

Child Health Specialty Clinics (CHSC) provides health assessments for Early ACCESS teams within agencies that do not have access to nursing services. If a child needs current health information for an Individualized Education Plan (IEP), it is appropriate for the school nurse to assist with obtaining this information.

How are children identified for a health assessment?

Early ACCESS service coordinators should consider if a child has special health care needs or a diagnosed medical condition that will impact the child's learning. An Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) team can request a CHSC health assessment if the child has multiple medical diagnoses, sees medical specialists or has been frequently hospitalized.

What is included in a health assessment?

The CHSC registered nurse (RN) reviews pertinent medical records to determine how the child's diagnoses may affect their physical, emotional, and intellectual development, and their personal safety and well-being. Information is gathered from admission/discharge summaries from hospitals, history and physical reports, office visit summaries, newborn vision, hearing, and lead screenings, consultation reports from specialists, and notes from ancillary services such as physical therapists, occupational therapists, and dietitians.

The health assessment will be added to the evaluation/assessment details in ACHIEVE and will include the following:

- Date summary was completed for the IFSP and the sources of information utilized.
- Diagnosis: the child's primary diagnoses and simple explanation, along with the ICD-10 codes only if included in the health records available.
- Medications: the child's medications and intended use.
- Allergies: the child's allergies (food, medication, and environmental), signs and symptoms of an allergic reaction, and instructions for managing an allergic reaction.
- Medical and safety alerts: health status alerts, threats to the child's safety and well-being and responding to a medical emergency specific to diagnosis and medications.
- Immunizations: specific immunization needed.
- Overall current health status: health services the child is receiving or upcoming appointments if known and a synopsis of the child's birth history or medical history written in family friendly, easy to understand language.

These items may be entered and tagged as separate evaluation/assessment notes:

- Vision: results of screenings, tests, and related diagnosis from medical records.
- Hearing: results of screenings, tests and related diagnosis from the medical records.
- Nutrition: typical eating pattern, alternative feeding methods such as nutrition supplements or feeding tubes, and information about the child's growth including weight and length history.



Steps to Request a CHSC Health Assessment

A health assessment may be requested early in the IFSP process and as part of an annual review. The service coordinator should initiate the request no less than two weeks in advance of the initial or annual IFSP meeting. If the child has complex medical needs or experiences a change in medical circumstances, a health assessment or update may be completed for a periodic IFSP.

1. Notify the family that the child qualifies for a CHSC health assessment.
2. Obtain an Early ACCESS Consent to Exchange and Release Information to CHSC/Iowa Health Care and an Early ACCESS Consent to Exchange and Release Information with the medical providers or hospitals the child has received care from/at.
3. Share the case with CHSC RN, Jennifer Jorgensen, in ACHIEVE. She is listed under the provider section, not the service coordinator section. Search by her last name, do not search by AEA.
4. E-mail Jennifer at jennifer-l-jorgensen@uiowa.edu and include the child's initials and date of the IFSP meeting so she can confirm the child is on her case list and enter the health assessment directly in the Evaluation/Assessment details in ACHIEVE.

If the CHSC RN does not have access to medical records electronically, the service coordinator will be notified that records need to be requested and forwarded electronically (fax: 319-678-7248).