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| **POLICY TITLE: Educational Needs of Hospitalized Children** |
| **Department: Interdisciplinary Practices** | **Policy Number: IDP E-01-m** |
| **History of Review/Revision Dates:** 8/06, 2/07, 9/08, 3/09 | **Effective Date:5/29/12** |



**SCOPE:**

Nursing, Pediatrics, Care Management Services, Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Speech Therapy, Respiratory Therapy, Audiology

**PURPOSE:**

To ensure educational needs of hospitalized children, kindergarten through 12th grade, are addressed.

**STATEMENT OF POLICY:**

The educational needs of hospitalized children will be met through assessment of medical appropriateness for this support, assessment of specific services needed, and coordination of services with the children’s parents/guardians and schools in the hospital.

**PROCEDURE:**

1. Identifying hospitalized children, kindergarten through 12th grade in need of educational services.
	1. Implement the process for providing educational services when children cannot return to school after 7 days.
	2. Clinical nursing staff, nurse case managers, social workers, physicians, family all can take steps to initiate this evaluation
	3. Disabilities Education Act (Public Law 101-476) requires school district to make programs available for children who are residents of their district and enrolled.
2. Assessing educational services needed.
	1. Once identified, nurse case manager/social worker team will discuss circumstances with school representatives.
	2. As appropriate, they will work with parent/guardian and teachers to ensure homework materials and assignments are delivered to hospital.
	3. Case management team will make weekly checks to ensure this process continues while the child is hospitalized.
	4. Parent/guardian should facilitate homework assistance, such as tutor, when necessary with the school resource staff.
3. Online educational needs will be met by parent/school whenever possible. Hospital IT will be contacted for needed assistance, as appropriate.
4. The case management team will monitor and support parent/guardian and school resource team as appropriate during hospitalization and follow-up post-discharge to determine if needs are continuing to be met. (Also, see IDP Teaching, T-01-f, Pediatric Section)

**DEFINITIONS:**

**REFERENCES AND SOURCES OF EVIDENCE:**

Colorado Department of Human Services, Colorado Department of Education March 2012, Center for Medicare/Medicaid Services/Provision of Care, Joint Commission on Hospital Accreditation.

**POLICY VIOLATION**

Any Centura associate who fails to abide by this policy may be subject to disciplinary action, including termination.

**Last review facilitated by Tamra Renzelman, Director of Case Management**

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| **Approval Body: Interdisciplinary Practice Committee** | **Signature/Date:**Katherine D McCord, RN, CNO 5/30/12 |
| **Secondary Approval Body:***(If applicable)* | **Signature/Date:**J. Oram Smith, MD, CMO 6/4/12 |