

Pregnancy Health History Procedure

Purpose

This explains how to engage pregnant moms in a conversation to gather information about their confidential health history.

Guidance

Staff ensures that pregnant women enrolled in Early Head Start have access to ongoing prenatal health and dental care as well as other family resources. Expectant families are supported by staff in the preparation and planning for their new baby and receive information and education on a variety of topics including but not limited to: fetal development, maternal mental health and nutrition, family planning, infant health and nutrition, parenting education and postpartum recovery. Family Support is responsible for the following:

- To gather health, education and community resources information related to the current pregnancy.
- To coordinate and link families to appropriate services and resources.
- To facilitate discussion with the parents about how they view themselves, particularly in relationship to the impending birth of their baby.
- To assist the parents in identifying their strengths, growth and goals.

Procedure

CONFIDENTIAL/PROTECTED HEALTH INFORMATION

It is very important that all health information be considered confidential. It must not be shared with anyone who is not involved in planning for pregnant women and/or for the child. Certain health information has even stricter requirements for confidentiality (HIV/AIDS, sexually transmitted diseases, hepatitis B), and written permission must be obtained before it can be shared with anyone when it is disclosed. Health records must be kept secure at all times, maintained for eight years, and shredded when disposed of. **Consult your Health/Nutrition Coordinator for any questions regarding the handling of health information.**

Medical/Dental Insurance/Homes

- Determine whether the pregnant woman is receiving regular prenatal and dental care.

Pregnancy Services

- Determine current services and assess resources needed.

Nutrition

- Determine family's plan to breast or formula feed. Assess the need for more information.
- Review maternal nutritional status. Offer resources, information.

Risk Assessment

- Identify factors that may impact the pregnancy, offer resources, as needed.
- Consult with Health/Nutrition Coordinator with questions or concerns.

Pregnancy Goals

- Identify family's preparation, strengths and expectations for upcoming birth.

When: At enrollment

Related Documents:

Pregnancy Health History