



POLICY AND PROCEDURE MANUAL CENTRAL VALLEY HEALTH DISTRICT

SECTION: SCHOOL NURSING

POLICY # 608 SCHOOL SCREENING SERVICES

POLICY: Annual school health screening services will be offered in the fall of the year to predetermined grade levels. The screenings will be available to all students upon the request of the student, parent or teacher. The services will include vision and scoliosis screening

PURPOSE: To provide a screening opportunity to students as a tool for identifying potential abnormalities and necessary follow-up for correction and/or treatment.

ANNUAL HEALTH SCREENING

PROCEDURE:

1. Elementary principals will be notified of the tentative screening schedule for their respective schools, usually prior to the beginning of the school year. A one week time block will be allotted for screening in each elementary school.
2. The school nurse will work with the staff of each school to ensure that a screening schedule will be set up to cause minimal disruption of the normal school day activities.
3. Prior to the annual health screenings (at least 1 week) a note from the school nurse will be sent home to parents informing them of the upcoming screening process.
4. Parents will have an opportunity to notify the school secretary if they decline or refuse screening for their child.
5. The designated screening procedure will be followed for each type of screening i.e. vision, scoliosis, etc.
6. Upon completing the screening, the results will be recorded on the YELLOW student health card. A notation can be made on the back of the card as necessary.
7. Referral letters are sent to the parents to explain the screening findings and necessary follow-up.
8. Complete necessary paperwork as per screening policy.
9. Results of referral will be reviewed by the school nurse and recorded properly.

VISION SCREENING

PURPOSE: Vision screening is a frontline means of detecting potential vision abnormalities and making appropriate referrals for correction of the abnormalities.

PROCEDURE:

1. Prepare area with age appropriate Snellen Chart at appropriate distance from the individual being screened - measuring distance accurately.
2. If individual wears glasses, determine when last vision evaluation by eye doctor was completed. Conduct testing while student is wearing his/her glasses.
3. Explain procedure to the individual. The Snellen object chart will be used for those individuals that are



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not able to respond appropriately to the letter chart. Generally, letter chart will be used in grades 2 and up.

4. Place individual at measured mark with heels on the line.
5. Test the right eye first covering left eye with occluder and requesting individual to keep both eyes open. Test left eye using the same technique. When testing younger children, an adult should hold the occluder.
6. Start at the 20/40 line working up or down depending on how well the individual does.
7. Observe child's eye during testing and record any evidence of squinting, head tilting, thrusting the head forward, excessive blinking, tearing or redness.
8. Record the last line the child reads correctly. A child will be allowed 2 missed symbols per line. If the child misses 3 or more in one line, the next line above is recorded.
9. Referrals will be made using the following guidelines:
 - a. Grades K-3 vision = 20/40 in either eyes or greater than a 20 point difference in the denominator.
 - b. Grades 4-12 vision = 20/30 in either eyes or greater than a 20 point difference in the denominator..
10. Record results on the school health record and referral follow-up sheet, if necessary.
11. Farsightedness testing will be done with each eye exam using the farsighted lens. Test each eye separately. If wearing glasses, put farsighted lens over the student's regular glasses.
12. Referral will be made if the individual can read the 20/20 line with farsighted lens on with no mistakes.
13. Depth perception will be tested on all K students.
14. The **Random Dot E** testing method will be used for depth perception screening. This test will be available to all individuals receiving vision screening as requested.
 - Choose a well lit, glare free location for the testing
 - Place the polarized glasses on (do not remove prescription glasses for testing)
 - Be sure that child holds his head straight up, as tilting the head may interfere with the test results.
 - Hold the MODEL E card up and ask the child to identify what the figure is.
 - Hold the RDE card and the STEREO BLANK card side by side and ask the child to identify 'Which card has the E'?
 - This may be repeated several times after changing the position of the cards and asking the child to repeatedly identify the 'E'.
 - Test should be done at 290 inches from the child.
 - Referrals to the eye doctor will be made if the child cannot determine the 'E' in 4 out of 6 repeated attempts.