

## DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

## CHILDREN'S DIVISION

P. O. BOX 88

JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI

April 9, 2010

## M E M O R A N D U M

TO: REGIONAL EXECUTIVE STAFF, CIRCUIT MANAGERS, AND  
CHILDREN'S DIVISION STAFF

FROM: PAULA NEESE, DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: UPDATED POLICY REGARDING THE PAYMENT OF  
SAFE-CARE EXAMS

**What's Inside:**Updated policy  
regarding the  
payment of SAFE-  
CARE exams

## DISCUSSION:

The purpose of this memorandum is to inform staff that updates have been made to the Child Welfare Manual regarding the payment process for SAFE-CARE (Sexual Assault Forensic Examination) exams. Previously, the Department of Health and Senior Services was responsible for payments of SAFE-CARE exams. Under Senate Bill 338 and Executive Order 07-07 (2007), the Department of Public Safety will now make payment to medical providers to cover the charges of the forensic examinations of sexual assault victims, rather than Department of Health and Senior Services.

The Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS), MO HealthNet Division (MHD), Department of Public Safety (DPS), and Children's Division (CD) work together on the SAFE-CARE Network. The Department of Public Safety (DPS) is responsible for payment of sexual assault examinations and will not pay for any physical abuse or neglect examinations. In situations where DPS is not able to pay for the SAFE-CARE exams, then MHD pays for examinations covered by MHD. CD will pay for examinations not covered by MHD when there is a child abuse or neglect investigation.

Staff are strongly encouraged to use a SAFE-CARE Network provider, whenever possible, for sexual abuse or physical abuse / neglect examinations. SAFE-CARE providers have received special training in the examination and interview of children who may have been sexually assaulted or physically abused or neglected. Most importantly, the SAFE-CARE Network will help reduce the trauma experienced by children who are subjected to sexual abuse or physical abuse or neglect.

**NECESSARY ACTION**

1. Review this memorandum with all Children's Division staff.
2. Review revised Child Welfare Manual chapters as indicated below.
3. All questions should be cleared through normal supervisory channels and directed to:

**PDS CONTACT**

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**PROGRAM MANAGER**

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**CHILD WELFARE MANUAL REVISIONS**

[Section 2, Chapter 4, Attachment A](#)

**FORMS AND INSTRUCTIONS**

N/A

**REFERENCE DOCUMENTS AND RESOURCES**

N/A

**RELATED STATUTE**

[SB 338](#)

**ADMINISTRATIVE RULE**

N/A

**COUNCIL ON ACCREDITATION (COA) STANDARDS**

N/A

**CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES REVIEW (CFSR)**

N/A

**PROTECTIVE FACTORS N/A**

Parental Resilience  
Social Connections  
Knowledge of Parenting and Child Development  
Concrete Support in Times of Need  
Social and Emotional Competence of Children

**FACES REQUIREMENTS**

N/A