

Regulation JLCG

Las Cruces Public Schools

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Responsible Office: Associate Superintendent for Instruction

SCHOOL BASED HEALTH CENTERS

I. PURPOSE

To establish protocols for services provided in School Based Health Centers (SBHC) and the implementation of LCPS Policy JLCG.

II. PROCESS

A. When a student visits a SBHC to seek other than confidential services from SBHC staff, the staff shall contact the student's parents/guardians before providing service to the student. At that time, the parent shall have the option to either allow the SBHC staff to provide the requested service to the student, or to decline to have the service provided to the student. A parent may also decline primary care for his or her child by completing LCPS Form JLCG-E1: Parental Decline of Medical Services, and taking the completed form to the nurse at his or her child's school.

B. As provided in New Mexico state law (24-1-9 NMSA 1978), 24-1-13 NMSA 1978, 24-1-13.1 NMSA 1978, 24-8-5 NMSA 1978, NMSA 1978, and 24.8 NMSA 1978), minors are allowed to consent to their own care (**without parental permission**) for the following confidential services: 1) reproductive health services, including contraception and prenatal care; 2) testing for and treatment of sexually transmitted infections, including HIV; and 3) mental health services.

C. As provided in New Mexico state law (24-10-2 NMSA 1978), emergency treatment may be given to a minor when a parent or guardian cannot be reached.

III. GUIDELINES

These guidelines are considered the minimum standard for working with adolescents under Title X of the Family Planning Act in New Mexico and the New Mexico Department of Health, Office of School Health.

A. Services in SBHCs are provided by New Mexico licensed health practitioners through an agreement, including but not limited to, a memorandum of understanding, with the school district.

B. These guidelines shall be used by the practitioner when examining a student, either as a new or as an established patient, during any visit to any SBHC:

1. Verify parental permission to treat the student.
2. Conduct an interview and complete health history form.
3. Provide educational information to the student, as appropriate.
4. Conduct laboratory work as needed.
5. Examination

- a. All procedures used in examinations shall be fully explained in advance to all students.
- b. The student will be counseled regarding his or her right to request that a parent, family member or legal guardian or other witness, if so requested by the student, be present for the examination.
- c. A same-sex assistant will be available at the student's request.

C. Communicating with students and parents

1. Confidentiality shall be maintained in all services provided to students.
2. Providers shall encourage students to communicate with their parents/guardians regarding their treatment or other issues, and will, as appropriate, assist those students who wish to do so.
3. If discussion between SHBC staff and a student about sexual activity is appropriate, staff shall offer factual information to students to assist them in making responsible and appropriate decisions regarding sexual activity. As appropriate, this information may also be provided to parents or guardians – see item C. 2. above.
4. Students may be provided, as appropriate, with information regarding sexual abstinence, sexually transmitted infections (including HIV), contraception, (including secondary initial abstinence), teen pregnancy and other behaviors.

D. Prescription of the Contraceptive Method

1. Prescriptions for contraceptive methods (such as birth control pills) may be provided to students.
2. All students receiving a contraceptive prescription shall be scheduled to return for a follow-up visit to the SBHC within 30 days of receiving the initial prescription, or as appropriate, and as needed thereafter.

Post-Examination Session

1. SBHC staff shall provide oral and written information to students as to the potential side effects and complications of any treatment or medication prescribed, and what the student should do if any side effects or complications occur.
2. Establish return visits schedule.
3. Counsel the student, as appropriate, regarding sexually transmitted diseases, high-risk sexual behaviors and safer sex practices.



Approved, Associate Superintendent for Instruction

April 22, 2013

Date Approved