

## Policy: Health and Medical Needs of Children in Care

### Policy Purpose

To ensure the medical and dental health needs of children in care are met.

### Policy Statement

The medical and dental health of children in care will be assessed regularly. If treatment is required, appropriate services will be arranged and provided in an expedient manner.

A baseline assessment should occur during the first three months of a child entering care to provide information against which future assessments of the child's progress and development can be measured. The baseline assessment will identify any significant and/or immediate needs, which should be addressed.

Routine medical and dental treatment for children in care should be sought from local general practitioners in the first instance. Referrals for specialist treatment should be made by the general practitioner to either Department of Health specialists or private specialist medical or dental practitioners if necessary.

A child under a protection order, or in the daily care and control of the Chief Executive Officer, must have a care plan that is reviewed initially at 2 months and every 6 months thereafter. Identifying a child's health needs and addressing these needs must be documented in the care plan.

### Legislative Basis

[Care and Protection of Children Act 2007](#) s52

### Standards

[Standards of Professional Practice](#) 1, 3, 4, 5, 6 Authorised by:

<b>Executive Director, Service Development and Policy on:</b>	16/03/2015	<b>Active from:</b>	16/03/2015
<b>Version 1.0</b>	Ensure the medical and dental health needs of children in care are being met		
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