

Attachment B

Drug Endangered Children Protocol: Placement Guidelines

Completed after the initial medical evaluation and given to the foster care provider, or safety resource/kinship care placement. The discharge summary from the medical provider must be attached to this form.

Child's Name: _____ Age: _____
Today's Date: _____

This child may have been exposed to a methamphetamine laboratory. This sheet reviews some suggestions that will help you provide safe care for the child and your household.

Health Considerations

The child has had an initial medical assessment. Information you should know about the medical assessment including the discharge summary is attached to this form. We do not expect the child to have any additional problems. However, because some effects of chemical exposure can develop slowly, you should observe the child carefully for symptoms for the next 24 to 48 hours. Please call the medical contact number on the bottom of this sheet immediately if you notice any of the following:

- Headache, drowsiness, hallucinations or mental confusion,
- Difficulty breathing, wheezing, coughing, or poor color,
- Fever,
- Unusual movements like tremors, shaking, jumpiness, agitation or seizures; or
- Any other unusual symptom that seems severe and worries you.

Contamination Considerations

The child may also have come into contact with chemicals or toxins that could contaminate others. Most of these chemicals are common household or automotive chemicals, but they can be toxic. The child has been given a shower and has been provided with new clothes. There are some additional steps listed below that you may take to reassure yourself.

1. Give the child a bath with very warm water (not hot) and lots of soap. Wash completely, including hair, face, between the toes, and other hard-to-reach places. Drain the tub and give a second bath to remove any residual chemical. Afterwards, drain and clean the tub thoroughly.
2. Place child's clothes in a plastic garbage bag until they can be washed. Wash the child's clothes separately from other clothes on the hottest setting. Rewash a second time and air dry outside the home, **not in the dryer**. Run the washer once empty to clean it thoroughly.

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Mental Health Considerations

It is likely that the circumstances of discovering the illegal methamphetamine laboratory and removing the child have been traumatic. In addition, the child may have been subjected to neglect, chaotic circumstances, or overt abuse. It is important to provide a warm, stable, accepting environment for the child and to understand the emotional reactions that may follow from the child's experiences. Do not hesitate to call your County Department of Social Services Social Worker or Physician if you have any questions or concerns. That person's number is listed below.

Social Worker _____

Phone _____

Medical Contact Person _____

Phone _____

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Special Health Considerations for this Child (This section should include any information about the child's medical condition that the provider should be aware of, such as medications to be taken and/or the impact exposure could have on any pre-existing conditions the child may have.)

Special Contamination Considerations for this Child (This section should include all the information the worker has about the child's level of exposure as well as the contaminants the child was exposed.)

Special Mental Health Considerations for this Child (This section should include any mental health diagnosis the child has as well as any trauma experienced that the worker is aware. This will also include any referrals for mental health services that have been made or need to be made.)

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Other Special Considerations for this Child (This section should include any additional information about the child that the provider should be made aware that is not included in any of the above sections.)

Form filled out by: _____
Date: _____