

Big Sandy Area C.A.P., Inc. – HEAD START
Program Policies and Procedures

Blood Pressure Screening

POLICY:

All children will have a blood pressure screening within 90 calendar days of the child's enrollment date.

This policy relates to [Head Start Performance Standards 45 CFR Part 1302.42](#)

PROCEDURE:

1. Through the use of the School Physical Exam form, physicians will be requested to conduct blood pressure and other health screenings as part of the physical examination per EPSDT Schedule.
2. In the event that blood pressure screening is not completed at the time of the physical exam, the family advocate will inform the parent of other resources that can provide the screening and assist with scheduling and coordinating transportation, if needed.
3. If attempts to obtain a blood pressure screening from other sources have failed, Head Start staff will contact the Grantee Health Services Manager, School Nurse, or School Health Aid to complete the screening. Written permission for screening must be obtained from the child's parent on Health History or Permission Sheet.
4. The average blood pressure reading for a four-year-old child is 98/64 and most children should fall between the 25th and 75th percentile (88/56 and 106/68). The upper limit or 95th percentile for three to six-year-old children is 110/70.
5. If the reading is higher than 110/70, the child will be re-screened within 2 weeks, if still over 110/70 the child will be referred. If on the physical exam report, the blood pressure result is over 110/70 and the physician has no comments and determined this as being normal, no further action will be taken by the Head Start staff.

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6. Blood pressure screening date and results will be maintained in the child's individual health folder and entered on the Child's COPA Medical Record under the General Information tab.
7. Staff will send a copy of the Screening Result Sheet home to parent/guardian with the B/P results when performed onsite.
8. Staff will monitor/track blood pressure screening, as with all other medical screenings and exams. (*See Tracking-Follow-Up policy*)
9. All children will have an annual blood pressure screening, as recommended by the EPSDT schedule.

Approved by Policy Council: September 2018