Health Screening Guidelines

**Step 1:** A Health Screening Checklist or equivalent health screening instrument, is completed for all children upon initial referral to EI/ECSE (and re-evaluation) and reviewed for any potential health concerns. If using the Health Screening Checklist, every “yes” answer indicates a potential health concern and the team forwards the Questionnaire to the program’s designated Registered Nurse (RN) for further review and follow-up. If another questionnaire is used, the team refers to the program’s designated RN all health questions that are of concern.

**Step 2:** If no potential concerns are identified the Health Screening Checklist is placed in the child's file and follow-up by the RN is not needed.

**Step 3:** If any potential concerns are identified a referral is made to the program's designated RN to determine further screening/assessment of the child's health needs.

**Step 4:** The RN reviews screening and available health and medical information to determine if additional assessment is needed.

**Step 5**: If initial screening raises additional concerns or questions, the RN gathers any additional information necessary to determine the extent of the child’s health needs including interviewing the child's parents, physician and referring for further medical and/or developmental evaluation if needed. A release of information to obtain medical records may be required.

**Step 6:** The nurse provides a follow-up report to the team coordinator. If health issues or nursing needs are identified in the screening and assessment process, the nurse notifies the team coordinator of the need for nurse participation in the IFSP meeting. The sample EI/ECSE Health Screening Follow-Up Report Follow-up report may be used.

**Step 7:** If the nurse does not identify any health concerns or nursing needs the follow-up report is filed in the child's record.

**Step 7a:** If the health status of a child changes at any time, or any additional concerns are identified, the staff should contact the RN for further assessment.

**Step 8:** If health concerns or nursing needs are identified which are needed for the child to benefit from early intervention, they are included in the child’s IFSP. The RN should be involved in the planning and provision of these services.

**Step 9:** The nurse participates as a member of the child’s IFSP team in identifying any health/nursing services and the appropriate providers of the services.

**Step 10:** Identified services are provided as indicated in the IFSP. The nurse, in conjunction with the child's team, ensures that the health care and nursing needs identified in the IFSP are met. If there is a change in the child's health status or new concerns arise, the child is referred to the nurse for further assessment.