns, recommendations and referrals made to the caseworker, and the caseworker will receive a copy of the written assessment. A copy of the assessment will also be saved in the file cabinet in OR-Kids.

**NOTE:** *The Child Welfare Contracted Field Nurses are not to be used as safety service providers.*

## Requesting an In-Home Nursing Assessment

Caseworkers can request an assessment for children and families with health issues who are placed on an in-home case plan.

When the caseworker determines that a child or family with health issues may benefit from an In-Home Nursing Assessment conducted by a Child Welfare Contracted Field Nurse

The caseworker sends email to [personal.care@dhsosha.oregon.gov](mailto:personal.care@dhsosha.oregon.gov) with the following information:

- Case number
- Child(ren)'s name(s)
- Parent(s)/caregiver(s) name(s)
- Current address
- Current phone number or message number
- Reason for the request to be seen

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- Any information on how to best contact the parent(s)/caregiver(s)

The caseworker is responsible for notifying the family that a Child Welfare Contracted Field Nurse will be contacting them to schedule an In-Home Nursing Assessment. A referral notice packet will be sent to the Child Welfare Contracted Field Nurse and CC'd to the current listed primary worker. The referral notice packet includes:

- Most current CANS Results for each child, if available
- Most current applicable Ongoing Safety Plan, if available
- Contact information for the assigned Child Welfare Contracted Field Nurse

Once the primary caseworker receives the referral notice they must contact the Child Welfare Contracted Field Nurse.

**NOTE:** *Child Welfare Contracted Field Nurses will not schedule an appointment with the Parent(s)/Caregiver(s) until contact has occurred between the caseworker and the Child Welfare Contracted Field Nurse.*

Child Welfare Contracted Field Nurse will schedule an appointment with the Parent(s)/Caregiver(s) to conduct the In-Home Nursing Assessment. During this time each family will receive a comprehensive nursing assessment, referrals to community resources and services, and a wellness toolkit. In most cases this will be a one-time visit to the home.

**NOTE:** *If a Child Welfare Contracted Field Nurse feels that it is necessary to have the caseworker present during the In-Home Nursing Assessment a request for the Caseworker to accompany the Child Welfare Contracted Field Nurse will be made.*

The Child Welfare Contracted Field Nurse will communicate any concerns, recommendations and referrals made to the caseworker, and the caseworker will receive a copy of the written assessment. A copy of the assessment will also be saved in the file cabinet in OR-KIDS.

All program questions can be directed to the Health and Wellness Services Program Manager, or Designee