



NC DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**
Division of Social Services

ROY COOPER • Governor

MANDY COHEN, MD, MPH • Secretary

SUSAN OSBORNE • Assistant Secretary for County
Operations for Human Services

November 10, 2020

DEAR COUNTY DIRECTORS OF SOCIAL SERVICES

**ATTENTION: DIRECTORS, CHILD WELFARE PROGRAM ADMINISTRATORS, MANAGERS,
SUPERVISORS, AND SOCIAL WORKERS**

**SUBJECT: USING THE CHILD MEDICAL EVALUATION PROGRAM (CME) & CHILD AND FAMILY
EVLAUATION PROGRAM (CFEP) NEW POLICY**

REQUIRED ACTION: Information Only Time Sensitive – *Effective Date 12/1/2020* Immediate

PURPOSE

The Division is committed to providing counties with resources to support assessment of child maltreatment reports and to improve safety outcomes for children. This includes the improvement of programs and policies such as the Child Medical Evaluation Program (CMEP) and the Child and Family Evaluation Program (CFEP). In coordination with the Child Medical Evaluation Program administered by the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (UNC-CH) School of Medicine, representatives from county child welfare agencies and the Division, protocol and guidance has been revised.

Revised manual sections include: **CPS Family and Investigative Assessments:** Using the Child Medical Evaluations Program (CMEP)/Child and Family Evaluation Program (CFEP): protocol and guidance.

The additional protocol and guidance provide workers a comprehensive overview of the CMEP/CFEP, and when to use the CMEP/CFEP. Significant protocol changes are the local child welfare agency must refer children for a CME or CFE *under certain circumstances* and there is no override of this requirement. These are spelled out in the **CPS Family and Investigative Assessments** manual.

The Consent/Authorization Form for Child Medical and Child/Family Evaluation, DSS-5143, has been updated and instructions for the completion of the form are now provided.

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LOCATION: 820 S. Boylan Avenue, McBryde Building, Raleigh, NC 27603
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Next Steps

This policy will be published Tuesday, December 1, 2020 on the Division's web page at

<https://policies.ncdhhs.gov/divisional/social-services/child-welfare/policy-manuals>.

The revised Consent/Authorization Form for Child Medical and Child/Family Evaluation, DSS-5143, will also be posted on the Division's webpage at <https://policies.ncdhhs.gov/divisional/social-services/forms>.

The Division is pleased to offer a training Webinar with Dr. Molly Berkoff of the UNC-CH School of Medicine, CMEP office. Please register for Child Medical Evaluation Program Policy and Practice Revisions on November 16, 2020 2:00 PM EST at:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4268292454999363851>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

Sincerely,



Lisa Tucker Cauley,
Senior Director for Child, Family and Adult Services

Cc: Susan Osborne, Assistant Secretary for County Operations
Teresa Strom, Section Chief for County Operations
Kathy Stone, Section Chief for Safety and Prevention
Carla McNeill, Section Chief for Permanency
Linda Waite, Section Chief for Licensing and Regulatory

Attachments:

CPS Assessments October 2020 Final
DSS-5143 (CMEP Consent) October 2020
DSS-5143 Consent Ins. October 2020

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