INDIVIDUAL HEALTHCARE PLANS

Heartland IHP Project
INTRODUCTIONS
HISTORY OF IHP PROJECT

Many parents, school nurses, health care professionals, school administrators and advocates have recognized that a consistent/standardized practice is not in place for IHPs.

School nurse trainings
INTRODUCTION TO IHP
WHAT IS AN IHP?

• Individual Healthcare Plans are written plans used in the school setting to communicate a student’s health condition and care/accommodations
WHO WRITES AN IHP

• Development of the plan is the nurse’s responsibility
• Based on standards of care regulated by the nurse practice acts
• Cannot be delegated to unlicensed individuals
WHICH STUDENTS REQUIRE AN IHP?

Variety of emergent and non-emergent health conditions

Not dependent on type of health condition

Need for staff knowledge of the condition

Need for intervention in the school setting
WHICH STUDENTS REQUIRE AN IHP?

• The student has a condition that requires scheduled daily medication, care/accommodations during the school day

• Healthcare plan needed (e.g., but not limited to: a student with ADHD medication at school, student with catheter care at school, student with tube feeding at school)
WHICH STUDENTS REQUIRE AN IHP?

• The student has a potentially life-threatening condition that requires as needed medication, care/accommodations

• Healthcare plan needed (e.g., but not limited to: student with medication for anaphylaxis allergy, student with medication at school for seizure disorder, student with medication at school for severe asthma)
WHICH STUDENTS REQUIRE AN IHP?

• The student has a condition that requires as needed medication, care/accommodations

• The need for a healthcare plan is made on an individual basis according to the need for care at school. (e.g., student with medication at school for migraines, student with medication for seasonal allergies. These students may not need a plan if these conditions are mild, do not happen frequently and/or no other accommodations are needed. Conversely, these students may have frequent needs related to these conditions and accommodations may be needed. In these cases, a healthcare plan would be needed.)
WHO IS INVOLVED IN DEVELOPING AN IHP?

School nurse works with parent/guardian, student and physician to determine what care is required in the school setting

School staff are also involved in the development of the plan
WHAT INFORMATION GOES IN THE IHP?

• Demographic information
• Health condition
• Nursing diagnosis
• Expected outcome
• Assessment/symptoms
• Plan (interventions and accommodations)
  • Including goals to increase student independence
• Evaluation
• Any additional comments
WHO SHOULD UTILIZE THE PLAN?

• Any staff member who is responsible for knowing of the student’s health condition and how to respond
ARE THERE LEGAL IMPLICATIONS?

- IHPs are subject to state nursing practice laws
- Often become part of IEP or 504
  - Would then be subject to applicable education or civil rights law
STUDENT/PARENT INPUT FORM

- Type of condition
- When/how often is it a problem
- How does it affect the child
- Medications
- Family changes
- Related behaviors
- Information from medical provider
School nurse meets with parent/guardian to gather medical documentation to learn about the student’s specific condition and needs.

Individualize healthcare plan to the student.

IHP developed at the meeting with the parent, or after the meeting and then shared with the parent.
REVIEW

• Review plans at least annually
• Review plans as any changes in health status occur
• It is preferable to review the plan prior to each new school year
FAMILY ROLE
Since you know your child best, you are his/her best advocate

You can work with your child's health and school teams to make sure that all of his/her health needs are addressed in the school environment
HOW TO BEGIN

1. Contact your child's school nurse or administration

2. Coordinate with your child's healthcare provider

3. Work with the school to set up an IHP planning meeting
SHARE HEALTH INFORMATION

Talk with your child's healthcare provider about what health information is important to pass on to the school

The school will need access to some health records
DURING THE IHP MEETING

• Make sure to discuss the roles of any necessary school staff.
• Don't forget to consider staff like recess and lunch supervisors, specials teachers, coaches and even substitutes.
• Make a plan for how to monitor the success of the IHP.
PARENT AND STUDENT INPUT

• Remember that you and your child are valuable assets to the team
• Be sure to share your expertise during the meeting
• Don't be afraid to ask for any needed revisions
Parents can request a review/revision of the IHP

A review may be necessary when:

- There is a change in health status and/or treatment
- There is a change in family/home dynamics that may impact care needs at school
- The plan isn’t working as written
QUESTIONS?
QUESTIONS? NEED ASSISTANCE OR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION?

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